

Holy Ghost came down upon them, so did John baptize, by pouring down upon his disciples. We never read of his baptizing *into* the Holy Ghost, but we do of baptizing "*with* the Holy Ghost."

Our Lord, himself, was baptized; and by what form or act? He received the baptism of John, to which I have just referred—the *descending* of the element upon him. True, he is said to have been "baptized in Jordan, and straightway coming up out the water, he saw," &c.—Mark i. 9, 10. The "in the Jordan," and "coming up out," are expressions like those already shewn to mean "to," or "at," and "from," rather than "in," or "out of." But even were it the fact that Christ went into the Jordan, it would not follow that he went *under* it—he might go into it, and stand to receive the element outpoured by the hand of the prophet. In the Greek church, it has been customary for the recipients of baptism to kneel in a font, while a priest lifted up water, and poured it on the head. There are also pictures of that form of baptizing, which have come down from the earliest times. Now, had Jesus gone into the Jordan, he might thus have been "baptized with water," and not have been plunged into it. Aaron and his sons were washed or baptized with water, at the door of the tabernacle (Lev. viii. 6), and with oil (Lev. viii. 12), and with blood (Lev. viii. 23, 24). Not that they were immersed; but the oil was "poured" (v. 12), and the blood was "put" upon the person. Our Lord, indeed! did *he undress*, in order to go into the Jordan?

The case of Cornelius presents these considerations: Peter inquired (Acts x. 44-48), "Can any man *forbid* water; that these should not be baptized?" Now, "forbid," would have been an inappropriate word, had the person been applied to the water, rather than the water to the person. If any could "forbid" water, that water must have been what could be moved to Cornelius,—if it had been meant "can any forbid Cornelius being baptized into the water," that form of expression would have been used. There is also the fact, that when Peter, in Jerusalem was vindicating his proceeding with Cornelius and his house, he said that the Holy Ghost "*falling on*" the family, reminded him of the Lord's comparison of John's baptizing with