

Pentecostalism - A History of Pioneers and Wackos - "God's Generals" - A History of Deception

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[0 : 00] Welcome along tonight. It is a bit of an unusual topic. We're still on church history, but I thought to spend a session specifically on the history of Pentecostalism.

So I've called it church history, Pentecostalism, or you could also call it a history of deception. So my object is to kind of talk about the matters and they're somewhat confronting.

There's a whole lot of false doctrine out there and it's becoming more and more prevalent and more and more mainstream in a lot of churches that are adopting charismatic kind of theology.

So I've got a strong reason why it's important to me because I've had experience of it myself. And really, I think that with any movement, you should be able to test it and you should be able to check the history of it.

And if it's a move of God, then you should see that there's a sound testimony of the people and sound doctrine. But with the Pentecostal charismatic movement, really, it's a history of error and false teaching.

[1 : 15] So when you consider really someone as a teacher, you'd look for the qualities that it talks about in 1 Timothy and Titus. So it says there about, for example, a bishop must be blameless, of good report, a deacon, have good degree, an elder be blameless, an elder and a bishop be blameless, must be blameless.

So that's the kind of qualities that you would look for in someone that you would want to be a preacher, a teacher, a leader. Some of the comments that people have made, some really men of God that have assessed the movement have said things like this.

So a preacher called Ironside and a more recent preacher who's got really lessons, almost if not all of them were sexually immoral.

It's not a good history. How could this be a movement of God given its history? So as I say, I'm using some of you to go through every page because there's quite a lot of content here.

So you wonder really when you look at the Pentecostal movement, whether a scripture like Matthew 7, 22 to 23 may apply, where we know at the judgment, the Lord says to these ones who say, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name, in thy name cast out devils, in thy name done many wonderful works.

[2 : 38] He says, I never knew you. Depart from me, you that work iniquity. So as much as people might not like me saying it, for me, I think it's clear that Pentecostalism and the charismatic movement, it's really quite a train wreck.

It's full of seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. Some of what's going on, especially, it seems to be ramping up and getting worse, it seems akin to witchcraft and mysticism.

And it needs to be rejected, I put to you, along with all of its trappings and the music that goes along with it that some churches are adopting. Whilst they may not be Pentecostal or charismatic, a lot of churches are playing Hillsong, for example.

So this subject really is very personal to me because I was a Pentecostal for 13 years. I was trained by a Bible school with the Apostolic Church.

I pioneered an independent church just around the corner from here that then became Christian Revival Crusade. I've served in Assembly of God, Church of God Cleveland, the Full Gospel Church, the Christian Outreach Centre.

[3 : 43] And for a time I was an ordained minister as a Pentecostal, so I'm certainly speaking from some personal experience that I've got great concerns about the movement.

And I've experienced many Pentecostal ministries and different churches. Now, of course, there's many godly people who are Pentecostal and charismatic. I'm not discounting that.

There's many people who love the Lord that are still in the movement. But yet I believe they're in a movement that's very astray from the Bible. And many of its claims are false, such as the modern-day tongues and signs that they claim that they're using, which are invalid.

As far as history goes, we know that before the canon of Scripture was complete, during the Apostolic Era, there was a distinct time when there were specific confirming signs of the apostles and prophets.

There was tongues, which was a known language and a sign of judgment. And, of course, the gift of tongues is talked about in the Bible. It's interesting that it's only mentioned in the earliest New Testament books of Acts and 1 Corinthians, as two of the earliest books written in the New Testament.

[4 : 57] So later books don't have reference to it. And, of course, the Bible warns against seeking signs, as the Scripture's there. Matthew 12, an evil and adulterous generation seek after a sign.

Matthew 16, a wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign. Mark 8, the Lord rebuked the Pharisees. They were seeking a sign from heaven.

And 1 Corinthians 1.22, it says, The Jews require a sign. So what I'm saying tonight, and I'm not going to go into the doctrine side, because we've already touched on that at another session, but just in brief, we're not saying that the gifts have ceased.

We're saying that the sign gifts have ceased. So those sign gifts, such as tongues, prophecy, miraculous healings and such, that they were for a sign for a purpose.

And those signs have been fulfilled. What it was given for is fulfilled. So we're not denying the gifts. God gives us gifts and ministries to serve him.

[5 : 59] It's just the sign gifts we're saying that clearly they've ceased. History shows us that they have ceased. And they're absent from church history, apart from some peculiar cults. So there's other studies you can see.

You can look online. Like Justin Peters has got quite a history of, for example, there's different sects called the Montanus. There's various other peculiar sects over history, like little outbreaks.

But there were peculiar groups and had some weird teachings and manifest false prophecies and weird goings-on. So I haven't included those in the notes.

But basically, from the apostolic era to about 1900 or the late 1800s, there's really no evidence of tongues or such things with any sound teaching Bible Christian group.

They're only manifest in kind of weird groups, weird cults. There's one group that's a bit of a weird group. She saw herself as the second appearance of Christ, and she was called a valid Bible teaching group.

[7 : 10] It's interesting that, strangely enough, in 1892, here's a quote, strange sights are seen and strange sounds were heard today. Religious excitement ran high and many spoke in tongues in 1892, thereabouts.

And, of course, there's a number of pages said, and also had, like, jerking and slaying in the spirit. And there's talk of the kundalini kind of manifestations, which are somewhat alike to some of the slaying in the spirit stuff.

There's a really good book I read which helped me to see the light, called Slaying by the Spirit by Nader McHale. And he talks about the Toronto Blessing, how it's very much akin to what hypnotists do, and automatic suggestion.

So the things the Irvingites did. So Irving was disciplined out of his church in 1832, and he had a portion of the congregation form the Catholic Apostolic Church, and he quickly ordained its first 12 apostles.

And Irving falsely prophesied that Jews would return to the Holy Land and that the millennium would begin in 1867. Of course, he had all medical help. Three of his four children died young.

[8 : 25] In 1834, Irving got the idea that he would be a great prophet and would convert the masses due to prophecy. But he died of consumption the same year. He was only 42 years old.

And that's looked on as the founder of the modern Pentecostal charismatic movement. And he introduced new doctrines in 1901 that really had not been heard of for 1900 years.

That speaking in tongues is the evidence of being baptised in the Spirit. Of course, as we talked in the session on the Holy Spirit, every believer is baptised by the Spirit into the body of Christ now.

And this teaching is very false. Parham denied the eternity of hell. He thought that tongues was the sealing of the bride of Christ. He rejected the literal six-day creation.

Believed that Adam and Eve were not part of this creation, that others existed outside the garden. He decried the use of medicine and doctors. Had dangerous views on healing, which culminated in the death of at least one young girl.

[9 : 26] He also believed in British Israelism. That's quite a false idea that if you're of Anglo-Saxon background, you're somehow one of the lost tribes of Israel, which is a rich earth, without having to learn foreign languages.

And this is what they did. Some normal instance have they been able to do so. So it was shown to be quite a fraudulent scam. Parham urged his students to seek this experience of speaking in tongues.

And he laid hands on one of his Bible students, Agnes Osman. And she allegedly began to speak in Chinese and later in Bohemian, so she thought. And Osman is the first recorded tongue-talking Pentecostal in American church history.

She spoke while in a trance, and subsequently Parham and others at the Bible school allegedly also spoke in tongues. And they even claimed to seek cloven tongues of fire. Parham said the language professors and other linguistically educated people confirmed that the tongues were languages.

But later reports showed that it was merely gibberish. Parham students not only claimed to speak in tongues, but also to write in them.

[10 : 37] So they claimed that these writings were foreign languages. So you see an example there. Supposedly, Agnes Osman, this first woman who spoke in tongues, she also wrote in tongues. So I guess she grabbed a pen and somehow the pen moved.

And really it's called automatic writing. That's what the spiritists use. And it's certainly an occult thing. So these inspired writings, so-called, were shown to be not anything other than just chicken scratchings, really.

And the people were deluded, plain and simple. The press called these writings quaint and indistinguishable hieroglyphics. So it's quite a ridiculous idea.

The idea was that they would expect these missionary evangelists to go to all parts of the world and have conferred on them this special gift of languages.

Basically they were saying, come and get any language that you want. It was a scam. They claimed something that wasn't true at all. None of Parham's followers were speaking real languages at all.

[11 : 42] Parham also had a couple of different scams that he used to take people's money. One of which was the Ark of the Covenant scam. He claimed that he knew the exact location of the Ark of the Covenant.

And he got people to give him money to go to the Holy Land to find it. He partnered with a man who claimed to have a device that would turn rocks into gold. So just give him money, he said.

Parham was a member of the Ku Klux Klan and a Freemason. So Parham considered himself the Latter-day John the Baptist. This is the founder. This is the founder of Pentecostalism.

You know, when I sort of started to read this stuff as a Pentecostal, I thought, what am I in? This is where it all began. Parham was also charged with sodomy of a young boy. And at one point he confessed to it.

And there were other sodomy charges against him that were later dropped. He was considered even by his not of God and founded by a sodomite. So this is a pretty shocking revelation, isn't it?

[12 : 39] Azusa Street is another key part here. Now, when you actually look at the place, it's quite shocking what Azusa Street meetings were all about.

They were filled with spiritualist mediums, hypnotists. A reputed preacher says that the Azusa Street activities are the last vomit of Satan. So Clarence Larkin, another renowned stray.

So Seymour also had some weird ideas. He taught the doctrine of enticement. One had first to be born again through faith in Christ, then subsequently sanctified through a second work of grace.

So there's false doctrine right through this whole movement and Azusa Street, where it all began in earnest. And so the services at Azusa Street and the Azusa Street meetings were so wild that Parham condemned them and called them sensational holy rollers and said that it was really just manifestations of the flesh, spiritualistic controls and hypnotism.

So even the father of Pentecostalism, Parham, rejected the Azusa Street as phony, manipulated, even demonic. And so the church actually ended in gross immorality, wild manifestations, and was shut down by the church there.

[13:57] So some 26 Pentecostal denominations say that that's where they began. That was their origin. Some of these Pentecostal denominations today that say that Azusa Street was their home, they reject the Trinity.

One wonders, if these manifestations are of God, how could you deny a fundamental doctrine of historical Christianity? So there was others there that had awful experiences with children dying in childhood, claiming healing that was guaranteed in the atonement, so they thought.

Again, that's another false idea, as we've touched on lately. The Pentecostal movement also was the first to introduce women pastors. So again, something that's plainly unscriptural, just of itself. And one of them is Maria Woodworth Etta. After being dismissed from a church, she joined the Pentecostal movement, helped found the Assemblies of God, and then started her own Lakeview Church in 1918 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

She was a travelling evangelist, was one of the first women to take this role, and was involved in going into trances, standing stock still for hours, sometimes days.

[15:13] And during these trances, people would come into her meetings and be miraculously healed or converted, so they thought. And she falsely prophesied that San Francisco would be destroyed by an earthquake.

She practised trances and pioneered the manifestations often seen in today's Pentecostalism, so slaying in the spirit, prophesying, overall pandemonium. And then she passed on the mantle to Amy Semple McPherson.

It's interesting, I heard this word pandemonium used of, for example, Rodney Howard Brown's meetings. And when you think pandemonium, many demons, that's what's going on, brothers and sisters.

Sadly, I believe it is pandemonium. Next figure here is Amy Semple McPherson. She faked her own kidnapping to have an adulterous affair. She had three husbands, three divorces.

Her third husband left his wife and children to marry her. She had a nervous breakdown, and her husband then divorced her. In 1944, she died from an overdose of sleeping pills.

[16:13] These are the people that the Pentecostal movement look up to. They call them God's generals. God's generals. I saw a critique that actually called them Satan's generals. So Amy Semple McPherson, she's really looked up to by people like Benny Hinn.

He regularly visits her grave. One time he said, I felt a terrific anointing. I was shaking all over, trembling under the power of God. I said, dear God, I feel the anointing. I believe the anointing has lingered over Amy's body.

Now, going to people's graves, they call it grave sucking is the term they use, to somehow imbibe the spirit of this dead one who's supposed to be so worthy.

But it's really an occultic idea, isn't it? So Catherine Coulman really followed on with what Amy Semple McPherson started.

And Catherine Coulman also married a man who divorced his wife to marry her. Coulman then divorced him. After meeting the Pope one day, Coulman said, when I met Pope Paul, there was a oneness.

[17:18] Her healing miracles were later shown to be fraudulent. There's one time here she says, you've had a cancer in the hip and now your pain is gone. Is that right? The man with cancer said, yes. Catherine then said, bend over so everyone can see.

He bent over. Walk around, she said. He walked around. She cried, isn't the Holy Spirit wonderful? There was all this great rejoicing and applause. And afterwards, the doctor inquired of the man, nothing had changed in his condition.

And yet the news spread everywhere that a man in a wheelchair had been healed. So there's all of this talk. There's lots and lots of talk of healings, lots and lots of talk of miracles, but when you actually assess it and evaluate it and look at the medical record, it's essentially false.

Essentially false. Now we're not saying that healing can't happen, but all of these wild claims of these leading lights of Pentecostalism, when you actually examine their claims, it's very hard for them to even provide some examples of people that have been actually healed that will stack up.

In fact, there's really no substantiation of all their wild claims. So Benny Hinn looks to Kuhlman again for his anointing as well.

[18:34] John Dowie is another figure that experienced a vision. You can see him there. He's a bit of an outlandish sort of character, dressing up like a high priest there. He had the idea of faith healing and he banned all practice of medicine.

He spoke against doctors. He said for people that went to doctors that they should be relying so that he was the first apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ. I now have the right to speak as the instructor of nations.

Basically, Dowie was a cult leader. He mismanaged funds. He taught polygamy. He had many mistresses. He taught that all sicknesses and diseases were a result of demonic possession. He practiced exorcisms that were quite frenzied and violent. People got hurt. And there's so many exaggerated stories we could tell of the history of Pentecostalism.

Dowie forced all of his followers to give him all of their possessions and they were not allowed to leave the compound. And he forced extended fasts upon his followers, including children. Many people died.

[19:37] It's a shocking history. These are the people, and even today, some of the modern-day Pentecostal preachers look up to these people, the people that I've been talking about.

Dowie was actually arrested for manslaughter. And Parham actually tried to take over Dowie's cult. But when they heard of the allegations of sodomy, they wouldn't do it.

Next character is John Lake, John G. Lake. He was another one that was influenced by Dowie. And he claimed his anointed bubblegum would heal people when they chewed it. He was another disciple of Dowie.

He founded the church at Portland. They had healing rooms. He claimed over 100,000 people were healed in his ministry. But none of these, however, were truly documented. And he was later exposed for his fraud, lies, and exaggerations.

He claimed to get into contact with his dead wife through a seance. So, 60s, 1960s. Thankfully, it died when his disciples refused to bury their departed. A mighty restoration of the sign gifts of the Spirit and revival before the end of the 20th century.

[20:44] And he promoted the idea of end-time apostles and immortalised some. So, Brownham seemed to operate this gift of soothsaying. He would name the people in the audience, call them out by name, describe events of their life, secret sins, and this boosted demonic doctrine.

So, again, if this is a man of God, why is he not at least accepting what is clearly a foundational, fundamental doctrine? And, of course, you've got modern-day people like T.D. Jakes also follows along with this idea called the oneness theology.

Brownham also taught that the Great Pyramid was made by God and had secret signs and symbols for our learning and he taught many weird doctrines.

And look up to, they're certainly not above reproach. Another movement is the New Order of the Laterain, the Laterain movement or the Sharon movement and that happened in Franklin Hall.

He wrote a book called Atomic Power with God Through Fasting and Prayer. And Franklin Hall taught what he called body felt salvation, body phenomenon, but he discouraged the use of scripture to test it.

[21:52] He said, a son of a man, perfected Christians will conquer and dominate the world and that believers will become manifested as the sons of God and they're going to be given spiritual bodies that can teleport, change appearance, speak any language and perform healings and they would usher in the millennial realm.

So the charismatic renewal was more ecumenical than a charismatic Anglicans methoded hell.

Jesus took on the nature of Satan when he was on the cross, so he lost his divine nature.

He says, every Christian is a God. You don't have a God in you, you are one. So these are all very false ideas. Faith, health, wealth, prosperity, gospel preachers teach guaranteed healing for those with faith.

They say faith is a creative force, a force that can shape your world. They say, we're just a little Christ. Your confession of faith in God's word will bring you healing or whatever it is you need.

Speak it into existence. You know, they say, confess and possess, they say, or name it and claim it. So they believe that Jesus himself was born again. He went to hell, suffered in hell, beat the devil in hell, then he, the Lord Jesus, was born again.

[22 : 58] So when you're born again, that means you're just the same as Christ. This is blasphemous stuff. This is evil, devilish teaching and pretty much mainstream.

The Pentecostals just go along with this just like the Charismatics do. And a lot of these ideas came from a fellow called E.W. Kenyon. And Hagen plagiarized much of Kenyon's work.

So Kenyon was a man who was taught new thought philosophies, the idea that divinity dwells within each person. He was influenced by Unitarians, so that, again, deny the Trinity, spiritualists.

They had this idea of sinless perfection, that we can become spiritual supermen, masters of demons and disease. He taught various odd metaphysical teachings.

So it was a cultic belief, really, that true reality is spiritual and positive confession has the power to create its own reality. So if you want health and wealth, just speak it.

[23 : 55] If you want to get rid of sickness and poverty, just deny it. And so positive confession has the power to create its own reality. Certainly not biblical. It's all very far-fetched.

And so E.W. Kenyon influenced a lot of these others that followed him. So Benny Hinn, he supposedly repented of the prosperity gospel in 2019, but he still asked for seed money.

So here we see him flinging his jacket at someone, slaying them in the spirit. He taught that Adam could fly like a bird and swim like a fish. He said, his anointing comes from his visits to the graves of Catherine Corman and Amy Semple McPherson.

So Benny Hinn, there's much more we can say about him, but for time we'll keep at that. Now here's Jonathan Rumi. People might know him as portraying Jesus in the Chosen movie.

Now I don't know what Jonathan Rumi's views are. Certainly he's a very devout Roman Catholic, but Jonathan Rumi, as he's pictured here, he plays the hippie evangelist Lonnie Frisbee in the movie Jesus Revolution.

[24 : 57] So that tells of the birth of the Jesus People movement. And Lonnie Frisbee, he was a homosexual on drugs. He died at a very early age due to his lifestyle. And Rumi took himself of going to Lonnie Frisbee's grave, virtually praying to him for getting a sign, getting his power.

Sounds again like witchcraft stuff. So again, Lonnie Frisbee, the Jesus Revolution, was tainted with all of this stuff going on. I believe he was still taking drugs.

He was talking about people getting saved while they're having LSD trips. And he didn't really repent or forsake the gay lifestyle. Another character is C. Peter Wagner.

He was a church leader who emphasised modern day apostles. And it's called the New Apostolic Reformation. So again, this is this idea. There's modern day apostles and prophets.

Well, if any of the people we've talked about so far are any examples of those they would uphold as modern day apostles and prophets, then I think that they're very sadly mistaken. And I can't see any modern day apostles and prophets in any of the ones who call themselves such in our world today.

[26 : 02] It's definitely not the case. The Vineyard Movement and the Toronto Blessing, the Brownsville Revival, these all came out of this idea, this New Apostolic Reformation, they call it.

So the Toronto Blessing is where people are laughing in the spirit, supposedly drunk in the spirit, rolling my hands on you, glory cloud manifestations, a ministry of actually, one thing said, the Mormons are Christians.

Okay? Austin also preaches the Prosper Movement. What's going on? And then you look now today and you see there's a train wreck here in Pentecostalism.

There's a track record that it's just so to have our glorified bodies before Christ's return. And this will allow us to subdue the earth. And he also says that Christians can become gods.

So, again, we could labour some of that. I'll just skip through some of that there. The various misconduct, various immoral acts that are talked about at all.

[27 : 03] Has God put a lying spirit in these people's mouths? And so, you do wonder. Here's another case of a fallen from grace preacher, Corrie Turner, pastor of a global Pentecostal megachurch, recently committed adultery with a female pastor and they called it a morally inappropriate relationship.

And the idea is we're all just sinners, no one is perfect. But, of course, you think of the marriages, the families that are torn apart, the damage that's done. The laughing revival, as we talked about before, is that idea of this holy laughter, suppose it, happened in the Toronto Airport Vineyard Fellowship.

People shaking, convulsing, jerking, rolling on the floor. Friends, this is not biblical. It's certainly not something that would be praiseworthy. When people are rolling on the floor and contorting, it's not

the spirit of God that's happening.

Certainly not. You would think whether it's the other spirit that's going on in such weird manifestations. Then you've got weird ideas from this fellow, John Arnott, not from Toronto. He says this, don't even entertain the thought that you might get a counterfeit.

So he says, don't exercise any caution about it. Just go along with it. And he introduced a new anointing that he called the sword of the Lord. So this new boldness, this new power, this warrior anointing to bring deliverance from your enemies.

[28 : 31] So this anointing supposedly includes roaring, shouting, grasping the hands above the head. So you've got some kind of invisible sword, I guess, and swinging them up and down as if you're actually holding some kind of sword to attack an enemy.

And he says, take the sword if you have any secret sin because that sword may turn on you. So this is the kind of wacko stuff. It's like there's a new fad every so often.

I know when Julie and I were in the movement, there's one church that we went to and dancing in the spirit was the thing. So yeah, the church would routinely, the congregation would just be dancing along to the songs and they call that dancing in the spirit.

And so there's these fads that go through the movement. So whether it's, you know, it could be slaying in the spirit is the fad or laughing in the spirit is the fad or dancing in the spirit or barking in the spirit, you name it.

And so Arnold's got this anointing, the sword anointing, you know, whatever the flavour of the month is that they want to come out with. And this fellow, Rodney Howard Brown, he refers to himself as the Holy Ghost bartender.

[29 : 40] So it was a turning point for Julie and me actually when we went to Brisbane to his meeting and we were just shocked by what we saw. People slithering on the floor like snakes.

And Howard Brown's dispensing to people what he calls this holy drunkenness, this drunkenness in the spirit. And it's all about the signs and wonders, the manifestations. And he says things like this, you know, talking about a serious subject.

He says, one night I was preaching on hell and everybody laughs. Laughter just hit the whole place. The more I told people what hell was like, the more they laughed.

So this is the idea that there's a levity, there's a flippancy, there's a carelessness, there's an abandonment of biblical discernment, of Bible even, that it's all talks of experiences and visits to heaven and manifestations and weird signs and wonders and supposed miraculous visitations of angels or God and such things.

Discernment is out the window. It's out the window. Todd Bentley is another preacher. Fresh Fire Ministries, here he is showing off his tattoos.

[30 : 58] He's cheated on his wife, he's left her for a female member of staff, so he's got a new wife now. They've started having babies together, he left his wife and his children to marry her. He's accused of a track record of ungodly and immoral conduct and substance abuse.

Todd claimed to heal people by punching and kicking them and he claims encounters with the apostle Paul and angels. He claims that angels have dropped gold dust in his meetings. So lots of wacky claims and again, all of these supposed claims of healings and miracles, they don't really wash up.

It's not there. Todd White is another Todd. He's another strange one. Todd White, here he is, he's doing the fake leg lengthening trick and that's what a lot of these folks do.

The happy hunters do the same thing. It's quite a common little feature that they have, this fake leg lengthening idea that somehow you've got one leg longer than the other so you've got to sit down and then they manufacture a kind of lengthening of the leg and Todd White's got outrageous claims again about this new breed Christian.

He wants to teach everyone how to be as pure as he is. So he's apparently arrived. He's not sin, he's got no sin now apparently and this new idea, this new breed idea comes from the new order of Latarane like we talked about was condemned by the assemblies of God in 1949.

[32 : 23] So Todd White, he claims that Christians should do psychic readings like the heretical cult leader William Branham and Branham was the leader of the new order of the Latarane movement. Todd often tells a story of getting flipped up into the air multiple times while being shocked with very painful electricity at a Benny Hinn meeting.

This was supposed to be a good thing but none of this was captured on video however. He's 100% clear about Kenneth Copeland and Benny Hinn being his spiritual mentors and spiritual fathers. He clearly teach a prosperity gospel similar to those men. In 2015 he paid himself a salary of 625,000 US dollars one year. So Todd White be warned be warned Paul Yonggi Cho he changed his name to David Yonggi Cho well he says God told him that his new name was David he was the pastor of the world's largest church he's passed away now he was in Seoul, Korea he claims to have received his call to preach from Jesus Christ himself who supposedly appeared to him dressed like a fireman.

Cho is well aware of his link to occultism arguing that if Buddhism and yoga practitioners can accomplish their objectives through fourth dimensional powers then Christians should be able to accomplish much more by the same means.

In 2014 Cho was convicted of embezzling 12 million US dollars in church funds. So serious stuff.

[33 : 52] So we think of these folk they call it the prosperity gospel it was created in the USA but they've exported this theological poison to the rest of the world. So this is Justin Peters I'm quoting here he says that this prosperity gospel has become the face of Christianity around the world today and it is horrific in Africa all of sub-Saharan Africa is just saturated with word, faith, health and wealth prosperity theology.

It is truly our worst export bar none. So this health, wealth, prosperity gospel they're taking it to poor nations like Africa third world countries and extorting money off of the people with this idea that you've got to give and somehow get back as you give you'll get back with this whole false idea of the health, wealth, prosperity gospel.

Now there's lots of churches that don't go along with charismatic or Pentecostal theology but they're playing their music week after week. So you've got Hillsong you've got Bethel music Jesus Culture there's others that they're playing these songs repeatedly week after week.

All the royalties are going to fund these kind of churches and when you think what does this music do it sets this mystical feel it creates this experience of course they're very good musicians they've got a way of manufacturing it making it such a moving experience that it moves people to emotional states altered states of consciousness and these kind of music styles they're often repetitive often mantras and hypnotic virtually and CCM artists are quite influential and they've got a wide appeal a wide spread so you've got churches that are not Pentecostal or charismatic that are still playing this music so that really they're part of it they're following part of it and the people that get a liking for this music then they buy the DVDs they watch the movies they follow along with the Rocky style portrayal that it is and the emotionalism of it and really it's much more than a preference issue it's actually there's a doctrinal issue because numbers of these songs have got false theology as well and it sets that tone in a church that the music's more inclined to feeding the flesh and again it opens the door to more error so friends just to wrap up it is important in such a time and that's why it's a really important subject to me personally and I know some of you some of those names that I talked about might not be familiar but to me they are very familiar and to people that are in the Pentecostal movement they look up to these people as heroes of the faith they look up to them as the pioneers of the movement they look up to them as the ones who were the founders that laid the foundation the apostles and the prophets of the movement they look up to them as people that are somehow great men and women of God who had great ministries and were used mightily of God and performed great wonders and signs but friends the Bible says that the devil can produce signs and wonders and we see that really as I've picked up this quote here that many Pentecostals and Charismatics they're unstable they're lurching from experience to experience from church to church from meeting to meeting from doctrine to doctrine like I was saying before the different fads it's like there's a new bandwagon to jump on every so often and there's some new movement there's some new anointing there's some new revival that people have to go to and support some new teacher and teaching and books and tapes and videos that you've got to buy and spend money to receive their teaching and it's what's commonly out there at Kurong it's what's popular it's what the majority of people are following friends the majority of Christianity is basically going this way it's a very sad fact but the majority of Christianity

[37 : 59] I believe is going this way it's going towards Pentecostalism and Charismatic teaching hopefully there's enough discerning people with a skerrick of Bible awareness and a heart of discernment that they can see the faults and the failings and the warning signs here and in 1 Thessalonians 5.21 it says prove all things hold fast that which is good so we know the Bible says

we should test everything we should test it test our own experiences you know I've had experiences and they felt real at the time to me but I've since had to come to that discernment that it was false I was misled I was misguided and we need to test things and exercise discernment so sadly really I put to you that the Pentecostal movement it really is filled with many brazen heretics false teachers charlatans hucksters they're exploiting the poor they're exploiting the sick and the desperate even widows for personal financial gain you know they get people to send money to get some anointed handkerchief or some supposed item from the holy land whether it be some oil from the holy land or something or some item that is supposed to be some special trinket some special coin or you know they make these little mites so a widow's mite and they say send your donation we'll send you a widow's mite so they get these ideas that people get these little fancy little things that they can think oh they've somehow been blessed because it's come from that preacher because that pastor has prayed over it it's going to help me with my healing really it's all falsehood and so they're exploiting these people and then they're offering things that are supposed to be forth telling something that's going to happen and then when it doesn't happen they're not called to account they're not accountable they're not tested if they're authentic prophets in bible days that have been stoned to death for being a false prophet so these people are just getting away with murder and literally that when they're saying to people so I just put to you tonight to be cautious to test everything so that are still in the

Pentecostal movement I pray for those that are still struggling to escape some of its false teachings even from our own number who might tune in to some of these TV preachers that are putting this stuff out that's false Lord we just pray for wisdom and discernment that we be able to discern these things that are not true that are not biblical and that we be a more soundly biblical people Lord help us in these things we pray so know that your Holy Spirit is the spirit of truth and so that your guide us into all truth we thank you for these things in Jesus name Amen