

The Pentecostal Movement can have its origin in God or Satan. If it is of God, it would claim full and unconditional allegiance to the Catholic Faith, its dogmas and doctrine. The Pentecostals seem to know where, when and how the Spirit blows. They are fully conscious of being the dispensers of the Holy Spirit and His Gifts. They meet and the Spirit punctually and, without fail, pours out His Spirit and Gifts. Scripture is twisted and turned to suit their own ends.

Pentecostalism is an insult to the Church and an implied apostasy. Baptism of the Spirit is a man-made super sacrament. Charismatics do not seem concerned with the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost which were given to every Christian at Baptism and Confirmation but, instead, they focus on the secondary Gifts of the Spirit: healing, prophecy and speaking in tongues, none of which are necessary either for salvation or a high degree of sanctity.

Either Baptism of the Spirit is true or the Sacrament of Confirmation is true. The possibility for them to exist together is impossible. Who has given the Pentecostals authority: neither God nor the Holy Ghost? They make a sacrilegious claim to produce mystical experience and powers beyond even what the Church or any Sacrament can do. Baptism of the Spirit is born of unbelief! As the Charismatic Movement is based on false theological assumption, the devil enters in and uses it to lead souls astray. Humility is the foundation of all virtue; pride is the source of all sin. It is the vice of Satan and his followers.

Faith is about what is unseen, not about what is seen or felt. The devil likes to work with the senses and the imagination. He can make us feel experiences and imagine many wonderful things, expertly disguised as genuine. These occasions are a ready ground for the breeding of error, assumption and vanity in the soul.

We should flee from Pentecostalism! It is a spirituality that started outside the Church and is filled with the worst kind of dangerous – Diabolical! When the Apostles received the Holy Ghost, they went out into the whole world and preach the TRUTH and they suffered immensely. Finally, they died martyrs' deaths. This is the sign of a true outpouring of the Holy Ghost: the ability and willingness and, even, the thirst for suffering and martyrdom for Christ!

As Archbishop Dwyer noted: "We regard the Charismatic Movement as one of the most dangerous trends in the Church in our time, closely allied in spirit with other disruptive and divisive movements, threatening great harm to Her unity and damage to countless souls."

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The Errors of Pentecostalism

*"This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me; in vain do
they worship me, **teaching as doctrines
the commandments of men.**"*

Matthew 15:8-9

The Errors of Pentecostalism

By

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Pentecostalism is a new heresy which infiltrated the Church in order to destroy it from within. It is the companion and supporter of Modernism. These two Movements go hand-in-hand: Modernism undermining the Church at the level of doctrine; Pentecostalism at the level of worship. Both are well concealed and they contain enough Catholic terminology, pious phrases and external demeanor to deceive even the most cautious souls.

Today, the Church is being riddled with what people think are new insights and new doctrines. They are not new but actually old errors dressed in new clothes. Their founders and followers claim special insights and personal inspirations of the Holy Spirit. A particular brand the Pentecostals appeared in the 2nd Century. It was founded by Montanua who claim to spread, under the direct inspiration of the Holy Spirit and his followers, a plenitude of the Charisms of the Holy Spirit: the Gifts of healing, prophecy and tongues.

The 12th and 13th Centuries have had hordes of hot Gospellers claiming the special enlightenment of the Holy Spirit. They traveled tirelessly from place to place preaching a gospel of their own. To mention just a few: the Albigenses, the Waldenses, the Cathari, the Poor Men of Lyon, etc., All of whom based their queer beliefs and practices on Scripture and all attempted to belittle and, if possible, destroy the Catholic Church.

In the 16th Century, it was left for Luther to tear entire nations away from the Church. Luther was a Catholic priest gone astray. He claimed for himself and his followers a plenitude of the Holy Spirit which was denied to Popes, Bishops and Ecumenical Councils.

Thus Protestantism became the natural birthplace and breeding ground of modern Pentecostalism.

In fact, the Modern Charismatic or Pentecostal Movement was born of Protestantism in North Carolina, USA. Its official date of birth was the year 1892. Its founders were Rev. R. G. Spurling, a Baptist pastor; and Rev. W. F. Bryant, a Methodist pastor. At that time, the Movement was well received by the communities. They claimed for themselves the same plenitude of the Holy Spirit that was received by the Apostles on Pentecost Day, along with the miraculous gifts of prophecy, healing and the gift of tongues. They held that the Holy Spirit inspired the faithful directly and they rejected dogma and magisterium while welcoming ecstasy and emotionalism.

The Movement was recognized by the Catholic Church for what it was and, at the Second Plenary Council held at Baltimore-Maryland, the Bishops warned the faithful against lending any support to this Movement. They forbade them to be present at their gatherings, even out of curiosity.

Pentecostalism was no child of the Church. Catholics were free from its contagion until 1966 when it was brought into the Church by two laymen who were lecturers in Theology at the Duquesne Catholic University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: Ralph Keifer and Patrick Bourgeois. They studied the books: *THE CROSS AND THE SWITCHBLADE* by Pastor Wilkerson, and *THEY SPEAK WITH OTHER TONGUES* by John Sherrill. They desired to renew the Christian life of the university students.

In their struggles with apathy and unbelief among the college students, they needed the kind of power that Wilkerson seemed to possess. They took a passage from St. Paul to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians XII) which served as theological basis for their Movement and they approached a Protestant Pentecostal prayer group for the Baptism of the Spirit on January 13, 1967. At their prayer meeting, hands were laid on Ralph and Patrick, and they received the gift of tongues. The Movement has spread far and wide through the Catholic Church, even among Priests, Bishops and Cardinals, and attracts, as an irresistible magnet, thousands of nuns eager to experience the emotions of the First Pentecost Day.

It is not a Catholic Movement. It is Protestant to the core and is a child of heresy. The phenomenon caught on like wildfire through its promises of instant conversion and holiness. Lethargy and indifference encircled Priests and Bishops like a bronze wall. To them, God seemed to be rousing the dormant Pentecostal flame to a torch of Faith, a fire to set hearts aflame. Youth and women flocked in thousands to obtain a personal experience of the Holy Spirit and a taste for prayer.

Traditional devotions, Rosary prayers, confessions, seminars and sermons had ended in failure while Pentecostalism claimed success everywhere. Sudden conversions, cures and an abundance of followers enticed priests to lend the support of their unquestioned authority. Three days of Charismatic retreat was held in a highly charged atmosphere, with lengthy prayers, singing, swinging to and fro, spontaneous invocations and clapping of hands, a strict fast and night vigil. Then the supreme moment came when hands were laid on and a baptism of the Spirit was given. The great outpouring of emotion into a super human atmosphere of ecstatic joy brought forth the gift of tongues, cures were proclaimed and prophecies uttered, thus giving evidence, beyond any doubt, that their experience was genuine. Those ignorant of theology were easy prey. The Holy Ghost is the very principle of all holiness and leads the Christian to a total transformation in Christ.