

A Brief Look at the Activity of the Holy Spirit and the History of the Assemblies of God in Vietnam

by Giang Son¹

Introduction

The country of Vietnam and its people have without doubt made their mark on history and a name for themselves on the world stage. From Chinese rule to French colonization to Japanese occupation during WWII to reunification of the North and South under communism in 1975, the Vietnamese people have proven their resilience and ability to preserve their cultural heritage.² However, less well known is the activity of the Spirit of God in Vietnam, especially over the past century. Despite intense persecution from family and government, as well as unrelenting opposition from the kingdom of darkness, the Holy Spirit has used the people's near unbreakable spirit and tenacity to build the Church and advance God's Kingdom throughout the nation.

In this paper, we will look at how the Spirit of God has worked powerfully in bringing redemption, deliverance, and healing throughout Vietnam as the Gospel has been preached and the Church established. First, we will look at how the Spirit used the earliest Catholic and Protestant missionaries to drive back darkness and plant seeds of the Gospel, as well as the revivals he sent that have helped form, prepare, and sustain the Church. Next, we will look at the formation of the Assemblies of God and how the war involving Vietnam and America affected the Church after 1975. Lastly, we will explore how, in 1989, the Spirit blew upon the embers of spiritually desperate believers and caused the Vietnamese Assemblies of God (VAOG) to be fanned into flame once again and how he has used the VAOG over the past twenty-five years.

¹Giang Son is used as a pseudonym

²Ngoc, Huu. *Wondering Through Vietnamese Culture*. (Hanoi, Vietnam: National Library of Vietnam, 2010), 835-919.