

9-6-1906

## **"Apostolic Rally" - Houston Chronicle (September 2, 1906)**

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BRUNNER TABERNACLE HELD BIG CROWDS YESTERDAY.

Parham Speaks on Movement and What It Stands For—Baptismal Service Postponed Because of Rain.

Yesterday was a great day with the Apostolic Faith people at Brunner. The big tabernacle on Patterson avenue was crowded with hundreds of the faithful, and the services from morning to night were attended by enthusiastic audiences. Rev. Charles F. Parham, projector of the movement, and ~~other~~ <sup>Charles F. Parham, State Director,</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~audience~~ <sup>audience</sup> and addressed the various assemblages of the day. The baptismal service, which had been announced for yesterday afternoon and which attracted hundreds from the city, could not take place on account of the heavy rains of the morning and the preceding night which muddied the stream and made the banks slippery.

At 2 o'clock in the afternoon the great crowd of workers and others identified with the movement lined up in front of the tabernacle and had their picture taken. It was a big group, and when the pictures are finished they will be sent back to Kansas and other points where the movement is being established to bear testimony of the activity of the workers in Texas. Many will be kept by members of the Texas delegation as souvenirs of the first annual encampment of the movement in this State. When the camera snapped and the photographer motioned that it was all over, there was a rush for the seats in the interior of the audience shed. Projector Parham struck up a hymn, and the crowd joined in with lusty voices as they moved in to the seats on the platform and others to seats in the body of the building. Another hymn was sung and then another. "Just give 'em time to tune up," said the leader, "and you'll hear some music." Then he announced a new hymn. "You old Methodists and Baptists and Presbyterians and the rest of you can sing this," was the comment. The hymn was "Onward, Christian Soldiers," and they sang.

## PARHAM SPEAKS.

In his address, which followed the session of Rev. W. F. Christensen, Projector Charles F. Parham told something of the history of the movement. He is a small man, and when he speaks he stretches his body and raises his voice to a high pitch. He laughed and related humorous incidents in the course of his address, and he neglected not to say something about the "hireling preachers" who "have a fine flow of language," and "a theological education." Mr. Parham himself, as he remarked yesterday, was licensed "an exhorter" by the Methodist church when he was 17 years of age.

He told something of the history of the movement during the course of his address yesterday afternoon. He referred to the prophecy in the Bible in which it was said that before Christ should come again the gospel must be preached to every people. "Bible religion," he said, "is formalism took root and drove true religion out." He said, "It never rejuvenated the gospel with his resurrection of the doctrine of justification by faith. Wesley reclaimed another truth, the truth of sanctification, and so others have found bits of lost truth and restored them. The Apostolic Faith movement has gathered the fundamental faith from every church and from every sect and from every age. It has brought all these together, and when the Apostolic Faith is fully comprehended it will be found to be the living truth expressed in one movement."

## HEALING BY FAITH.

He remarked on the doctrine of healing held by the adherents of his faith. "Over 100,000 people in the United States today are trusting God for healing, and they are not Christian Scientists or Spiritualistic healers, either. I may be crazy and a monomaniac on religion, but I know what I am talking about. I was sick, diseased in body and limb, the doctors nearly ruined me and stunted my growth by their medicines. Ossification was setting in and nothing it seemed, could save me from that. You know an ossified man lives forever. That's what's the matter with these church members. They are ossified. They are old dead church members and if they don't get right for God the devil will get them for kindling wood. 'Go in the church,' they say, 'and get saved.' Yes, go in and get saved—saved for nothing. I thought you preached to sinners? somebody asks. I do. But you are preaching to church members. Well, two-thirds of the church members are not saved. It is a hard fact, but it's the truth, and the old Angola goats don't dare dispute it.

"I was healed from all my ailments, and today my health is perfect. And," he said, "I have manifested other powers. Some years ago he actually fulfilled the second chapter of Acts at the Bible school in Kansas. The baptism of fire came down and the students went out speaking in tongues."

Now, we don't come to establish another church. We are not a new sect. We haven't anything for you to join. We proclaim a revolution. A revolution against sin, sin in the church and out of the church, sin in high places and low places."

In his sermon before the address of Mr. Parham, ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~signs of the times.~~ <sup>the signs of the times.</sup> He said that the time for the evangelization of the world was fast upon us and the Apostolic Faith movement he characterized as the agency that was to accomplish in its completeness this great work.

An altar service followed the general service. Candles were made, the service being under the leadership of Miss Mabel Smith, and dozens of men and women came forward and knelt at the rude wooden benches. Some of the workers went to the workers and prayed with them, and in a moment the whole place was a buzz of prayers and exhorting. Some there ~~prayed with~~ <sup>prayed with</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~workers~~ <sup>workers</sup> and they ~~prayed in their native tongue~~ <sup>prayed in their native tongue</sup> ~~loudly~~ <sup>loudly</sup> and persistently; others were quiet and self-possessed in their praying.

The meeting will continue this week, and much interest has developed that it was thought best not to ~~have~~ <sup>have</sup> ~~an~~ <sup>an</sup> ~~encampment~~ <sup>encampment</sup> yesterday as was ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~first~~ <sup>first</sup> ~~planned.~~ <sup>planned.</sup> The daily meetings will be held, both at the tabernacle and in the streets.

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*Houston Chronicle*  
*Sat. Sept. 2, 1906*

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