

*What we teach about*  
**THE CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT**  
**Acts 2:1-4**

**Tonight we'll explore what Franklin Road Baptist Church teaches about the Charismatic movement.**

**I. CHARISMATIC IDENTITY**

- Who are the charismatics?

**A. DENOMINATIONALLY**

- Churches with names that identify them as a part of Pentecostalism, the Assemblies of God, the Church of God, the Vineyard Christian Fellowship and many "Holiness" churches.

**B. ASSOCIATIONALLY**

1. The Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship, The 700 Club, Trinity Broadcasting Network
2. Those in the "signs and wonders" movement, the "health and wealth" movement and the "name it and claim it" element.

**C. THEOLOGICALLY**

1. An emphasis on the post-salvation baptism of the Holy Spirit as a second work of grace which should be sought. - See I Cor. 12:13 and Acts 1:5
2. A belief that the supernatural sign gifts are still in use today.
3. A stress upon speaking in tongues as an evidence of true salvation and/or sanctification - Using scriptures such as Acts 2:1-4, 10:44-46 and 19:1-7
4. A willingness to see the book of Acts as epistolary and normative rather than historical and transitional (Acts 1:1-3 says it is historical)
5. A tendency to overemphasize experience and deemphasize doctrine.

**II. CHARISMATIC ERRORS**

- A summary of our response to some of their most obvious doctrinal errors

**A. THEY DISCOUNT THE SUPERIORITY OF SCRIPTURE**

1. Experience trumps Scripture: Here's what happened to me
2. Experience is always at the mercy of Scripture - See II Peter 1:16-19
3. The reality is that some with "experiences" are still unbelievers - See Matt. 7:22-23

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**B. THEY ARE MISTAKEN ABOUT THE NATURE OF SPIRIT BAPTISM**

1. Charismatics believe this is something that must be sought as a post-salvation blessing or second work of grace.
2. And yet note what happened in Acts 2, 10 and 19 and a lack of what they claim should happen
3. The Bible never tells us to seek Spirit-baptism and indicates that it comes at the moment of our salvation. - See I Cor. 12:13 and Eph. 2:14-18

**C. THEY MISUNDERSTAND THE TEMPORARY NATURE OF SIGN GIFTS**

1. Sign gifts were given to confirm the spoken word - Heb. 2:3-4
  - a. The accompanying signs authenticated the message
  - b. See Mark 16:14, 20; Acts 3:1-12 with 4:4 and Romans 15:18-19
2. Sign gifts were discontinued when the Bible became complete – I Cor. 13:8

**D. THEY MISINTERPRET THE MEANING OF TONGUES**

1. They are not some unknown or ecstatic gibberish
2. Mark 16:17 indicates that they will speak with new “tongues” or languages
3. Note Acts 2:4-11 - They spoke in languages they did not ever study but were recognizable languages.

**E. THEY ARE WRONG IN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE PURPOSE OF TONGUES**

1. They are given specifically as a sign to unbelievers - I Cor. 14:22
2. They are especially a sign to unbelieving Jews - See Acts 2:5 [Note that the audience was Jews]

**F. THEY VIOLATE CLEAR BIBLICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF TONGUES**

- See I Cor. 14 > These are the Lord’s commandments (v. 37)

1. Tongues must not trump prophecy (1-5)
2. Tongues must edify the church (12, 26) and not build up the speaker
3. Only two or three are allowed to speak (27)
4. They must speak in order, not all at once (27)
5. There must be an interpreter present (27-28)
6. Confusion and disorder are not allowed (33 with 23)
7. Women are not allowed to speak (34-35)

**CONCLUSION:**

The Charismatics should be commended for their emphasis on:

- The reality of the Holy Spirit
- Their interest in biblical worship
- And their desire for spiritual vitality

However, this does not negate their serious errors that we must refute and refuse to accept.

- See II Timothy 1:13-14; 2:15; 3:14-17 and 4:2-4

**Might we be a church committed to rightly dividing and defending God’s Word.**

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