

## History Seminar: Protestant Denominations

### Session No. 4: The Pentecostals

#### Pentecostal History: *Where Did They Come From?*

- **Soil:** Pentecostalism Originates in the **Methodist Holiness Movement** and **Charles F. Parham:**
  - Who Believed with Methodists in **Entire Sanctification** (*Second Work of Grace*)
  - But Taught that the Sign of Entire Sanctification was **Spirit Baptism** (*Third Work of Grace*)
  - And Taught that the Sign of Spirit Baptism was **Speaking in Tongues** (*Glossolalia*)
- **Roots:** Pentecostalism Formally Began with the **Azusa Street Revival (1906-1915)** led by **William J. Seymour**
  - Who **Inherited** Pentecostal Theology in 1906 at a Charles Parham's Bible School in Houston.
  - Who **Taught** Pentecostal Theology at a Series of **Revival Meetings** on **Azusa Street** in Los Angeles.



- **Shoots:** Pentecostalism Rapidly Spread and Split Over Sanctification and the Trinity:
  - **Holiness Pentecostals** Affirm Entire Sanctification: *Apostolic Faith Church, Church of God, etc.*
  - **Finished Work Pentecostals** Deny Entire Sanctification: *Assemblies of God, Foursquare Church, etc.*
  - **Oneness Pentecostals** Deny the Trinity: *United Pentecostal Church International, etc.*
  
- **Fruits:** Pentecostalism Spawned At Least Four Movements Prominent in Christianity Today:
  - **The Charismatic Movement:** The Adoption of Certain Pentecostal Teaching by Mainstream Denominations.
  - **The Word of Faith Movement:** The View that Words Spoken in Faith Create What They Believe (Name It And Claim It).
  - **The Prosperity Gospel Movement:** The View that God Wants People to Be Healthy, Wealthy, and Successful.
  - **The Third Wave Movement:** The View that the Movement of the Holy Spirit Is Accompanied by Sensational Signs and Wonders.

## Pentecostal Theology: *What Do They Believe?*

- **Spirit Baptism:** The View that the Holy Spirit Falls on Believers Subsequent to and Separate from Conversion.
  
- **Glossolalia:** The View that the Sign of Spirit Baptism is Speaking in Tongues, Whether In a Known Language, Angelic Tongue, or Encoded Message.
  
- **Continuationism:** The view that the Spirit continues to give all the New Testament spiritual gifts, including “signs” and “miraculous gifts.”



## Pentecostal Distinctives: *What Else Distinguishes Them?*

- **Who They Ordain:** Most Ordain Women to Pastoral Ministry. Often See “Co-Pastor” Alongside Husband.
  
- **How They Worship:** Emphasis on “Spirit-filled” and Spontaneous Worship. Some spontaneous practices include raising hands, being “slain in the spirit,” “running the aisles,” and “holy laughter.”
  
- **What They Forbid:** Some Holiness Pentecostal groups emphasize external holiness with legalistic guidelines for modesty and entertainment.