

THE ONE TRUE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY GHOST

"John truly baptized with water but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost," "But tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high."

Questions arise such as these; To whom does this pronoun ye refer? Who tarried? Were they a company of sinners, backsliders or lukewarm people? NO! NO! They had followed the Lamb whithersoever He led them, for He led them as far as Bethany; yea, they followed His command into the upper room. Here they are, Peter, James, John, Andrew, Phillip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon Zelotes, Judas the brother of James, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus and with His brethren, about one-hundred and twenty of them, (Acts 1:13-15).

Let Jesus the Son of God speak: "I have chosen you," "ye are the salt of the earth," "ye are the light of the world," "ye are not of the world, even as I am not of the world, therefore the world hateth you," "now are ye clean thru the word that I have spoken unto you," "rejoice because your names are written in heaven," "verily I say unto you, that ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

Listen once more, let their own inspired lips speak: "Thou art the Christ, the son of the living God," and again, "Lord to whom shall we go, thou hast words of eternal life."

Yes, they preached the gospel, healed the sick, cast out devils, had the word of God opened unto them and had great joy. But none of these blessings are a sign that they had received the one true Baptism with the Holy Ghost, for they enjoyed all these before they received it. The Lord's command is to you, "Tarry until ye are endued with power from on high."

Acts 2 is the pattern to the Jew. Here "they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues as the Holy Ghost gave them utterance," "Yes," you say, "they needed these languages to preach to the different nationalities." No! that was not the reason, for they were all Jews, v. 6, having no doubt come to the feast of Pentecost where they worshipped God in one language, so you see they all understood their own mother tongue. It was a sign or evidence that the Holy Ghost had come in forever to abide.

Have you not read or heard how the seventy Elders prophesied when the Lord came down in a cloud and took of the Spirit that was upon Moses and gave it unto the seventy? Ask yourself the question, Did they prophesy because they had a large congregation or because there was no prophet there? No! Moses the prophet was there, and they had no congregation to speak to, but they spake because the Holy Spirit was given. And

two of the seventy that were in the camp prophesied and the godly young man, Joshua, said, "My Lord Moses, forbid them." So other followers of the Lord to-day would forbid to speak in tongues. Moses desired this blessing for all the people, and the Holy Spirit thru Paul says, "Forbid not to speak with tongues," (Num. 11:24-29; 1 Cor. 14:39. See also 1 Sam.; 10:1-13. Saul was first given "another heart," which means to be a new creature; and then, "the Spirit of the Lord came upon him," and he too prophesied. Why? Because there was need of a prophet? No indeed, there was a whole company of experienced prophets; but he spake because the Spirit had come. Hallelujah! you too will speak in other tongues to-day when He comes in.

Did the Holy Spirit come in without a manifestation? Listen to His sweet precious voice thru Peter, Acts 2:33, "Jesus being at the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, He hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear." What made this great company of on-lookers say, "These men are filled with new wine?" They must have seen these hundred and twenty act like drunken people, reeling to and fro, staggering, falling and speaking with boldness. But what did they hear? They heard them speak with other tongues. Yes, "this is that" which can be seen and heard to-day when the Holy Spirit comes in. And this is for you and your children and for all that are afar off even as many as the Lord our God shall call."

Some dear people of God will let the Jews have almost everything. So they say, "This was promised for them and not for us Gentiles." But God says, "I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh;" and what the love of Jesus does for a Jew, it will do for you.

The pattern of the Gentiles we find in the 10th chapter of Acts. This is the second outpouring recorded that took place. Things are not always recorded in strict chronological order in the word of God. The Samaritans in Acts 8 were mixed Gentiles to whom Phillip preached, and they did not belong to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, Matt. 10:5-6; neither had the Jews any dealings with the Samaritans, John 4:9. So we see that Peter had never yet preached to or prayed for the Gentiles, thinking that they were unclean, until God put him in a trance giving him a wonderful revelation, showing him not to call that unclean which God had cleansed, Acts 10:9-39. But Peter was not the only one, for the rest of the Jews held the same views, for "they contended with him saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised and didst eat with them," Acts 11:2-3. Not so in Acts 8:14, for here all this prejudice had been removed, Peter and John were sent by apostles. Hallelujah! We see that the Holy Ghost fell upon the clean Gentiles while Peter preached and the Jews were astonished, "because that on the Gentiles

also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost; for they heard them speak with other tongues and magnify God." The conjunction, "for," makes itself evident why they believed that the Holy Ghost had come; for or because "they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God." Again some say, The Holy Ghost fell on all, but did they all speak with tongues? Yes, they all spake with tongues, for no honest person or inspired one could say that the Holy Ghost fell on "all" and then use the pronoun "they" spake with tongues, without meaning the same "all." No! he would say, "some" spake in tongues, if they had not all spoken. Praise the Lord!

Now we come to the outpouring in Acts 8 where the people turned from worshipping a man and worshipped the Lord Jesus. Wonderful revival indeed and truth, demons were cast out, sick healed and miracles performed by Phillip who was so in touch with the Lord that God could translate him any moment. Here great joy came to the city and they believed and were baptized in water, but the Holy Ghost had fallen upon "none" of them as yet. Peter and John came down, and without prejudice against the Gentiles prayed and laid their hands upon them and they received the Holy Ghost. You ask, "Well, Peter, how do you know they received the Holy Ghost." He answers, "For I heard them speak with tongues." You ask Simon the sorcerer, "Did you see or hear anything when they received the Holy Ghost? Was there anything more wonderful about this than when you saw the lame and palsied healed, or when you heard the unclean spirits come out?" "Yes," he would answer, "I have seen these people moved by the Holy Ghost and I heard them speak with other tongues." Yes, dear child of God, I say with Peter, "This is that which ye now see and hear," Acts 2:33. Not only you will know when the Holy Ghost comes in to abide, but the on-looker will see you shake under the power of God and hear you speak with other tongues.

Look again at the Gentile Pattern and hear Peter testifying, saying, "The Holy Ghost fell on them (the Gentiles), as on us at the beginning," Acts 11:15-17. Have you received the Holy Ghost as at the beginning, or in some modern, new, quiet way not known in the Bible? Are these inspired words of God your foundation, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established? Then listen once more to the ever abiding Word of God, by which we all shall be judged, Here in Acts 19:1-7 the believers who were baptized in water by Paul, received the Holy Ghost when he laid his hands upon them, "and they spake in tongues and prophesied." It was not as when using the gift of tongues; then only two or at the most three were to speak, and that by course, (that is one at a time), and one was to interpret, 1 Cor.

14:27. No, not so when the Comforter first came in, for there was an immediate, spontaneous outburst in tongues, just as there is today. Praise the Lord! God is doing His strange work and strange acts. "Now therefore, be ye not mockers, lest your hands be made strong: for I have heard from the Lord God of Hosts a consumption, even determined upon the whole earth," Isa. 28:21-22. But listen to the sweet gracious voice of the Bridegroom, crying, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake He of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive)," John 7:37-39. Amen!—John Kellner.

A METHODIST MINISTER'S TESTIMONY.

(Continued from Page 3).

of the Holy Spirit would come upon me, go through and through me, take full possession of my whole being and fill me with joy unspeakable. The ravishment of ecstasy, the fulness of His unmeasurable Love and the glory of His mighty presence would be simply overwhelming. Oh how He loves! Thou wonderful, glorious Jesus, how I thank and adore Thee for Thy mighty, infinite, unquenchable Love. No effort shall be made to describe it, for it is beyond all description. It is "to know the Love of Christ, which passeth knowledge." It is the "things which eye saw not, and ear heard not, and which entered not into the heart of man, whatsoever things God prepared for them that love Him." This was not a momentary experience. It was practically continuous, and increasing in power and fulness right along, as the body was able to endure—though at times the body was nearly overcome.

He also showed me from His Word very clearly that this was His most Holy and glorious Will. Yet the Power and the revelation was too great. It was more than I could bear. There were times when the glorious presence of My Beloved Lord was most wonderfully real, when His mighty, holy, most wonderful Love would come upon me, through and through me, in mighty streams and waves of glorious ravishment of ecstasy and joy. He is glorious—Praise Him! Do not think that I am using extravagant language. I am not. There is no language written, that can express the wondrously glorious presence of the Living God and the revelation of His Divine Love. Finney tries to describe it by terms like these: "liquid Love," "electric Fire," a great dove fanning him with "wings of Love," etc.

Yet, shame to say, I doubted and feared lest it should not be of God. Poor, miserable sinner that I was, that I could not trust My God, who had suffered shame and agony and died for me; that He might have absolute possession of my entire being, body, soul and spirit; that He might pour out the fulness of His unspeakable Love in unlimited power

and ecstasy into me, the weakest of His creatures, unto the praise of His glory now and forevermore.

The Lord brought me, unexpectedly, in contact with some of His Loved ones. Then He so directed the words of one of these, that light was flashed upon me instantly, and I saw God's glorious Will. The demon of doubt and fear fled, and I was free and open for all God's Holy Will as revealed in Christ Jesus through the Holy Spirit. Oh the Power, the ravishment of ecstasy as His Holy Love flowed unhindered in mighty streams through my body, the joy of His glorious presence, the peace, the hope, the expectancy, tongue cannot tell. The glory of it all is that it is continuing all the time; and it is to continue all the time in everlasting fulness and power till He comes in glory to receive His own.

Now I want to tell you some thing that may perhaps startle you, as it did me, unless you already know it. It is bound to startle one who has an open mind and wants to know God in all His fulness. This experience that I have been telling you about, and that the Blessed Lord has led me through and into, and that I am now through His grace enjoying every day, is not a unique experience these days. If I was the only one, or one of a few, I should say that it was a special case due perhaps to temperament; and I should not be writing this. The fact of the matter is that there are thousands the world over at this time, who have gone through just exactly the same experience that I am here telling. The minor details may be different, but the main experience is the same in every case—the Holy Spirit taking absolute possession, filling the whole being with His mighty Power, and, if He is permitted, leading the soul on to the revelation of the wondrous mystery of God's infinite, most Holy Love in Christ Jesus. These come from every denomination in Christendom, and practically from among every nation. One most beautiful thing about it is, that no matter what denomination or nationality they come from, as they enter into this wonderful Union with Christ, they become one with Him and they also become one with each other, and they know each other. I had an interesting experience while in America in 1913. It is true that I was at that time walking in many doubts. Nevertheless, whenever I preached in any church, and I preached in many of them in different parts of the States, almost in every place some one would come to me after service and ask if I had not received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as set forth in the Word.

What does it all mean? It means this, that the Holy Spirit is getting the Bride ready for the coming of The Bridegroom. "Behold The Bridegroom cometh" is the midnight cry of the Holy Spirit in every place, where He is permitted to be heard, these days. "Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear My voice and open the door, I will come in to him, and I will sup with him, and he with Me." If any one hear this call,

and is willing to yield himself, body, soul and spirit, to all God's glorious Will, no matter what that Will may be, the Holy Spirit will come in and take absolute possession of that person. He will fill him with all the fulness of God's Love in Christ Jesus, till his body becomes like an electric dynamo—filled unto all the fulness of God according to the Power that worketh in us. "I will sup with him, and he with Me." This is the Power that is going to lift us up to meet our Beloved Lord in the air, when we hear the voice of the Beloved calling us to come up to Him.

I have written this for the encouragement of those who have been held by doubts and fears the same as I was, and for others who are hungering and thirsting after all God's fulness. It is for you, dear friend, who will seek Him with all your heart, with the determination to yield to Him completely as He reveals His Will, no matter what that Will may be. Let me say this, however. He must have absolute possession of our entire body. Our body is the Holy Spirit's temple. He will be satisfied with nothing less. If we try to stipulate in regard to this He cannot and will not give us all His fulness. He must have our entire body to work in it and through it as He may desire. We need bear this in mind in our seeking, that we are not our own. We are bought with a price, the precious Blood of Jesus. So He has full right to absolute possession of our body, of our entire being, unto the praise of His glory now and forever more. Amen!

There are many, however, who in their seeking fear that they may become possessed by demons. The very thought is blasphemy, but we are all more or less like Peter. We think more of the sinking part, of the dangers about us, than of the Mighty Saviour standing by our side to deliver, to hold, to keep and to carry us through it all unto His praise and glory. Jesus is very urgent in His exhortation to us, that we might seek. "I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." And in this seeking He seems to presuppose that His followers will ask for the Holy Spirit. "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, HOW MUCH MORE shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him." Read Lu. 11:5-13. For my own part I cannot see what else there is to ask for, but the Holy Spirit in all His fulness. He is to lead us into all truth. He is to reveal unto us Jesus in all His glorious fulness. Whatever God wants us to have He is to lead us in to it. The Holy Spirit is God's method for His chosen ones in this age and generation. Are we in God's method? No matter how great and grand our work may be in our own eyes and in the eyes of this generation, if we are not in God's method it will not be accepted by Him. Jesus says: Ask! Seek!!! Knock!!! Continue seeking. God will give you the Holy Spirit; and He will not give Him by measure, Jo.