# Still a Baptist Sunday

...neither angry nor ashamed of it

Central Baptist Church Ponca City OK July 12, 2020

The Blood-Bought History of Baptists

Acts 9:31

### Famous Baptists

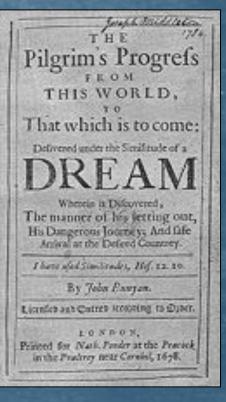


#### Famous Baptists



Bedford Jail (1660-1672)



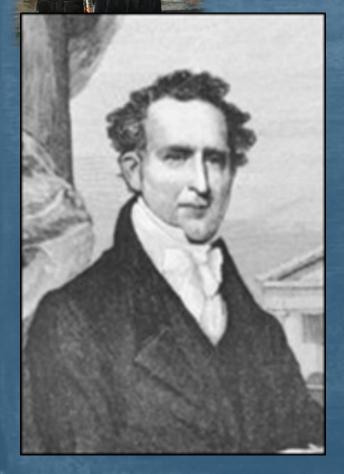


Pilgrim's Progress (1678)

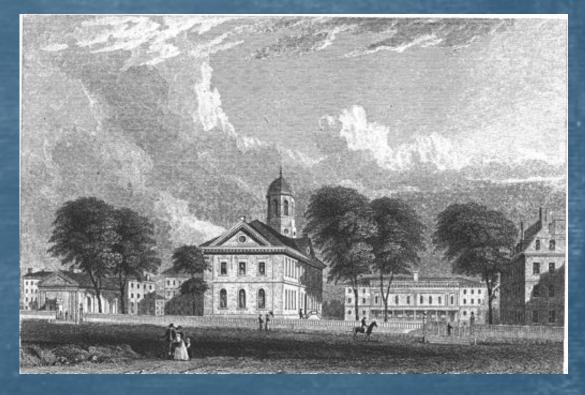
### Famous Baptists



#### Famous Baptists



#### Henry Dunster (1609-1659)



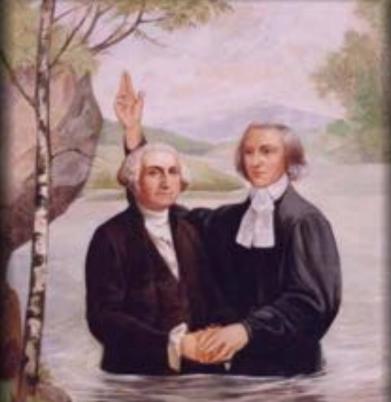
Harvard University (1640-1654)

### Famous Baptists



#### Famous Baptists

#### George Washington (1732-1799)



William Jewell College Liberty, Missouri John Gano (1727-1804)

### Famous Baptists



#### Famous Baptists

#### Charles H. Spurgeon (1834-1892)





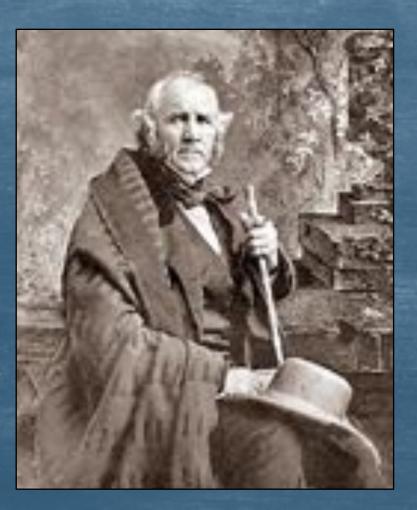
#### Metropolitan Tabernacle (1861)

#### Famous Baptists



#### Famous Baptists

#### Sam Houston (1793-1863)





Rufus Burleson (1823-1901) Little Rocky Creek Nov 19, 1854 Independence Baptist Church

Gregory Wills (1962-) Dean of the School of Theology Southern Baptist Theological Seminary



**Still a Baptist** ...neither angry nor ashamed of it

"Are Southern Baptists in danger of losing their identity? My response is, 'No, it is already gone.' Not entirely gone. Rather it is a withered relic of what it once was and what it should be."

When you refuse to be openly identified as something, you will be closer to being identified as nothing.

# Q: Were Catholics the Original Christians?

A: The Catholic system does not represent in the slightest the model of churches we read of in the New Testament.

A: What eventually became Catholicism developed out of those who "left" the fellowship of sound churches or those who were "marked" because of their non-biblical teachings.

## **Baptists were neither Catholic or Protestant**

The famed reformers - Luther, Calvin, Knox, and others - did not want to **REPLACE** Catholicism, only REFORM it. So, Protestantism is only modified Catholicism.

**Otill** a Baptist Dilemma ...neither angry nor ashamed of it # 1: For those Baptists who affirm that there had been doctrinal purity during the time of Christ and the apostles, Where was it through the centuries that followed? They must make one of two admissions. They must admit that their church's spiritual DNA is Catholicism, if **Catholicism came from the apostles.** 

**Otill** a Baptist Dilemma ...neither angry nor ashamed of it # 2: Or they must sadly admit the apostolic roots died in the Catholic era of apostasy and were resurrected 1,200 years later during the **Reformation period, leaving God** without a sound witness for over a thousand years.

A better confession is to under-stand that Catholicism was never *apostolic*, but *apostate* from the beginning.

New Testament churches had been repeatedly warned by the apostles about internal invasions that threatened the gospel.

"For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him...For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of **Christ.** And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their (2 Corinthians 11:4, 13-15) works."

**Otill** a Baptist ...neither angry nor ashamed of it "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." (Acts 20:28-30)

#### Galatians 1:6-9 – 2 Thess. 3:1-3 – 2 John 9-11

*Charles H. Spurgeon* (1834-1892)



"We believe that the Baptists are the original Christians. We did not commence our existences at the reformation, we were reformers before Luther or Calvin were born; we never came from the Church of Rome, for we were never in it, but we have an unbroken line up to the Apostles themselves. We have always existed from the very days of Christ,

*Charles H. Spurgeon* (1834-1892)



...and our principles, sometimes veiled and forgotten, like a river which may travel underground for a little season, have always had honest and holy adherents. Persecuted alike by Romanists and Protestants of almost every sect, yet there has never existed a government holding **Baptist principles which persecuted others;** 

*Charles H. Spurgeon* (1834-1892)



...nor, I believe, any body of Baptists ever held it to be right to put the consciences of others under the control of man. We have ever been ready to suffer, as our martyrologies will prove, but we are not ready to accept any help from the State, to prostitute the purity of the Bride of Christ to any alliance with Government,

*Charles H. Spurgeon* (1834-1892)



...and we will never make the Church, although the Queen, the despot over the consciences of men."

#### Two Streams: One Pure, the other Polluted

Truth and error come from different sources, and when lived out, they follow two different courses and end up at two different destination

# Sound Churches Were Not Always "Baptist" in Name but Baptist in Principle

 Montanists...150 A.D. Located in Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey).

 Novatians...150 A.D. Located in Armenia, Algeria, Spain, Phrygia, Constantinople, Alexandria, Carthage and Rome.

Donatists...305 A.D. Located in Northern Africa.

Paulicians...650 A.D. Located in Armenia.

Albigenses...700 A.D. Located in Eastern Europe.

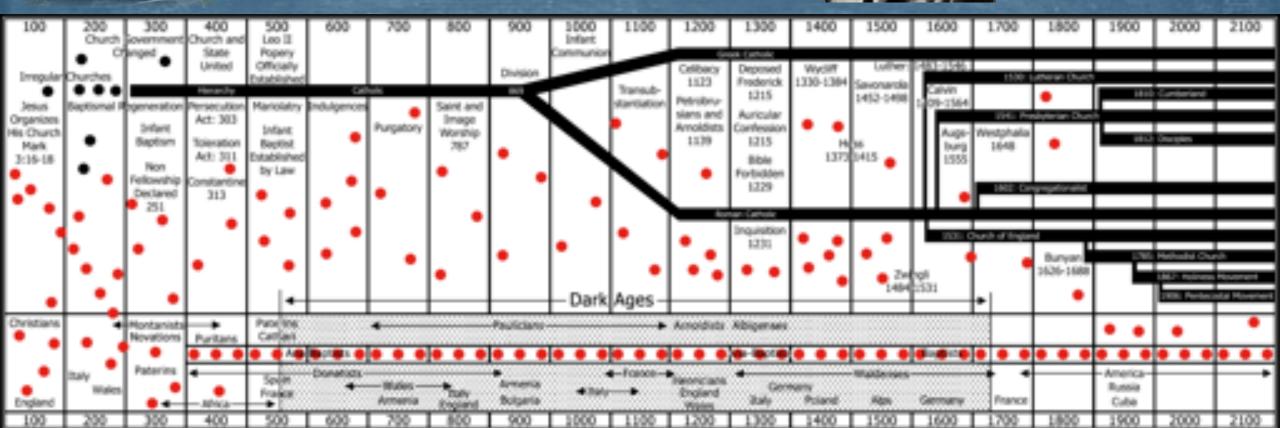
 Waldenses...1100 A.D. Located in Italy, France, Germany and South America

 Anabaptists...1500 A.D. Located in Switzerland, England, Moravia, Germany, Western Europe

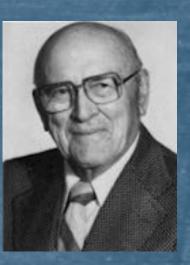
The similarities of these various baptistic groups do not relate to an intentional attempt at succession but came from their individual allegiance to New Testament ecclesiology. What caused their apparent commonality was their love for and obedience to the Scriptures.

#### **The Trail of Blood**

### **J. M. Carroll** (1852-1931)



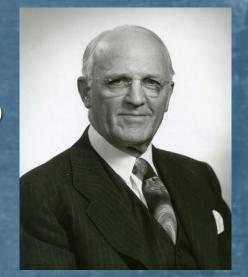
Leonard Verduin (1897-1999) Historian The Reformers and their Stepchildren



"The Anabaptists did not initiate a new school of thought; they merely re-stated an ancient ideology – in the idiom of the sixteenth century to be sure, but ancient nevertheless. No one is credited with having invented the Anabaptism of the sixteenth century for the sufficient reason that no one did. Rebaptizing is as old as **Constantinianism.** There were Anabaptists, called by that name, in the fourth century."

# God's People and Churches Have Been Persecuted and Martyred

**R. G. Lee** (1886-1978) Baptist Pastor



"Our Baptist forefathers wrote history in blood before they wrote it in ink. They suffered death – made jail bars, whipping posts, and torture racks blossom like Aaron's rod. As Baptists, traced through the centuries by a trail of blood, we should leave some bloody footprints as did our forefathers... **1951 SBC Presidential Address** 

#### God's People and Churches were Persecuted and Martyred by the Jews



God's People and Churches were Persecuted and Martyred by the Romans

God's People and Churches were Persecuted and Martyred by the Catholics



God's People and Churches were Persecuted and Martyred by the Protestants in Europe



**God's People and Churches were Persecuted and Martyred by the Protestants in Colonial America** 



# **Baptists are Different from Other Christian Denominations**

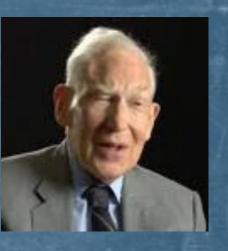
# Baptists are More than Fundamentalists

# **Baptists are Less than Evangelicals**

# **Baptists are Not Charismatic/Pentcostals**

# **Baptists are Not Ecumenical**

**J. I. Packer** (1926-) Theologian

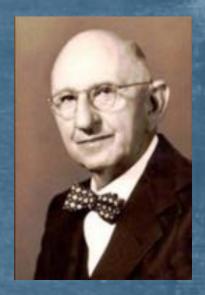


Q: How does God, who is not the author of confusion, (1 Corinthians 14:33), work with and bless those who are not entirely scriptural.

A: "God honors the tiny needle of truth hidden in whole haystacks of...error."

# Scripture is More Important Than History

*Louis Entzminger* (1874-1958) *Theologian* 



"I do not undervalue church history, but far more important for me than fallible human records of passing events is the New Testament forecast of church history. The former may err - the latter never."

Buel H. Kazee (1900-1976) Baptist Pastor & Professor



"Our appeal is not to history, but to the Scriptures. History has had its good days and bad days, and that which has evolved through the councils and creeds of the last two thousand years is not the right basis of argument here. We go to the New Testament for our proper understanding of the church, and anything in history which does not agree with that is wrong."

# God Preserves What He Treasures

# **Otill** a Baptist ...neither angry nor ashamed of it **God Preserves What He Treasures** God Preserves His Creation, **Colossians 1:16-17**

**God Preserves the Human Race,** Acts 17:24-28

**God Preserves What He Treasures** 

#### **God Preserves His Scriptures,** Psalm 12:6-7

God Preserves His ancient people - the Jews, Psalm 124:1-8

**God Preserves What He Treasures** 

#### **God Preserves the Gospel,** Revelation 14:6

God Preserves His children- the saved, 1 Peter 1:5; John 10:27-30

**God Preserves What He Treasures** 

#### **God Preserves His church,** Matthew 16:18; Matthew 28:20; Ephesians 3:21

The promises of perpetuity are not to an <u>individual</u> church, but to the <u>institution</u> of the church.

**The continuous existence of New Testament truth** practiced by churches in every age from the time of Christ to the present.

R. K. Maiden (1858-1939) **Utill** a Baptist **Editor of the Baptist** ...neither angry nor ashamed of it publication Western Recorder "I have no disposition to exaggerate current conditions and trends but am deeply concerned. Our **Baptist Zion is either unaware of the** menace of 'ecclesiological liberalism' or else supinely (flatly) indifferent. The chief concern so far shown among us seems to be with 'theological liberalism.'

**R. K. Maiden** (1858-1939) Editor of the Baptist publication *Western Recorder* 

This, too, is a menace of prodigious proportions. But this giant heresy is being recognized for what it is and is being courageously opposed and exposed, while little is being said or done in defense of New Testament ecclesiology – the New Testament Church.

**R. K. Maiden** (1858-1939) Editor of the Baptist publication *Western Recorder* 

I do not hesitate to go on record as firmly holding the belief that Baptists have more to fear from 'ecclesiological liberalism' than from 'theological liberalism.' If, as true Baptists believe,

**R. K. Maiden** (1858-1939) Editor of the Baptist publication *Western Recorder* 

Baptists have a heaven-given mission 'in' the world and a message 'for' the world, and would faithfully perform their mission and deliver their message, at all cost they must maintain their separateness, loyalty, and integrity."

# **KEEPING THE BAPTIST NAME**

History

Identity

Transparency

Ministry

**R. K. Maiden** (1858-1939) Editor of the Baptist publication *Western Recorder* 

"Baptists need desperately to review their own Baptist history, rethink the Baptist position and rediscover the Baptist conscience."

#### **Questions & Discussion**