INTRO: Our subject has been the object of much concern within and without the body of Christ. It could be one of the most difficult subjects we might study— or possibly among the easiest, depending on how we approach it.

A. A proper understanding of the indwelling of the H.S. can be found only in a study of the indwelling of Deity as a whole.

B. The indwelling of the H.S. is NOT the same as with Jesus—incarnation.

C. We need to be reminded of the Apostolic office in the 1st century & take note that all the apostles were Christians, but not all Christians are apostles, thus not subject to the special impartation of the Spirit & power given to the apostles and prophets, 2 Cor. 12:12.

D. But the Bible does teach something regarding an indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the common Christian.

I. SOME PASSAGES THAT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN A STUDY OF THE INDWELLING OF DEITY IN, WITH, OR AMONG MEN.

A. The Indwelling of the H.S. in the Christian.
Rom 8:9, But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

Rom 8:11, But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

1 Cor 3:16, Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?
1 Cor 6:19, Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

Gal 4:6, And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"

B. Christ dwells in the Christian.
   Rev 3:20, Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

   John 6:56, He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.

   Rom 8:10, And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

C. God the Father Dwells in the Christian.
   John 14:23, Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

   2 Cor 6:15-16, And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people."

   1 John 4:12, No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.

II. THAT THESE PASSAGES DESCRIBE A SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP & NOT SOME PHYSICAL PRESENCE IS OBVIOUS WHEN WE SEE THAT THE CHRISTIAN DWELLS IN DEITY AT THE SAME TIME & UNDER THE
SAME CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH DIETY DWELLS IN HIM.

A. The Christian dwells in God the Father.
   1 John 4:15-16, Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

B. The Christian dwells in Jesus Christ.
   John 15:4, Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

   John 6:56, He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.

   Rom 8:9, But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

   Gal 5:25, If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

   Eph 2:22, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

   1 Peter 4:6, For this reason the gospel was preached also to those who are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

III. THE INDWELLING OF DEITY IN MAN BEGINS WHEN A PERSON OBEYS THE GOSPEL.

READ ACTS 2:36-41

A. Scriptural NT baptism is the consummating act that puts a person into Deity, Rom. 6:3; Gal. 3:26-27.
Baptized into one body, drink into one Spirit, 1 Cor. 12:13

B. Therefore it is in obeying the command of water baptism that Deity comes to make an abode with man, Acts 2:38.

IV. TO BE IN CHRIST, GOD, & THE H.S. IN US, IS JUST ANOTHER OF MANY WAYS OF EXPRESSING THE FELLOWSHIP THAT EXISTS WHEN WE “WALK IN THE LIGHT AS He IS IN THE LIGHT” (1 JOHN 1:7).

READ 2 CORINTHIANS 6:14-18. Not different relationships, but the same relationship differently expressed.

John 17:20-21, "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

CONCLUSION: Our relationship with God begins when we obey the gospel, and that relationship continues as we continue to study and obey His word. The dwelling we have with God as we walk the uneven journeys of life prepares us for the ultimate dwelling with Him in heaven.

READ EPHESIANS 2:13-22

Springhill, LA, December 10, 1972
Jonestown, TX, December 24, 1972
Springhill, LA, August 11, 1974
Highway 29, Liberty Hill, TX, August 16, 1974 (meeting)
Bossier City, LA, January 16, 1975 (meeting)
Denton, TX, March 28, 1975 (meeting)
La Porte, TX, February 1, 1976
Humphrey, AR, July 22, 1976 (meeting)
La Porte, TX, March 28, 1982
Exton, PA, October 14, 1984
Wrightsville, PA, April 21, 1991
Shiloh, Mexia, TX, June 4, 1995
Wrightsville, PA, July 6, 1997
Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, October 10, 1999
Dexter, ME, August 5, 2002 (meeting)