GIFTS AND TALENTS

THE USE OF GIFTS AND TALENTS: FUNCTIONING WITHIN THE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

GIFTS and Talents: SOURCE

- ▶ The Sovereign Power of God: James 1:17; 1 Cor. 4:7
- ▶ ILLUSTRATION: Nebuchadnezzar (Dan. 2:37; 38; cf. 4:17, 25, 32, 34)

NATURE AND CHARACTER

- They are different.
- ▶ GIFTS: according to His grace (Rom. 12:3, 6; 1 Cor. 12:1-7; Eph. 4:1-8)
- ▶ TALENTS: according to innate ability (Mt. 25:14, 15)

- ► N.B.
- Gifts are to those are recipients of His grace
- ▶ Talents are given to servants
- Ability is given to creatures
- Gifts: privilege and prospect of Christlikeness
- Talents: responsibility and the prospect of reward

PURPOSE AND END: SCOPE

- ► GIFTS:
- ▶ Rom. 12:3-9: Method (focus) the sovereignty of God
- ▶ 1 Cor. 12:12-27 Manner (execution) the power and direction of the Holy Spirit
- ▶ Eph. 4:15, 16 Motive (impetus) the lordship of Christ

- ► TALENTS
- Mt. 25:15 His absence

END IN VIEW

- Rom. 12:1-8 Holy and royal priests occupied with what God in His sovereignty has given
- ▶ 1 Cor. 12:3-7, 18, 20-31 Members of the One Body acknowledging the oneness of the Body, diversity in unity and unity in diversity
- ▶ Eph. 4:12-16Growth and maturity in Christ
- ▶ Mt. 25:19-27 Service to the Master

COMMENDATION

- Mt. 25:21, 23 'good and faithful' (in the service of the Master) = the joy of his lord
- Mt. 25:26, 30 'wicked and slothful' (in his own service) =outer darkness)