

PENTECOSTAL AND CHARISMATIC MOVEMENTS

I. The Wesleyan-Holiness Tradition

The holiness movement began in the 1700s with John Wesley. The movement emphasized two distinct events in the Christian life: (a.) conversion and (b.) sanctification (or the second blessing).

II. Sanctification and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Some Wesleyan-Holiness groups viewed sanctification as a gradual experience. Most viewed sanctification as a crisis experience, an instantaneous work of grace. Some groups limited the notion to a work of purification; others believed that it was a work of empowerment. Some began using the phrase “baptism in the Holy Spirit” to indicate this empowerment. There soon began a quest for evidences of these experiences.

III. American Pentecostalism

A. Charles Fox Parham (1873-1929)

At his Bible school in Topeka, KS (1900), Charles F. Parham posed the question to a group of his students: “What proof or evidence is there in Scripture that shows that the apostles received the baptism with the Holy Spirit?” The response: the apostles had spoken in tongues (Acts 2:4).

B. William J. Seymour (1870-1922)

At Parham’s school in Houston, TX (1905), William J. Seymour embraced tongues-speaking as evidence of Spirit baptism. He was invited to lead a prayer meeting on 216 Bonnie Brae Street. Several members of the group spoke in tongues. The group began to grow and was moved to 312 Azusa Street, thus beginning the Azusa Street revival, and laying the foundation for the Pentecostal/Charismatic traditions.

IV. Three Streams of Pentecostalism

A. Holiness Pentecostalism

Example: Church of God in Christ

B. “Finished Work” Pentecostalism

Examples: Assemblies of God, Foursquare

C. Oneness Pentecostalism

Examples: The Pentecostal Assemblies of the World (Indianapolis, IN), The United Pentecostal Church (Hazelwood, MO)

V. The Rise of the Charismatic Renewal

- A. The Latter Rain Revival (1948-1952)
- B. Demos Shakarian (1913-1993) – founded the Full Gospel Business Men’s Fellowship International (FGBMFI)
- C. David Du Plessis (1905-1987) – ecumenist; secretary of Pentecostal World Conference
- D. Dennis Bennett – served as pastor of Saint Mark’s Episcopal Church in Van Nuys, CA. He announced to his congregation on Passion Sunday, 1960 that he had spoken in tongues. He was dismissed as pastor and moved to Olympia, Washington. This marks the beginning of the Charismatic Renewal. Many leaders turned to Shakarian and Du Plessis for counsel and safe space to fellowship among like-minded individuals.
- E. David Wilkerson – author of *The Cross and the Switchblade* (1962).
- F. John Thomas Nichol - author *Pentecostalism* (1966).
- G. The Catholic Charismatic Movement begins ca. 1966-7.
- H. Many Evangelicals and Pentecostals were suspicious of Charismatics.

VI. The Third Wave Movement

- A. Chuck Smith – founder of Calvary Chapel
- B. John Wimber – founder of the Vineyard Movement

VII. The “New Apostolic Churches”

Peter Wagner employed this term to describe certain mega-churches that believe in the restoration of the apostolic office.

VIII. Prosperity Churches (Neo-Pentecostalism)

These churches believe that there is a simple and direct cause and effect relationship between giving and receiving.