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I was very fascinated with the development of the Azusa street revival. A 100 years ago if you had asked, George Whitefield about such revival occurring, he probably would have dismissed the notion: probably calling hysterical. Yet, his involvement in U.S religious history as well and other high profile preachers, spun the web for this event. The Azusa street revival founded by William J. Seymour defied all the religious norm and culture of the day. For one thing, it was racially diverse, and the liturgical protocol towards service was totally dismissed. The whole notion of Pentecostalism, from the “speaking in tongue” to the “special gift” would have brought about great controversy at the time.

I also find it fascinating how this Christian movement, did not happen out in Kansas or any other Christian dominated region, but California. California was not a place where religion was prominent even in the early 20th century. From my understanding of the history of Pentecostalism: from that period to modern day there has been a declining in diversity in churches, as in most churches of today. It seems California and Azusa street revival were catching up to the rest of the Christendom culture of America, and when their “out of norm” look became “news of yesterday, they became like the rest of Christendom. It makes us wonder if every new Christian movement would gradually be saturated with the American religious culture.