

**Text:** Ephesians 2:11-22; 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

### **The Foundation of the Apostles and Prophets**

- The logic behind using this verse (Eph. 2:20).
- What is Paul trying to say to the Ephesians?
- Breaking down the text.
- Bringing it all together (Eph. 3:4-5; 4:11).

### **The Temporary Nature of the Sign Gifts**

- The era of the sign gifts.
- The passage hinges on a comparison between the present and the future.

## Life Enrichment

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What about today's sermon challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- Why is human logic not an adequate way to explain the Scriptures?
- Reread Ephesians 2:11-22. What question(s) does Paul answer in these verses? Is he answering anything related to the end of the gifts of apostle, prophet, or speaking in tongues? Why or, why not?
- What is Paul trying to teach the Ephesians in these verses? What role do apostles and prophets play in Paul's point?
- In 1 Corinthians 13:8-13, Paul teaches that the sign gifts will cease. Since there is no question about whether they will cease, what is the question Paul is trying to answer about spiritual gifts?
- What do you think Paul means by "completeness" in verse 10?
- Why is speaking in tongues not an adequate evidence that a person has reached an elevated (or, ultimate) state of spirituality? What does Paul suggest is presently evidence of a believer's participation in The Age to Come (see 1 Cor. 13:8, 13)?
- When does Paul say that miraculous gifts will cease (1 Cor. 13:12)? What purpose do the gifts serve until that time?
- Considering that Paul does not teach that the sign gifts cease in the present age, how should we respond? What is our reason for following Paul's command in 1 Corinthians 14:1? What does this look like in application?