Synan brings together the stories of the many movements usually listed as "holiness," "pentecostal," or "charismatic," and shows that there is an identifiable "second blessing" tradition in Christianity that began with the Catholic and Anglican mystics, that was crystallized in the teaching of John
Wesley, and that was further perpetuated through the holiness and Keswick movements of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries to the appearance of modern Pentecostalism.

Synan then chronicles the story of the spread of Pentecostalism around the world after the heady days of the Azusa Street awakening, with special attention given to the beginnings of the movement in those nations where Pentecostalism has become a major religious force.

He also examines the rise of various mainline-church charismatic movements that have their roots in Pentecostalism. Because of the explosive growth of the Pentecostal movement in the last half of the century, Pentecostals and Charismatics now constitute the second largest family of Christians in the world after the Roman Catholic Church.

With the growing ‘charismaticization’ of the contemporary church, this book should be of interest to Christians in all academic disciplines. This is a book that makes for fascinating reading and is well worth the investment of time and money. Synan provides an authoritative, highly documented and nuanced survey of a tradition that continues to thrive worldwide.

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It has been more than a quarter of a century since this book first appeared under the title The Holiness-Pentecostal Movement in the United States. For more than twenty-four years, after first being published it remained in print without revision. At long last I have revised, enlarged, and renamed the book in an attempt to account for the incredible changes that have occurred in the worldwide church since the book first appeared. Instead of the word "movement" I have chosen to substitute the word "tradition.

This word is being used despite the fact that most Pentecostals have disdained the word "tradition" as belonging to the older and colder "established" churches, which did not understand the moving power of the Holy Spirit. In fact, when I did my first research on Pentecostalism around there were barely 50, Pentecostals in the world.

Now, as this revision appears, that number has grown to encompass some , "denominational Pentecostals" around the globe. Added to this are the millions of "Charismatics" and "Third Wavers" in the mainline churches who were inspired by the Pentecostals.

As the second largest family The Holiness-Pentecostal Tradition: Charismatic Movements in the Twentieth Century Christians in the world after

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