

was changed, by His being made perfect through suffering (Heb. 2: 10). Every believer is baptized with the Spirit, that is, his powers and faculties are brought under the purifying, sanctifying influence of the Spirit. We are baptized with water, when we are symbolically brought into this changed state towards God. Water itself does not effect the change, but shews it forth, or makes it manifest. Baptism with water symbolizes that state or condition of spiritual purity effected in the soul by the Holy Ghost applying to the soul the cleansing blood of Christ, which is the "blood of sprinkling" (Heb. 12: 24. 1 Peter 1: 2). 1 Cor. 12: 13 tells us what?—that the one baptism of Eph. 4: 5 is the baptism by "one Spirit." Water baptism is only the sign or symbol of that one baptism. I crave the reader's close attention to this point. A clear apprehension of the distinction between the Spirit or real baptism, and water or symbol baptism, would save from the grave errors into which Baptists, Campbellites, Dunkards, Christadelphians and other immersionist sects have fallen. In the Scriptures we find "one circumcision" (Rom. 2: 28, 29), and "one *sign or symbol* of circumcision" (Rom. 4: 11); one Passover (1 Cor. 5: 7), and one sign or symbol of the Passover (Ex. 12); one real supper, spiritual in its nature (John 6: 53, 54), and one symbol supper—of bread and wine, symbols of His body and blood. So there is "one baptism" (Eph. 4: 5 and 1 Cor. 12, 13), and one symbol of baptism, that administered with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. And our position is that both in symbol, and in real baptism the baptizing element or agency always comes upon the person. The Scripture represents man as the passive recipient, and the Holy Ghost as the agent ever active in applying to the soul the blessings of redemption. But the immersion theory reverses this by representing man as the active agent, and the Holy Ghost as merely the passive recipient of those baptized not by Him but within Him.