

## First Corinthians 12:12-31

12:12 – All the gifts are in the body, but individuals in the body do not have the same gift.  
A variety of pagan gods were worshipped because they each had their “supernatural power.”  
God through his Spirit has all the gifts and distributes them among his people, not among the “gods.”

The Roman philosopher Seneca (who was the brother of the Corinthian governor Gallio, the one who appears in the book of Acts) is quoted as saying: “All that you behold, that which comprises both god and man, is one – we are the parts of one great body.”

12:13 – In 10:4 the Israelites are said to have drunk from the same spiritual rock. Now the believers are said to drink the same Holy Spirit. In other words, our source is all the same.

12:14 –

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12:20 –

12:21 – Ridiculous for a part of the human body to say that some other part is not needed.

12:22 – Point: Similarity is redundant. We need diversity to be effective. But, often that diversity is what destroys the unity. We need to function as a unit (a body) without being distracted by our wide, extreme range of diversity. This diversity is from the SAME HOLY SPIRIT.

12:23 – In Roman society people wore clothes or coverings. But, heroic statues of victorious athletes were placed in sanctuaries/temples as naked men. The nakedness of a statue often inferred a divine connection with the individual and their heroic feat or their connection with the divinity of the imperial cult.

12:24 –

12:25 –

12:26 –

12:27 – Each member of the church is a citizen and each one has a gift and a part to play in the church.

12:28 – The order (not chaos) of the gifts in the church was established by God.

The placement of the gifts in certain individuals was decided by God.

NOTICE the place of the TEACHER. The Christian church needs instruction of the Word (Logos). There is a body of truth to teach the saints after the APOSTLES and PROPHETS have received and recorded the revelation.

12:29 –

12:30 – Not everyone has all the gifts. We all need each other.

12:31 – Desire the gifts that produce the greatest results.

Certain gifts were more beneficial and less controversial and divisive.

Seek the gifts that cause growth.

This verse introduces Chapter 13...the way the gifts are presented and the reason gifts are used.