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Pentecostals and the Hermeneutics of Dispensationalism: The Anatomy of an U

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My aim in this article is to describe how some, predominantly white Pentecostal groups have tried to wed a Pentecostal dispensationalist eschatology. I am concerned to describe the attempt by Pentecostals to find acceptance and legitimacy within a fundamentalist movement. I hope to show both that Pentecostals were not originally dispensationalist-fundamentalist, and secondarily to embrace such views have raised new problems for the identity of Pentecostals-hermeneutically, so the procedure will be, first, to show that the earliest Pentecostal views were not united in agreement with the doctrine of dispensationalism; second, to illustrate that later Pentecostal dispensationalist defenses for a pre-tribulation rapture were inconsistent with the principles to their ecclesiology; and, third, to demonstrate that dispensationalist eschatological views eventually raised

basic Pentecostal understanding of Acts 2. Though much of what I present applies generally to other denominations, this is a critique on the Assemblies of God. My purpose is not to single out the Assemblies of God, but to choose a denomination accessible to me and one which very early assumed a strict dispensational eschatology. Before attempting this analysis, I want to say something about the nature of dispensationalist-fundamentalism.

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