



Still a Baptist

...neither angry nor ashamed of it

Sunday

Central Baptist Church

Ponca City OK

July 12, 2020



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The first light bulb Thomas Edison

1879





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The first: airplane Orville & Wilbur Wright

1903



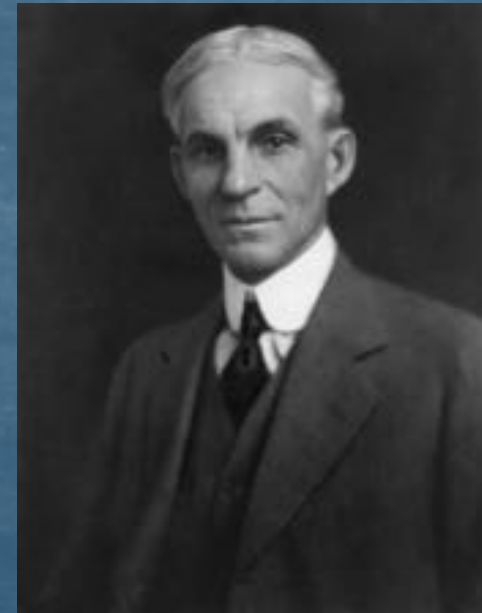


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The first Assembly-line Vehicle - Henry Ford

1913





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**The first Church -
Jesus Christ**

Matthew 16:16-18



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The Beginning of New Testament Churches

Matthew 16:16-18



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The church....

- ✓ **Planted by Jesus...source**
- ✓ **Possessed by Jesus...signature**
- ✓ **Purchased by Jesus...Savior**



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The church....

- ✓ **Presided over by Jesus...Sovereign**
- ✓ **Jesus is Present...Shepherd**
- ✓ **Perpetuated by Jesus...Sustainer**



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**The church was built *by* Jesus,
on Jesus, and *for* Jesus**



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*The Origin of the New
Testament church is
DIVINE, not HUMAN*



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*The church is not an
OLD TESTAMENT
Institution but a
NEW TESTAMENT
Institution*



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The church was founded by
JESUS CHRIST
during His earthly ministry

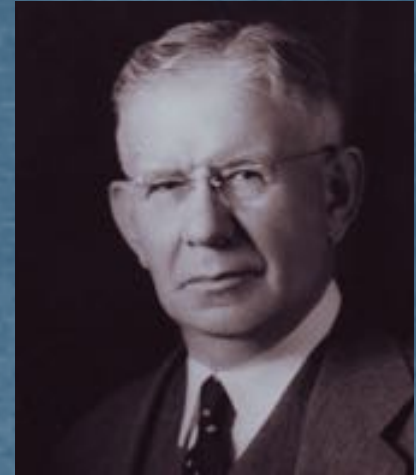
Mark 3:13-19 – Luke 6:12-16 – 1 Cor 12:28



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**L. R.
Scarborough
(1870-1945)
President of
SWBTS and the
SBC
Convention**



***“It is certainly true that Christ
in His own personal ministry
established His church.”***



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Roy Mason
(1894-1978)

“Out of the material prepared by John the Baptist, Jesus organized and founded His church during the days of His personal ministry here on the earth.”



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*The church was NOT
founded on the
DAY OF PENTECOST
by the Holy Spirit*



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*The Day of Pentecost
was not the **FORMATION**
of the church, but the
CONFIRMATION
of the Church Jesus
established*



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- ✓ **God the *Father Envisioned* the church**
- ✓ **God the *Son Equipped* the church**
- ✓ **God the *Spirit Empowered* the church**



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The Nature of the New Testament church is

LOCAL & VISIBLE,
not
UNIVERSAL & INVISIBLE



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Dr Gray Allison
(1924-2019)
Founder &
President Emeritus
Mid-America Baptist
Theological Seminary



“The ecclesia is a local church. This is what Christ meant when He used the word. Would the apostles have been able to understand any other meaning? What other kind can minister the Word to lost persons as well as minister to the physical needs of poor people and those who are ill? What other kind can preach the Gospel?”



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“Local Church”



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Bob Pearle
(1953-)
Birchman
Baptist Church
Ft Worth TX



***“Why all the debate about the distinction between the universal and local church? Why spend so much time on the etymology of “ekklesia” and its uses in the New Testament? The reason is simple. Misunderstanding the New Testament concept of the church diminishes the importance of the local church to the individual believer.*”**



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Bob Pearle
(1953-)
Birchman
Baptist Church
Ft Worth TX



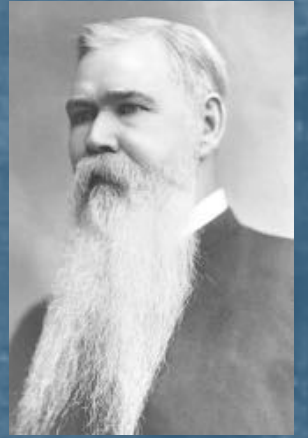
When the local church is trumped by the universal church, personal accountability is minimized, Christian growth is stunted, and practically, the local church vanishes. People move from church to church to 'bless' each congregation with their 'gifts' and insights only to become spiritual pygmies. The work of God in this world is done primarily through the local congregations. That is God's plan."



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B. H. Carroll
(1843-1914)
Founding
President of
SWBTS



“The whole of the modern Baptist idea of a now existent ‘universal, invisible church’ was borrowed from Pedo-baptist (those who advocate or practice infant sprinkling, jdl) confessions of faith in the Reformation times, and the Pedo-baptists devised it to offset the equally erroneous idea of the Romanist ‘universal visible church’. We need to be well indoctrinated on this point, because the error is not harmless. It is used to depreciate Christ’s earth-church, the pillar and ground of the truth.”



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1833 New Hampshire Confession of Faith

No universal church

1925 Baptist Faith and Message

No universal church



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1963 Southern Baptist Confession of Faith

- ✓ **Added...** *“the church is the body of Christ which includes all the redeemed of all the ages.”*

2000 Baptist Faith and Message

- ✓ **Declared...** *“The New Testament speaks also of the Church as the Body of Christ which includes all the Redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nations.”*



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Advantages of the “Local ecclesia (assembly) Only” position...

1. It advances the clear meaning of the word “ecclesia.”



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- 2. It reinforces the compelling need for church membership.***
- 3. It exposes the dangers of inter-denominationalism & ecumenicalism.***



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- 4. It underscores the church's complete autonomy & dependence on Christ.***
- 5. It places the need to maintain doctrinal purity on each congregation.***



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***The Root & Fruit of the New
Testament church is***

HISTORICAL

not

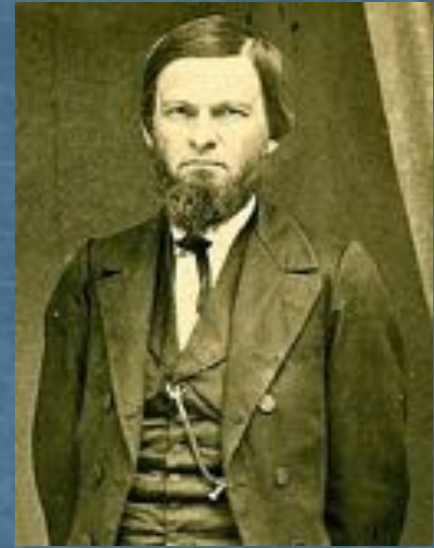
MODERN



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**John A.
Broadus**
(1827-1897)
**President of
Southern Baptist
Theological
Seminary**



Speaking of death...“All earthly things go down through these dread gates, but Christ’s church, for which he gave himself, will never cease to exist; there will always be Christians in the world. This was a bold prediction for a homeless teacher, with a handful of followers.”



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S.H. Ford
(1819-1905)
Baptist
Historian



“Succession among Baptists is not a linked chain of churches or ministers, uninterrupted and traceable at this distant day... The true and defensible doctrine is that baptized believers have existed in every age since John baptized in Jordan, and have met as a baptized congregation in covenant and fellowship where an opportunity permitted.”

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**L. R.
Scarborough
(1870-1945)
President of
SWBTS and the
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“Without boast or pride but with joy and certainty, Baptists trace their lineage back to an ancient and honorable beginning – to the meeting of John the forerunner and Jesus in the holy baptizing scene in the Jordan River. Through the centuries, sometimes by indistinct lines, sometimes by definite groups and mighty doctrines, they profess love for and loyalty to teachings and principles which Christ gave to the apostolic group and are recorded in the New Testament.” 1939 SBC Presidential Address

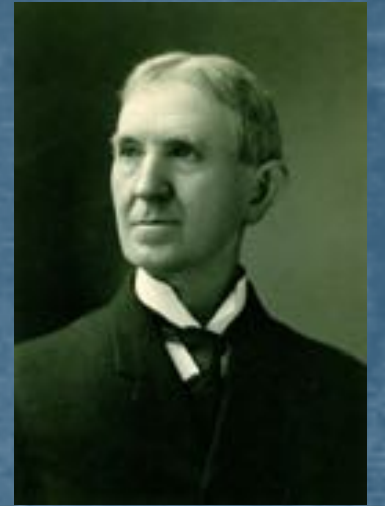




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**William H
Whitsett
(1841-1911)
President of
Southern
Baptist
Theological
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***Modern View – Baptists began in 1644
when the name “Baptist” appeared***

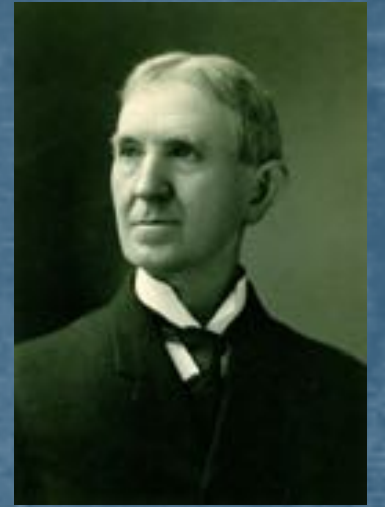
In a 1893 article in *Johnson’s Universal Encyclopedia* Whitsett argued that the practice of immersion began in seventeenth century England.



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*William H
Whitsett
(1841-1911)
President of
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He taught that up to 1641 all Baptists employed sprinkling and pouring as the mode of baptism and that no case of immersion took place among American Baptists before the year 1644.



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***D.B. Ray
(1830-1922)
Baptist Author
&
Apologist***

“No man now living will see the end of the hurt Dr. Whitsett has done the Baptists, no matter how often his position is disproved.”



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The Importance of the New Testament church is

ESSENTIAL

not

OPTIONAL



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**Gary
Thomas**
(1961-)
Author
***Authentic
Faith***



“This may sound shocking to some, but biblically, living for God means living for his church.”



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In the New Testament...

***...if you assembled with believers,
it was with a church assembly.***



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In the New Testament...

***...if you had Christian fellowship,
it was church fellowship.***



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In the New Testament...

...if you had prayer with other believers, it was a church prayer meeting assembly.



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In the New Testament...

...if you had a Bible study with other believers, it was a church Bible study.



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In the New Testament...

...if you were involved in Christian ministry, it was a church ministry.



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In the New Testament...

...if you had a spiritual gift, it was exercised as a church gift.



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In the New Testament...

...if you operated with spiritual authority, it was with church authority.



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In the New Testament...

...if you gave financially to God's work, it was money given to and for the work of the church.



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In the New Testament...

***...if you were doing God's work
you were doing church work.***



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In the New Testament...

...if you were doing missionary work, you were doing missionary out of a church.



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**Christ-centered
and
Church-Connected**



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**Too many professed
Christians are
“homeless”**



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Some need salvation



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Some need baptism



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**Some need to transfer
their membership**



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**Everyone needs to step
up and get involved**



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Those who hold to historic Baptist beliefs must *prize them, preach them, practice them, protect them, preserve them, and propagate them...*and don't be angry or ashamed of it!



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