BIBLE SPOTLIGHT on the THREE TYPES of BAPTISM, part 3 quotes

1 "I [John the baptist] indeed **baptize you with water** unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall **baptize you with the Holy Ghost**, <u>and with fire</u>: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." Matthew 3:11-12.

These verses reveal that this water baptism was performed by another human fully immersing you under the water. But being baptized with either the Holy Spirit or with Fire is only accomplished by Jesus Christ Himself.

2 What is Baptism of the Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit?

"To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but **ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence....But <u>ye shall receive power</u>, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:...And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight." Acts 1:3-5, 8-9.**

"And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but **tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem**, <u>until ye be endued with power from on high</u>. And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven." Luke 24:49-51.

These verses reveal that the baptism of the Holy Spirit was promised to come upon the followers of Jesus Christ a short time after He had ascended to heaven, and this baptism of the Spirit involved receiving and being endued with power.

3 How long did the water baptized followers of Jesus have to wait before they were baptized with the Holy Spirit?

"And when the day of Pentecost <u>was fully come</u>...they were all filled with the Holy **Ghost**". Acts 2:1.

Pentecost occurred 50 days after the Feast of the Passover began (Leviticus 23:15-21). Jesus was crucified on the first day of Passover (Matthew 26:17), was resurrected early Sunday morning (Mark 16:1-2), and for 40 days He revealed Himself to His people (Acts 1:3) until He ascended to heaven. This meant that the followers of Jesus had to wait about 10 days before the being baptized with the Holy Spirit. But why?

The reason is twofold and it deals with 2 different events in 2 different areas - one dealing with Jesus in heaven, and the other dealing with His followers on the earth.

#1 - After Jesus ascended into the clouds, He and His accompanying angels traveled the vast 8.21 quadrillion miles to the entrance of the open space in the Orion constellation and then continued more miles until reaching the pearly gates of the city of God. The following scene occurred between the angels accompanying Jesus and those angels within the city of God waiting to welcome their Conquering King back home. The accompanying angels shouted:

"Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. (The city angels responded) Who is this King of glory? (Accompanying angels) The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. (and they again shouted) Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. (City's angels) Who is this King of glory? (Accompanying angels:) The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory." Psalms 24:7-10.

After this great entrance scene had occurred, then what happened?

"The LORD said unto my Lord, <u>Sit thou at my right hand, until Imake thine enemies</u> thy footstool." Psalms 110:1.

"Hereafter shall **the Son of man** <u>sit on the right hand of the power of God</u>." Luke 22:69.

After entering in through the pearly gates into the city of God, Jesus was conducted directly to the very throne room of the Most High, and the Father then exalted Jesus to sit with Him on His throne of power. Immediately after Christ was fully enthroned with God the Father, He sent the Holy Spirit upon His waiting followers and they were baptized with it.

"Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, <u>he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne</u>; He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. **Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and <u>having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this</u>...For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, <u>Sit thou on my right hand, Until I make thy foes thy footstool</u>. Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, <u>both Lord and Christ</u>." Acts 2:29-36.**

It took about 10 days from the time that Jesus Christ ascended until He became fully enthroned and could then immediately send the Holy Spirit to baptize His followers. This meant that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit actually signaled the fact that Jesus had been enthroned in heaven! **4 #2** - After Jesus ascended into the clouds, how did the disciples and followers of Christ spend their time in waited in Jerusalem for the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

"And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room...These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry....For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishopric let another take. Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection. And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, show whether of these two thou hast chosen, That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place. And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles." Acts 1:10-17, 20-26.

The followers of Christ were not just lying around in waiting, but were actively engaged in working out any differences they had in doctrine, or with one another so that they could become of one accord in unity, and they were also organizing themselves in preparation for the great work of spreading the gospel. It was only after they had accomplished this blessed unity and simple organization that Jesus baptized them with the Holy Spirit.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost"... Acts 2:1-4.

It took about 10 days from the time that the followers of Jesus entered that upper room in Jerusalem and achieved unity and organized themselves until they were baptized with the Holy Spirit. This meant that once unity and simple organization had occurred, then God's followers were blessed and baptized with the Holy Spirit.

5 After we become baptized with the Holy Spirit, what will happen?

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: **and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria**, <u>and unto</u> <u>the uttermost part of the earth</u>." Acts 1:8.

"And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: <u>neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own</u>; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: <u>and great grace was upon them all</u>." Acts 4:31-33.

These verses reveal that after being baptized with the Holy Spirit you will have the power, grace and courage to boldly witness for Jesus both near and far, and will also recognize that everything you possess is to be unselfishly used in helping one another as well as God's cause.

6 "...they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, **and began to speak with other tongues**, **as the Spirit gave them utterance**." Acts 2:4.

"Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." 1 Corinthians 12:4-13, 8, 25-27.

These verses reveal that after being baptized with the Holy Spirit, He will give you various gifts which are to be used in benefitting one another. But the Holy Spirit baptizes each member into one body in Christ Jesus, and also works upon the heart of each member to remove any schisms!

The Greek word for "schism" is "schisma" which translates and means "a split or gap, schism, division, rent" (Strong's Exhaustive Concordance, word #4978). This reveals that the Holy Spirit works with each church member in order to prevent any split or division occurring between them. And if a division already exists, then the Holy Spirit works to heal any disunion, so that perfect unity, oneness and brother and sisterly love will be all that is seen, felt and realized among God's people.

Being baptized with the Holy Spirit means that you will avoid becoming responsible in either word, deed, thought or action for any split or division occurring among one or more of God's people, and that you will avoid being involved in continuing any split or division already existing. In addition, the Holy Spirit will work through you to avoid allowing any gap or rent to occur in your own heart towards any of your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus! As this is true, then if you find yourself becoming alienated in heart from any of your fellow church family, or find yourself involved in continuing to encourage any division, dissension, disunity or strife, then this indicates that the Holy Spirit is not leading you, and thus you need indeed to flee to Jesus and plead with Him to baptize you with the Holy Spirit.