Tongues - a Sign of God's Judgement

1 Corinthians 14:20-25 (series #58)

Introduction: the value and limitations of experience

I. The Exhortation to Maturity v. 20

- A. "Be uneducated in malice or sin"
- B. "Don't be uneducated in understanding"

II. The Explicit Purpose of Tongues vv. 21-22

- A. The paraphrase of Isaiah 28:11-12 in verse 21
 - 1. The northern kingdom had fallen to Assyria
 - 2. The southern kingdom was facing Babylon

B. The purpose of tongues as a sign v. 22

- 1. Tongues are a sign to unbelieving Israel
- 2. Prophesying is for God's people

III. The Example of an Unbelieving Visitor vv. 23-25

- A. "Tongues" will tell him you are insane v. 23
- B. Proclamation of the word will convict v. 24
- C. Proclamation of the word will convert v. 25
- **Conclusion:** The gift of tongues has served its purpose A. God's judgment came in A.D. 70

B. Church leaders since have said tongues have ceased