

Abuse of Power in African Pentecostalism and its Implications for Mission Expansion in Africa

By

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It is an incontrovertible fact that the power of the Holy Spirit is the life- wire of the Church as the Church was founded through the instrumentality of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, consequent upon which it becomes normative in Christian circle today that any Christian church which does not give room for full operation of the Holy Spirit cannot be said to be a true church of Christ. However, recent happenings in African Pentecostalism reveal a gross abuse of the power of the Holy Spirit in some quarters through manipulations, and this is having serious implications for Christian missionary expansion in Africa. The thrust of this paper is to examine the different areas the power of the Holy Spirit is being abused in some African Pentecostal churches, with the view to assessing the various ways such abuse of power by some church leaders is having serious implications for development of African Pentecostalism as well as Christian missionary expansion. Primary data will be gathered through qualitative research, and will be analysed by using both descriptive and historical methods. Practical ways of the messes will be suggested to foster a more power-demonstrating and experience-dominating African Pentecostalism which in turn will aid Christian missionary expansion in Africa.