

## The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

(11 March – 14 April 2002)

(Part 1)

And Jesus said to them:  
“Can you make the **wedding guests** fast as long as the bridegroom is with them?  
But the days will come when the **bridegroom will be taken from them;**  
and then **they will fast** in those days.”  
(Luke 5:34 – 35) Ampl

All of these with their **minds in full agreement devoted themselves steadfastly to prayer,**  
[waiting together] with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus,  
and with His brothers.  
(Act 1:14) Ampl

### The Baptism of the Holy Spirit...

On the **18th of October 2001** the Lord Jesus called us to a long fast. I had bought an old book in a second hand book store called: Fasting Prayer by Franklin Hall. This book gave many examples of mighty men of God who did a prophet's fast of 40 days. They saw the power of God and received awesome breakthroughs in their personal lives and great revivals broke out in their churches.

We desired to see a restoration of the power of God and revival in our country and in the church of Jesus Christ, just like Jesus promised His apostles, saying:

12 I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, if **anyone steadfastly believes in Me, he will himself be able to do the things that I do;** and he will **do even greater things than these,** because I go to the Father. 13 And I will do [I Myself will grant] whatever

you ask in My Name [as presenting all that I AM], so that the Father may be glorified and extolled in (through) the Son. [Exod. 3:14.] 14 [Yes] I will grant [I Myself will do for you] whatever you shall ask in My Name [as presenting all that I AM]. (Joh 4:12-14) Ampl

We knew that something was preventing God's people from seeing the signs and wonders that the first century church saw, as was written in the book of Acts:

12 Now by the hands of the apostles (special messengers) numerous and **startling signs and wonders were being performed** among the people. And by common consent they all met together [at the temple] in the covered porch (walk) called Solomon's. 13 And none of those who were not of their number dared to join and associate with them, but the people held them in high regard and praised and made

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much of them. 14 More and more there were being added to the Lord those who believed [*those who acknowledged Jesus as their Saviour and devoted themselves to Him joined and gathered with them*], crowds both of men and of women, 15 So that they [*even*] kept **carrying out the sick into the streets and placing them on couches and sleeping pads, [*in the hope*] that as Peter passed by, at least his shadow might fall on some of them.** 16 And the people gathered also from the towns and hamlets around Jerusalem, bringing the **sick and those troubled with foul spirits, and they were all cured. (12-16) Ampl**

Those who believed in Jesus were promised that mighty signs would accompany them, as was written:

15 And He said to them, Go into all the world and preach and publish openly the good news (the Gospel) to every creature [*of the whole human race*]. 16 He who **believes [*who adheres to and trusts in and relies on the Gospel and Him Whom it sets forth*]** and is baptized will be saved [*from the penalty of eternal death*]; but he who does not believe [*who does not adhere to and trust in and rely on the Gospel and Him Whom it sets forth*] will be condemned. 17 And these **attesting signs will accompany those who believe:** in My name they will **drive out demons**; they will **speak in new languages**; 18 They will **pick up serpents**; and [*even*] if they **drink anything deadly, it will not hurt them**; they will lay **their hands on the sick, and they will get well.** 19 So then the Lord Jesus, after He had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and He sat down at the right hand of God. [*Ps. 110:1.*] 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, while the **Lord kept working with them and confirming the message by the attesting signs and miracles that closely accompanied [*it*].** Amen (so be it). (Mark 16:15-20) Ampl

We were disillusioned by religion and by the powerlessness of the church, which no longer portrayed the life and authority of Jesus Christ anymore. We wanted to know: "Where have we gone wrong?" We desired to prove to ourselves and others that Jesus was not dead, but alive, that He has been resurrected and that the same power that resurrected Him from the grave still operates for those who trust in Him with all their hearts.

We were called by God through mighty signs in the heavens, a calling, which no man can and want to fulfil without the power of God. We desired to understand the perfect will and plan of God for this very specific calling, which God had entrusted to us.

What was more; God gave both of us similar dreams in the same night. He gave both of us similar prophetic promises by those whom He sent to us. One day while we were praying and waiting on the Lord Jesus, on the **12th of March 2002**, many signs appeared to both of us at the same time, as the signs which God had given us since the day He had called us to fulfil His predestined purposes for the sake of His Glory and for the sake of the Name of Jesus Christ, our Messiah.

Called by the Lord through signs in the heaven we concluded that the Holy Spirit had called us to fast for 40 days. Three days before the fast begun, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of March 2002, while preparing for the fast, the Lord remained us that He wanted us to come out of Babylon and no longer prostitute ourselves with this world and its desires. Thus the word of the Lord came to us according to the word to the prophet Jeremiah saying: 1 "...If a man puts away his wife and she goes from him and becomes another man's, **will he return to her again?** [*Of course not!*] Would not that land [*where such a thing happened*] be greatly polluted? **But you have played the harlot [*against Me*]** with **many lovers**, yet would you now return to Me?" says the

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Lord [or do you even think to return to Me?] 2 Lift up your eyes to the bare heights and see. Where have you not been adulterously lain with? By the wayside you have sat waiting for lovers [*eager for idolatry*], like an Arabian [*desert tribesman who waits to plunder*] in the wilderness; and you have polluted the land with your vile harlotry and your wickedness (unfaithfulness and disobedience to God). 3 Therefore the **showers have been withheld**, and there has **been no spring rain**. Yet you have the **brow of a prostitute**; you refuse to be ashamed. (Jer 3:1-3) Ampl

The Lord Jesus, through the Holy Spirit gave us the same word He had given to His servant and apostle John, saying: 4 I then heard another voice from heaven saying, **Come out from her, my people**, so that you may not share in her sins, neither participate in her plagues. [Isa. 48:20; Jer. 50:8.] 5 For her iniquities (her crimes and transgressions) are piled up as high as heaven and God has remembered her wickedness and [her] crimes [*and calls them up for settlement*]. [Jer. 51:9.] 6 Repay to her what she herself has paid [*to others*] and double [*her doom*] in accordance with what she has done. **Mix a double portion** for her in the cup she mixed [*for others*]. [Ps. 137:8.] 7 To the degree that she glorified herself and revelled in her wantonness [*living deliciously and luxuriously*], to that measure impose on her torment and anguish and tears and mourning. Since **in her heart she boasts**, I am not a widow; **as a queen [on a throne] I sit**, and I shall never see suffering or experience sorrow-- [Isa. 47:8, 9.] 8 So shall her plagues (afflictions, calamities) come thick upon her in a single day, pestilence and anguish and sorrow and famine; and **she shall be utterly consumed (burned up with fire)**, for mighty is the Lord God Who judges her. 9 And the rulers and leaders of the earth who joined her in her immorality (idolatry) and luxuriated with her will weep and beat their breasts and lament over her when they see the smoke of her conflagration. [Ezek.

26:16, 17.] 10 They will stand a long way off, in terror of her torment, and they will cry, Woe and alas, the great city, the mighty city, Babylon! In one single hour how your doom (judgment) has overtaken you! 11 And earth's businessmen will weep and grieve over her because no one buys their freight (cargo) any more. [Ezek. 27:36.] 12 Their merchandise is of gold, silver, precious stones, and pearls; of fine linen, purple, silk, and scarlet [*stuffs*]; all kinds of scented wood, all sorts of articles of ivory, all varieties of objects of costly woods, bronze, iron, and marble; [Ezek. 27:12, 13, 22.] 13 Of cinnamon, spices, incense, ointment and perfume, and frankincense, of wine and olive oil, fine flour and wheat; of cattle and sheep, horses and conveyances; and of slaves (the bodies) and souls of men! 14 The ripe fruits and delicacies for which your soul longed have gone from you, and all your luxuries and dainties, your elegance and splendour are lost to you, never again to be recovered or experienced! 15 The dealers who handled these articles, who grew wealthy through their business with her, will stand a long way off, in terror of her doom and torment, weeping and grieving aloud, and saying, 16 Alas, alas for the great city that was robed in fine linen, in purple and scarlet, bedecked and glittering with gold, with precious stones, and with pearls! [Ezek. 27:31, 36.] 17 Because in one [*single*] hour all the vast wealth has been destroyed (wiped out). And all ship captains and pilots, navigators and all who live by seafaring, the crews and all who ply their trade on the sea, stood a long way off, [Isa. 23:14; Ezek. 27:26-30.] 18 And exclaimed as they watched the smoke of her burning, What city could be compared to the great city! 19 And they threw dust on their heads as they wept and grieved, exclaiming, Woe and alas, for the great city, where all who had ships on the sea grew rich [*through her extravagance*] from her great wealth! In one single hour she has been destroyed and has become a desert! [Ezek. 27:30-34.] 20 Rejoice (celebrate) over her, O heaven! O saints (people of God) and apostles and

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prophets, because God has executed vengeance for you upon her! [Isa. 44:23; Jer. 51:48.] **(Rev18:1-20) Ampl**

Jesus called us to come out of the system of Babylon and all her worldly luxuries and perversions and to leave the idols and all the false god, who are not gods at all, but are demons and deceiving spirits. God called us to cast off every burden as was written: 1 Therefore then, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [*who have borne testimony to the Truth*], **let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us**, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us, 2 **Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus**, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [*giving the first incentive for our belief*] and is also its Finisher [*bringing it to maturity and perfection*]. He, for the joy [*of obtaining the prize*] that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising and ignoring the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God. [Ps. 110:1.] **(Heb 12:1-2) Ampl**

God called us to set Jesus before us as our Leader and the Source of our faith and as the one who alone will be the Finisher of that which He had begun, looking unto Jesus alone. We also felt a strong urge to give up all our possessions to follow Jesus Christ, as Jesus called all to do who wanted to come after Him, as was written: 26 If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his [*own*] father and mother [*in the sense of indifference to or relative disregard for them in comparison with his attitude toward God*] and [*likewise*] his wife and children and brothers and sisters--[*yes*] and **even his own life also--he cannot be My disciple.** 27 Whoever does not persevere and carry his own cross and come after

(follow) Me **cannot be My disciple. (Luke 14:26-27) Ampl**

And

33 So then, any of you who does not forsake (renounce, surrender claim to, give up, say good-bye to) **all that he has cannot be My disciple. (Luk 14:33) Ampl**

We went back and led by the Holy Spirit we started to clean out all in our possessions that God told us to get rid off. Driven by a prophetic word in which God told us that we would leave with the pastor of our denomination's blessing, being urged by the Holy Spirit, we went to the pastor of the church and told him that God had called us to leave the church in which we have been for 2 years.

Later that same day, as we were on our way to resign from the church a sign appeared in the heavens. We saw the Lord's glory, like a cloud, appear in front of both of us in the heavens. It looked like a large tornado with its funnel not yet touching the earth, as was written: 2 When suddenly there came a **sound from heaven like the rushing of a violent tempest blast**, and it **filled the whole house** in which they were sitting. 3 And there **appeared to them tongues resembling fire**, which were **separated and distributed and which settled on each one of them.** 4 And they were all **filled (diffused throughout their souls) with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak in other (different, foreign) languages (tongues), as the Spirit kept giving them clear and loud expression [*in each tongue in appropriate words*]. **(Act 2:2-4) Ampl**

While we looked at the cloud of God's glory the funnel, like a mighty whirlwind, of the glory cloud, separated and became two large funnels, like the tongues of fire

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that separated and came on each of those who had been waiting on God in the upper room, on the day of Pentecost. They came



upon each one of us. We were humbled and were in awe at the power of God and His desire to pour it out on all flesh. Just as we were about to enter the church's premises, we asked God for wisdom to guard our mouths and for His protection. Then another sign appeared in the heavens. The Lord showed us man who was riding a donkey and had a stick in His hand, hitting the donkey. The donkey looked very tired and was greatly oppressed by his master, as was written: 27 And when the donkey saw the Angel of the Lord, she fell down under Balaam, and Balaam's **anger was kindled** and he **struck the donkey with his staff**. 28 And the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and she said to Balaam, What have I done to you that you **should strike me these three times?** (Num 22:27-28) Ampl

Jesus warned the church of Sardis saying: 13 I know where you live - a place where Satan sits enthroned. [Yet] you are clinging to and holding fast My name, and you did not deny My faith, even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed (martyred) in your midst--where Satan dwells. 14 Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: you have some people there who are **clinging to the teaching of Balaam**, who taught Balak to set a **trap and a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, [to entice them] to eat food** that had been sacrificed to idols and to **practice lewdness [giving themselves up to sexual vice]**. [Num. 25:1, 2; 31:16.] (Rev 2:13-14) Ampl

God hates the teaching of Balaam. Balaam oppressed the church, miss-using his authority to punish the donkey and made him do what he did not want to do. Jesus denounced the way of the teachers of the law saying: 24 You **blind guides**, filtering out a gnat and gulping down a camel! [Lev. 27:30; Mic. 6:8.] 25 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, **pretenders (hypocrites)**! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but within they are full of extortion (prey, spoil, plunder) and grasping **self-indulgence**. 26 You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and of the plate, so that the outside may be clean also. 27 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, pretenders (hypocrites)! For you are like tombs that have been **whitewashed**, which look beautiful on the outside but inside are full of dead men's bones and everything impure. 28 Just so, you also **outwardly seem to people to be just and upright but inside you are full of pretence and lawlessness and iniquity**. [Ps. 5:9.] 29 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, pretenders (hypocrites)! For you build tombs for the prophets and decorate the monuments of the righteous, 30 Saying, If we had lived in the days of our forefathers, we would not have aided them in shedding the blood of the prophets. 31 Thus you are **testifying against yourselves** that you are the **descendants of those who murdered the prophets**. 32 Fill up, then, the measure of your fathers' sins to the brim [so that nothing may be wanting to a full measure]. 33 **You serpents! You spawn of vipers!** How can you escape the penalty to be suffered in hell (Gehenna)? 34 Because of this, take notice: **I am sending you prophets and wise men (interpreters and teachers) and scribes (men learned in the Mosaic Law and the Prophets); some of them you will kill**, even crucify, and **some you will flog** in your synagogues and **pursue and persecute from town to town**, 35 So that upon your heads may come all the blood of the righteous (those who correspond to the divine standard of right) shed on earth, from the

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blood of the righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar [of burnt offering]. [Gen. 4:8; II Chron. 24:21.] 36 Truly I declare to you, all these [evil, calamitous times] will come upon this generation. [II Chron. 36:15, 16.] 37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, **murdering the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you!** How often would I have gathered your children together as a mother fowl gathers her brood under her wings, and you refused! 38 Behold, your **house is forsaken and desolate** (abandoned and left destitute of God's help). [I Kings 9:7; Jer. 22:5.] 39 For I declare to you, you **will not see Me again** until you say, **Blessed (magnified in worship, adored, and exalted) is He Who comes in the name of the Lord!** [Ps. 118:26.] **(Matt 23:24-39) Ampl**

God had sent us to resign from the oppression under which we were, showing us the strong spirit of oppression under which His people have been even in the church of Jesus Christ. While we looked we saw the same cloud of God's glory touching down on the ground over the city of Pretoria. We understood and concluded that God was about to pour out His Holy Spirit, in might and power, over the people of Pretoria - South Africa.



After we left the church, we experienced a strong spirit of oppression that was ruling this denomination. Then urged by the Holy Spirit, having a great burden lifted from our shoulders, we went to a nearby park to pray and wait on the Lord Jesus for specific guidance. We realized that God wanted to pour out His Spirit over us, in the city of Pretoria, just like He did on the day of Pentecost for His apostles and those 120 who were in the upper room. Jesus told His disciples to wait in

Jerusalem until they have been clothed with power from on high, for John the Baptist said, as is written:

11 I indeed baptize you in (with) water because of repentance [that is, because of your changing your minds for the better, heartily amending your ways, with abhorrence of your past sins]. But **He Who is coming after me** is mightier than I, Whose sandals I am not worthy or fit to take off or carry; **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.** 12 His winnowing fan (shovel, fork) is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear out and clean His threshing floor and gather and store His wheat in His barn, but the chaff He will burn up with fire that cannot be put out. **(Mat 3:11-12) Ampl**

Jesus is the one, according to the Apostle Peter's sermon on Pentecost, who can baptise us with the Holy Spirit and fire from God, as is written:

32 This Jesus God raised up, and of that all we [His disciples] are witnesses. 33 Being therefore lifted high by and to the right hand of God, and **having received from the Father the promised [blessing which is the] Holy Spirit**, He has **made this outpouring which you yourselves both see and hear.** **(Act 2:32-33) Ampl**

Jesus has poured out the blessing of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, on all flesh, after He had received the promised Holy Spirit from the Father.

From the directors: "The Witness"

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