

Christian traditions:

A short tour through the lovely and different people who say we worship Jesus



Week 8: Spirit Churches

Bible Roots

Numbers 11:26-30	Joel 2:28-29	Acts 2:1-4
Isaiah 44:3	Mark 6:7-13	1 Corinthians 14:1-3

If you were to start from these verses and say what the Church should be like, what would be most important to your Church?

Important Dates

- 1901: The Welsh Revival begins, bringing with it thousands of conversions and manifestations of New Testament-era spiritual gifts.
- 1906-1915: Revival breaks out in Los Angeles, featuring speaking in tongues, healing, racial integration, and all sorts of other superhuman phenomena, largely among Wesleyan Protestants. Newspapers and church leaders label them a new cult.
- 1911: International Pentecostal Holiness Church founded
- 1960: A wave of charismatic revivals hits Catholic and mainline Protestant churches, resulting in a new Charismatic Movement.
- 1980's through 2000's: Pentecostal and Charismatic traditions become the fastest-spreading Christian traditions in the world, rivaled only by Islam in the rate of their growth in the poorest parts of the world

Ways that the Spirit Churches Differ from Us

- Because of their emphasis on the infinite freedom of the Spirit to give gifts to whomever will receive them, spirit churches have from the beginnings of Pentecostalism called upon women and men from all races and backgrounds to preach and otherwise to serve the Church.
- Charismatic services especially (but often also Pentecostal services) often involve “speaking in tongues,” a practice that seems to be mentioned by Paul in 1 Corinthians 13 and 14.
- Some (not all) spirit churches insist that the process by which a Christian receives the fullness of the Spirit is a threefold process: salvation, sanctification, and the reception of the spirit of tongues.

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