
"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."—1st Corinthians, 13th Chapter, 13th verse.

EACH dispensation recorded in the Scriptures, was attended with a promise; under the dispensation of the Old Testament, the promise of a Saviour was given; under the dispensation of the New Testament, the promise of the Holy Ghost.

The first of these was fulfilled when Christ came into the world, to offer up himself, a sacrifice for the sins of Adam's ruined race.

The second was fulfilled at the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Ghost descended in the shape of cloven tongues of fire, and sat upon each of the Apostles.

It is also fulfilled in the daily history of the Church, when He comes to regenerate or sanctify the heart of man.

It was given for a two-fold purpose; first, to enable the Apostles to work miracles, and to speak in divers tongues; and, secondly, to assist in that great work planned by the Father of Lights, before all ages; and, finally, to be consummated in the Kingdom of His own dear Son.

The Apostle in the preceding chapter, addressing the members of the Corinthian Church, points out in a particular manner, the gifts of the Spirit.

Speaking of them he says, "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

"And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.

"And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

"For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another, the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

"To another, faith by the same Spirit; to another, the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

"To another, the working of miracles; to another, prophecy; to another, discerning of spirits; to another, *divers* kinds of tongues; to another, the interpretation of tongues:

"But all these worketh that one and the self-same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."