

Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
DOCTOR OF MINISTRY
PTH 907 Theological Issues Facing Pentecostals and Charismatics
Core 3, October 14-18, 2002
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of theological issues and challenges facing Pentecostals and charismatics. Topics include the nature of Pentecostal/charismatic identity in the broader evangelical community, Spirit baptism and initial evidence, and current popular teachings circulating in churches.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Cognitive Outcomes:

1. The student will examine key issues of theology and spirituality facing Pentecostal and charismatic ministers.
2. The student will become acquainted with selected writings that discuss the distinctives of Pentecostal doctrine and practice.
3. The student will integrate pneumatological emphases in the ongoing formation of their theological beliefs.

Character/Attitude Outcomes:

1. The student will analyze their belief structure in regard to the ministry and activity of the Holy Spirit.
2. The student will proceed in ministry with a better-informed understanding of contemporary issues, as well as an enhanced appreciation of the unity and diversity within the Pentecostal and charismatic movements.
3. The student will be able to articulate their theology of the Holy Spirit and renewal.

Skill Outcomes:

1. The student will be able to integrate insights on Pentecostal and charismatic pneumatology into their activities in ministry.
2. The student's understanding of the unique Pentecostal dimensions of Christian spirituality will be increased in their daily life.
3. The student will be better able to teach about the values of excellence from the Pentecostal heritage in the local church or related ministries.
4. The student will more effectively address the issues facing Pentecostal and charismatic churches.

COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Presentation of the historical context**
 - A. Decline in emphasis on the doctrine of the Holy Spirit from the ancient church to the 18th Century.
 - B. 19th-Century developments
 1. Restorationist movements
 2. Holiness movement
 3. Healing movement
 4. Rise of premillennial eschatology
 - C. The "Crisis in Missions"
 1. Radical evangelicals
 2. The "Radical Strategy" in mission
 - D. Theories about the origins and nature of modern Pentecostalism
 - E. The "surprises" of God in the 20th Century
 - F. How revivals foster the expansion of missions and church growth

2. **Pentecostal and charismatic distinctives--Values from the Pentecostal Heritage**
 - A. Biblical authority
 - B. "Presence" of the Holy Spirit
 1. In the individual: Baptism in the Holy Spirit and the classical Pentecostal doctrine of Initial Evidence
 2. In corporate worship: The ideal of Pentecostal worship
 - C. Gifts of the Spirit
 - D. Holiness
 - E. Missions/evangelism: Pentecostal adaptation of Missio dei--The mission of God in the world
 - F. John 17 and Christian unity: Can we live with a measure of ambiguity with other Pentecostals and charismatics? Relationships with other Christians.
 - G. Pragmatism and the success of the Pentecostal movement

3. **Contemporary popular Pentecostal and charismatic issues and challenges**
 - A. Impact of North American culture on Pentecostals. Whither "prophetic witness?"
 - B. Longstanding issue of balancing Scripture and experiential piety in Pentecostal spirituality
 - C. The enduring influence of Latter Rain teachings
 - D. The problem of new "waves" of the Spirit's blessing
 - E. Strategic level prayer mapping
 - F. Recent renewals (Toronto, Brownsville, etc.) and the "problem of wineskins"--Can renewal take place without "splits?"
 - G. The "charismatic" leader and the problem of "power" in the Pentecostal tradition

- H. The decline in emphasis on the baptism of the Holy Spirit--Are Pentecostals now simply evangelicals who emphasize the ministry of the Holy Spirit more than others?
 - I. Facing the "Pentecostal identity" problem head-on: We've changed . . . and so have the evangelicals. How will we proceed from here?
 - J. The new "Evangelical/Pentecostal" paradigm: It is already influencing us. Will we influence it?
4. Biblical and theological syntheses with practical applications
- A. The pastor as theologian
 - 1. The joy of teaching on the ministry of the Holy Spirit.
 - 2. The agony and ecstasy of doing "remedial" theology
 - 3. The problem of physical manifestations? How they fit into renewal.
 - B. The "questions" change with each generation

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

Pre-Session

1. Completion of approximately 2000 pages of assigned readings. See pre-session reading list below. (NOTE: It is a violation of academic policy to claim credit for books read in prior courses. If you have previously read any book on the list for credit, you must substitute another book from the list of recommended reading or the selected bibliography.)
2. Based on the assigned pre-session readings, students should be prepared to discuss the required readings. They should also be able to analyze the author's thesis of each book or reading.
3. On the first day of class, each student should present a two-page analysis and reflection on the thesis of Grant Wacker's Heaven Below: Early Pentecostals and American Culture. The paper should be double-spaced and carefully proofread.
4. Students should reflect on the following questions when reading:
 - a. How does our past shape who we are as Pentecostals and charismatics today?
 - b. Why the relative silence about the baptism in the Holy Spirit in many of our churches?
 - c. How should worship in a Spirit-filled congregation be more than an evangelical liturgy?
 - d. Why does revival/renewal pose a threat to contemporary Pentecostalism?
 - e. How can we effectively transmit Pentecostal values to our parishioners and co-workers?

During Session

1. Classroom interaction
3. Discussion, small groups, lectures

Post-Session

Preparation of a major reflective essay (25 pages) may include consideration of the following questions: (For detailed instructions, see “Guidelines for reflective paper”; to be distributed at class time.) **DUE NOT LATER THAN 90 DAYS FROM THE LAST DAY OF CLASS.**

1. How do you define yourself as a Pentecostal or charismatic?
2. What has the baptism in the Holy Spirit meant in your personal spirituality and ministry?
3. What are the issues facing you in ministry that relate to Pentecostal spirituality?
4. How have the readings and the classroom discussions affected your potential response?

PRE-SESSION REQUIRED READING LIST

Suggested order of reading:

Grant Wacker, Heaven Below: Early Pentecostals and American Culture. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2001. A new social history of early Pentecostalism, not designed to examine the divine dimensions of the movement, but the kind of people who forged it into the most dynamic religious movement of the twentieth century.

Larry E. Martin, ed. The Topeka Outpouring of 1901, rev. ed. Joplin, Mo.: Christian Life Books, 2000. Eyewitness accounts of the first Pentecostal revival of the 20th Century, which also marked the emergence of classical Pentecostal theology.
Chapters 3-11, 20-21 only.

Frank Bartleman. Azusa Street: The Roots of Modern Pentecost. S. Plainfield, N.J.: Bridge Publishing, 1980. Eyewitness account of the Azusa Street revival that provides insights into the dynamics of early Pentecostalism.
Students do not need to read the introduction to the book.

Gary B. McGee. People of the Spirit: The Assemblies of God. Springfield, Mo.: AGTS, 1997.
Students should read the text carefully, but browse through the sidebars.

Richard M. Riss. Latter Rain. Mississauga, Ont.: Honeycomb Visual Productions, 1987.

Russell P. Spittler. "Theological Style Among Pentecostals and Charismatics." In Doing Theology in Today's World, eds. John D. Woodbridge and Thomas Edward McComiskey, 291-318. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1991.

Vinson Synan, ed. The Century of the Holy Spirit: 100 Years of Pentecostal and Charismatic Renewal. Memphis: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2001.
Chapters 1-14 only.

Harvey Cox. Fire from Heaven: The Rise of Pentecostal Spirituality and the Reshaping of Religion in the Twenty-first Century. New York: Addison-Wesley, 1995. Insights into the interracial and intercultural dynamics of Pentecostalism by a leading interpreter of religion in America.

In the event that the student has read one or more of the required books listed above, they may substitute one or more of the following:

Edith L. Blumhofer. Restoring the Faith: The Assemblies of God, Pentecostalism, and American Culture. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1993.

Edith L. Blumhofer, Russell P. Spittler, Grant A. Wacker, eds. Pentecostal Currents in American Protestantism. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1999.

Edward J. Cleary and Hannah W. Stewart-Gambino, eds., Power, Politics, and Pentecostals in Latin America. Boulder, Col.: Westview Press, 1997.

Murray W. Dempster, Byron D. Klaus, Douglas Petersen, eds. The Globalization of Pentecostalism: A Religion Made to Travel. Irvine, Calif.: Regnum Books, 1999.

David J. Du Plessis. The Spirit Bade Me Go. Oakland, Calif.: By the Author, n.d.

Daniel Mark Epstein. Sister Aimee: The Life of Aimee Semple McPherson. San Diego: Harcourt Brace and Co., 1993.

James R. Goff, Jr. Fields White Unto Harvest: Charles F. Parham and the Missionary Origins of Pentecostalism. Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 1988.

David Edwin Harrell, Jr. All Things Are Possible: The Healing and Charismatic Revivals in Modern America. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1975.

_____. Oral Roberts: An American Life. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1985.

Peter Hocken. The Glory and the Shame: Reflections on the 20th-Century Outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Guildford, Surrey, U.K.: Eagle, 1994.

Walter J. Hollenweger. Pentecostalism: Origins and Developments Worldwide. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1997.

David Martin. Pentecostalism: The World Their Parish. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 2002.

Margaret M. Poloma. The Assemblies of God at the Crossroads: Charisma and Institutional Dilemmas. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1989.

Everett A. Wilson. Strategy of the Spirit: J. Philip Hogan and the Growth of the Assemblies of God Worldwide, 1960-1990. Irvine, Calif.: Regnum Books, 1997.

Vinson Synan, The Holiness-Pentecostal Tradition: Charismatic Movements in the Twentieth Century. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1997.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Allan H. Anderson and Walter J. Hollenweger, eds. Pentecostals after a Century: Global Perspectives on a Movement in Transition. Sheffield, U.K.: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999.

John Arnott. The Father's Blessing: A Refreshing Move of God That Is Shaking Toronto--and the World. Orlando: Creation House, 1995.

Bruce Barron. The Health and Wealth Gospel. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1987.

Frederick Dale Bruner. A Theology of the Holy Spirit: The Pentecostal Experience and the New Testament Witness. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1970.

Stanley M. Burgess. The Holy Spirit: Ancient Christian Traditions. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1984.

_____. The Holy Spirit: Eastern Christian Traditions. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1989.

_____. The Holy Spirit: Medieval Roman Catholic and Reformation Traditions. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1997.

Larry Christenson, ed. Welcome, Holy Spirit: A Study of Charismatic Renewal in the Church. Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House, 1987.

José Comblin. The Holy Spirit and Liberation. Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books, 1989.

William DeArteaga. Quenching the Spirit: Discover the Real Spirit Behind the Charismatic Controversy. Orlando: Creation House, 1996.

Ralph Del Colle. Christ and the Spirit: Spirit-Christology in Trinitarian Perspective. New York: Oxford University Press, 1994.

Jack Deere. Surprised by the Power of the Spirit. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1993.

_____. Surprised by the Voice of God. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996.

David J. Du Plessis. The Spirit Bade Me God: the Astounding Move of God in the

- Denominational Churches. Rev. Ed. Plainfield, N.J.: Logos International, 1970.
- _____. Simple & Profound. Orleans, Mass.: Paraclete Press, 1986.
- Paul Elbert, ed. Essays on Apostolic Themes: Studies in honor of Howard M. Ervin. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1985.
- _____. Faces of Renewal: Studies in Honor of Stanley M. Horton. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1988.
- Howard M. Ervin. Conversion-Initiation and the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1984.
- Gordon D. Fee. Gospel and Spirit: Issues in New Testament Hermeneutics. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1991.
- _____. God's Empowering Presence. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1994.
- James R. Goff, Jr. Fields White Unto Harvest: Charles F. Parham and the Missionary Origins of Pentecostalism. Fayetteville, Ark.: University of Arkansas Press, 1988.
- John Goldingay, ed. Signs, Wonders and Healing. Leicester, U.K.: Inter-Varsity Press, 1989.
- Alasdair I. C. Heron. The Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit in the Bible, the History of Christian Thought, and recent Theology. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1983.
- Walter J. Hollenweger. Pentecostalism: Origins and Developments Worldwide. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1997.
- Stanley M. Horton, ed. Systematic Theology. Rev. Ed. Springfield, Mo.: Logion Press, 1995.
- Harold D. Hunter and Peter D. Hocken, eds. All Together in One Place: Theological Papers from the Brighton Conference on World Evangelization. Sheffield, U.K.: Sheffield Academic Press, 1993.
- Jan A. B. Jongeneel, ed. Experiences of the Spirit: Conference on Pentecostal and Charismatic Research in Europe at Utrecht University, 1989. New York: Peter Lang, 1991.
- _____. Pentecost, Mission and Ecumenism: Essays on Intercultural Theology. New York: Peter Lang, 1992.
- Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen. Ad ultimum terrae: Evangelization, Proselytism and Common Witness in the Roman Catholic Pentecostal Dialogue (1990-1997). New York: Peter Lang, 1999.

- Craig S. Keener. Crucial Questions about the Holy Spirit. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1996.
- Steven J. Land. Pentecostal Spirituality: A Passion for the Kingdom. Sheffield, U.K.: Sheffield Academic Press, 1993.
- Francis MacNutt. Healing. Notre Dame, Ind.: Ava Maria Press, 1974.
- Larry Martin, ed. The Topeka Outpouring of 1901: Eyewitness Accounts of the Revival that Birthed the 20th Century Pentecostal\Charismatic Movements, rev. ed. Joplin, Mo.: Christian Life Books, 2000.
- _____, ed. The True Believers: Eyewitness Accounts of the Revival that Shook the World. Joplin, Mo.: Christian Life Books, 1998. (Azusa Street Revival)
- C. Douglas McConnell, ed. The Holy Spirit and Mission Dynamics. Evangelical Missiological Society Series #5. Pasadena, Calif.: William Carey Library, 1997.
- D. R. McConnell. A Different Gospel: A Historical and Biblical Analysis of the Modern Faith Movement. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1988.
- Kilian McDonnell, ed. Presence, Power, Praise: Documents on the Charismatic Renewal. 3 Vols. Collegeville, Minn.: Liturgical Press, 1980.
- _____. "Improbable Conversations: The Classical Pentecostal-Roman Catholic International Dialogue." One in Christ, 31:1 (1995): 20-31.
- _____. "Five Defining Issues: The International Classical Pentecostal-Roman Catholic Dialogue." One in Christ, 31:2 (1995): 110-121.
- _____. "Pentecostals and Catholics on Evangelism and Sheep-Stealing." America, 6 March 1999, 11-14.
- Gary B. McGee, ed. Initial Evidence: Historical and Biblical Perspectives on the Pentecostal Doctrine of Spirit Baptism. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1991.
- _____. "Leaving room for sacred pauses." Advance, January 1992, 8-9. (Making room for the gifts of the Spirit in Pentecostal worship)
- _____. "Assemblies of God Churches: The Ideal of Worship." In Complete Library of Christian Worship; Vol. 1: The Renewal of Sunday Worship. Ed. Robert E. Webber. Nashville: Star Song Communications, 1993.

- _____. “‘Latter Rain’ Falling in the East: Early-Twentieth-Century Pentecostalism in India and the Debate over Speaking in Tongues,” Church History 68 (September 1999): 648-665.
- _____. “Looking for a ‘Short-cut’ to Language Preparation: Radical Evangelicals, Missions, and the Gift of Tongues.” International Bulletin of Missionary Research 25 (July 2001): 118-123.
- _____. “Miracles and Missions Revisited.” International Bulletin of Missionary Research 25 (October 2001): 146-156.
- _____. “Initial Evidence.” In New International Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements, ed. Stanley M. Burgess. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2002.
- William W. Menzies and Robert P. Menzies. Word and Spirit. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2000.
- Michael G. Moriarty. The New Charismatics: A Concerned Voice Responds to Dangerous New Trends. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1992.
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- Michael O'Carroll. Veni Creator Spiritus: A Theological Encyclopedia of the Holy Spirit. Collegeville, Minn.: Liturgical Press, 1990.
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- Douglas Petersen. Not by Might nor by Power: A Pentecostal Theology of Social Concern in Latin America. Irvine, Calif.: Regnum Books, 1996.
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- Paul A. Pomerville. The Third Force in Missions. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Pub., 1985.
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- Roger Stronstad. The Prophethood of All Believers: A Study in Luke's Charismatic Theology.

Sheffield, U.K.: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999.

Jean-Jacques Suurmond, Word & Spirit at Play: Towards a Charismatic Theology. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1995.

Eldin Villafañe. The Liberating Spirit: Toward an Hispanic American Pentecostal Social Ethic. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1993.

Grant Wacker. "Travail of a Broken Family: Evangelical Responses to Pentecostalism in America, 1906-1916." Journal of Ecclesiastical History 47 (July 1996): 505-528.

C. Peter Wagner. Confronting the Powers: How the New Testament Church Experienced the Power of Strategic-Level Spiritual Warfare. Ventura, Calif.: Regal Books, 1996.

J. Rodman Williams. Renewal Theology, 3 Vols. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Pub. House, 1988.

Mark W. Wilson, ed. Spirit and Renewal: Essays in Honor of J. Rodman Williams. Sheffield, U.K.: Sheffield Academic Press, 1994.

John D. Woodbridge and Thomas Edward McComiskey, eds., Doing Theology in Today's World. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1991.

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Stanley M. Burgess and Gary B. McGee, eds. Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1988.

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