



Joseph Smale

God's 'Moses' for Pentecostalism

Tim Welch

June 2013

9781842277812 xxi + 238pp.

Summary:

This remarkable study presents the diverse influences which impacted Smale which were all precursors for Smale's influential role as champion of Pentecostal revival. Smale's leadership will resonate with every church leader who prays for revival and longs for more Holy Spirit power experimentally. Smale's 'Moses' designation and biography still have relevance for the church in the present day.

Contents:

Introduction; Smale's Spiritual and Pastoral Formation (1881-92); Smale's Preparation for Revival (1893-1904); Pentecostalism's 'Moses' (1905-06); Smale's Pentecostal Life and Service; Smale's Post-Pentecostal Phase

Commendations:

'In July 1906, Joseph Smale played a critical role in recognizing the validity of and challenging the Los Angeles Church Federation to be more tolerant of the Azusa Street revival; six months later he had withdrawn his support. Tim Welch has done a remarkable job of placing Smale within the larger social and theological contexts and helping us to understand this godly and complex Los Angeles pastor as he sought to do God's will.'

Cecil M. Robeck, Jr., Professor of Church History and Ecumenics, Fuller Theological Seminary, California

'The care and accuracy that underlie this study make it an extremely strong piece of work. Tim Welch is to be congratulated upon all that he has achieved and Pentecostal historiography will never be quite the same again.'

William K. Kay, Professor of Theology, Glyndwr University and Professor of Pentecostal Studies at Chester University

'Tim Welch has discovered and mined a rich vein of primary material on Smale, and used this to produce a lively study of a significant yet neglected figure. Considerable light is shed on the beginnings of Pentecostalism, and Dr Welch's work has the potential to inform a number of historical and contemporary debates. I commend it most warmly.'

Peter J. Morden, Vice-Principal designate, and Tutor in Church History and Spirituality, Spurgeon's College, London

'Tim Welch provides a richly detailed and illuminating account of this little known dimension of Pentecostal beginnings. He also deepens our understanding and appreciation of the early days of the Pentecostal movement.'

Anthony R. Cross, Member of the Faculty of Theology and Religion, University of Oxford

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