

## **The Apostolic Formula**

During that camp meeting a second major theological controversy developed—this one over the appropriate formula to be used in Christian baptism. Some contended that the appropriate “apostolic” baptismal mode was baptism by immersion “in the name of Jesus Christ,” following the model of Acts 2:38. Others wanted to retain the traditional Trinitarian formula spelled out by Jesus in Matthew 28:19. Many had themselves re-baptized in a nearby creek using the “apostolic” formula. Among those who adopted this “apostolic” position were Pastor Pendleton, the Eighth and Maple congregation, and George Studd of the Upper Room Mission. This discussion and the resulting actions unleashed a debate that led to further schism, permanently dividing the movement in 1916. Seymour rejected baptism “in the name of Jesus only” and maintained his commitment to the traditional Trinitarian understanding.

(Excerpt from *The Azusa Street Mission & Revival: The Birth of the Global Pentecostal Movement* by Cecil M. Robeck, Jr., Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc., Kindle, 2006, Page 317-318 of 342)