## LANDMARK BAPTIST HISTORIAN

Published by Landmark Baptist Church - Folsom, California

### January 2012 - Volume 1 ~ Number 9

"Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will show thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee."

Deuteronomy 32: 7



### **Early California Baptist Newspapers**



### The Evangel

The Evangel, a California Baptist Newspaper, published in San Francisco, began its life with Volume III, Number 7, on July 5, 1860, under the editorship of D. B. Cheney. It replaced The Baptist Circular, which began publishing in August 1858, with J. Lewis Shuck, as editor. There had been two previous attempts to

sustain a Baptist paper in the state of California, but both failed due to financial concerns.

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### Some Errors of the Day.

By Stephen Hilton November 21, 1867

That a part of the Bible is to be received as authoritative and a part may be modified according to the judgment of men. One prominent phase of this error is found in substituting sprinkling for immersion under the plea that it is immaterial or that the former is more convenient.

That men are to be allowed in a matter of direct violation of God's positive commands. A phase of this error is found in

admitting to the Lord's table those who will not comply with the command to be immersed.

That regeneration of the soul takes place in immersion.

Phases of this error are seen in the creeds of the Catholic and Episcopal churches, though there is a false substitute of sprinkling for immersion.

That one man or set of men should yield convictions respecting truth before those of another man or set of men. A phase of this error is found in the claim, under the plea of Christian union, that immersed believers shall accept of the sprinkling of others as of equal value with immersion as an initiatory rite into Christ's kingdom on earth.

That one may have the initiatory rite performed upon him before being a spiritual child of God. A phase of this error is seen in sprinkling infants, (a false substitute for immersion) and of others upon a mere lip profession of faith in Christ.

That the wicked are annihilated at death or at the final judgment.

That all will be finally saved, irrespective of what they may have been in their life on earth.

That each church is not wholly independent in itself and answerable alone to God. That the whole membership have not an inalienable part in the government of the church.

That each Christian is not to contribute as the Lord has prospered him for sustaining and advancing his cause, and that the minister of the Word is to labor without reward.

### **Declaration of Principles.**

STEPHEN HILTON, EDITOR NOVEMBER 21, 1867

There is one God and Lord, the Creator and Upholder, beginning and end of all things.

The Bible is the word of God, written in the original tongues by men under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and is God's authoritative revelation of himself and his will.

God is revealed to us as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, each having a distinct personality and yet all being one in the Godhead.

All things are created for the glory of God, each according to the nature given to it. Man's sphere of action and obligation is in part peculiar to himself, through his free moral character, and God requires him to glorify his Creator and Upholder out of the full service of a free loving heart.

The Bible is given of God to man as a rule of conduct in all his relations to his Creator and his fellow, and in all things it is

to be implicitly obeyed according to the plain teachings thereof.

Man is in a lost and ruined state through sin, under condemnation, and, unless redeemed, exposed to the eternal wrath of God.

God, out of pitying love for man, came in the person of Jesus, who took upon himself the penalty of sin, which is death, so that a way of escape might be to men from the condemnation and power of sin.

All who come to God through Jesus, accepting of the atonement and redemption made, have all their sins remitted and stand justified before God.

God has appointed a day in-which he will judge the world, and when the final and everlasting portion will be assigned to every man, -- to those, who in penitence and faith accepted of the salvation in Christ on earth, everlasting happiness with him in glory; and to those who finally, on earth, rejected this salvation, everlasting punishment in a world of woe.

The office of the Holy Spirit is to renew and sanctify, and it is freely given to every desiring heart. Through its operation in the heart of man, by the word of truth, God begets for himself a people, "not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man," and prepares them for his glory.

Respecting the knowledge and obedience of truth, each man must study and obey for himself, and is answerable alone to God. No other man or set of men may interfere with him in doing it. But he may not thrust his belief upon another man or set of men. The freedom is mutual.

God has a kingdom upon earth, instituted by Christ himself. It embraces an organization, formed, in accordance with laws laid down in the New Testament, for the nurture of his children and for the upholding and promulgation of his truth. The qualifications for membership are that one be born of God in the new birth, that Christ be professed by immersion in water, and that the daily walk be such as becomes a follower of Christ.

In this kingdom there are many parts, or divisions, called households, assemblies, congregations, or churches of Christ -- each independent in itself and the sole judge for itself, and in itself of all matters of faith or practice, and answerable alone to God. But as being one of many divisions in the same kingdom, with the same king Jesus ruling over all, each should be kindly affectioned to the others, and all helpful of one another and united in carrying forward the one common cause.

To this kingdom on earth Christ committed the work he began while in the flesh, and the whole body and each individual member is to labor unceasingly, according to the strength God gives, that the whole world be brought to the saving knowledge and obedience of God in Christ.

Immersion in water is the rite set by Christ for initiating those whom the Spirit has renewed into his kingdom as organized on earth.

The Lord's Supper is an ordinance appointed of Christ to be observed, as a memorial of his death, by members of his kingdom on earth.

### **Baptist Propositions.**

by Dr. Edward T. Hiscox

Baptist Short Method

February 3, 1869

- 1. The Bible is our only guide, source of knowledge and standard of authority in matters of religion. Whatever is taught in the Scripture is to be believed; whatever is there enjoined is to be obeyed. And what is there neither enjoined, nor taught is not to be imposed on the faith or conscience of any man as of religious obligation.
- 2. The right of private judgment in the interpretation of the Scriptures. Every man has the right to read and explain the Bible for himself, being responsible to God alone for the correct interpretation of the sacred Word.
- 3. Freedom of conscience. Everyone has the right to hold such religious opinions as he may believe the Bible teaches, without hindrance or dictation from any; so long as he does not intrude upon or interfere with the rights and privileges of others by so doing.
- **4. Liberty of speech.** All men possess the right, not only to believe, but also to profess and declare openly and without fear or harm, whatever religious opinions they may entertain, provided they are not contrary to common morality.
- 5. The right of worship. Every man has a right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, and the word of God, as he understands it, without hindrance or molestation; so long as he does not injure or interfere with the rights of others.
- 6. Civil government, rulers and magistrates, are to be respected, and in all temporal matters not contrary to conscience and the Word of God are to be obeyed. But they have no jurisdiction in spiritual concerns, and have no right dictation, control or interference in matters of religious faith and Godliness; but are in duty bound to protect all citizens in the uninterrupted enjoyment of their religious privileges.
- 7. The Christian church is independent of all human authority, and under law to Christ alone. It neither ought, nor of right can have organic connection with the State; and for kings, princes or priests It neither ought to claim headship over it is a usurpation of Divine prerogatives and treason against God.
- 8. None but regenerated persons ought to be or properly can be members of the church of Christ, which is a spiritual body and separate from the world.
- 9. Pastors are not to be imposed upon churches, nor taken from them, without their consent; but are to be chosen by them without constraint, as by free men in Christ, who have a right to the choice of their religious teachers.
- 10. Christ is the only lawgiver in His church. Consequently the churches cannot make laws for themselves; but only execute those which He has given. Nor can any man or body of men legislate for the church. The New Testament alone is its statute book, by which, without change, the body of Christ is to govern itself.

Information, as the material shown below provides an idea of the spread of Gospel work in the early days of California.

### AGENTS FOR THE EVANGEL.

Monies for the Evangel may be sent direct by mail, in registered letters to Evangel San Francisco, Cal., or it may be paid to the following persons:

wing persons:				
W. R. Strong				Sacnmento.
B. W. Owens -				Stocton.
H. H. Atwater .			nt •7.7 of	Petiluma.
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D. C. Abbott .				Sana Clara
C. L. Street .			hin.	Solora.
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S.G. Cheover				Dayon.
Rev. A. Gould				Cacle Cicek

As printed in the January 30, 1868 Issue

# Post Civil War Relationship of American Baptist North and South

"...We have no conflicting views of faith and practice to harmonize..."

Says the Richmond Herald, in reference to delegates to the present Southern Baptist Convention, from the Northern Baptist Societies, and in answer to the question, How shall they be received!

We say, in the spirit in which they were sent, fraternally and cordially. They have held out the olive branch; let us cheerfully grasp it. Perhaps we have all been wrong. It would be strange if, amd the excitements and exasperations of a long continued and bloody war, we had neverdeparted from the gentle, loving, forgiving spirit of Christ. Let us forgive as we hope to be forgiven; and be more disposed to confess our own faults than to point out those of others. No humiliating concessions should or will be required on either side. We are breth-We have been temporarily estranged by sectional jealousies, political conflicts, and antagonistic opinions; but let us meet together to pray for divine guidance, correct misunderstandings, cultivate brotherly love, confer on matters pertaining to the kingdom of Christ, renew severel ties, and prepare for future labors in the Master's cause. Our own mind is fully made up on the subject. Whatever may by the views or the policies of others, we favor a prompt, hearty, cheerful reception of the delegates of the Union. We trust, however, that there will be no difference of opinion on this subject. In expressing our own riews and feelings, we have given, as we suppose, but feeble utterance to those of our brethren at the South generally.

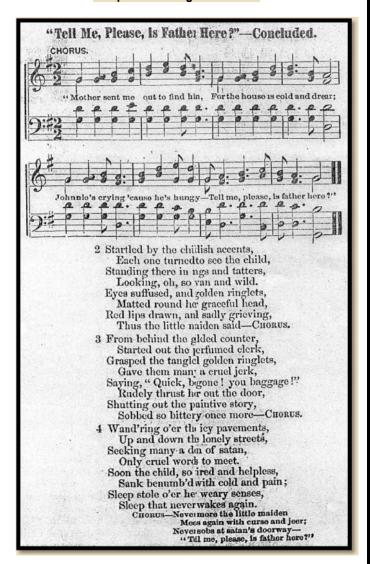
The subject of co-operation is another matter. Let us first, if possible, restore harmony of feeling between the Baptists of the two sections. We are, in some respects, in circumstances fivorable for gaining this desideratum. We lave no conflicting views of faith or practice to harmonize, no vexed ecclesiastical quesions to settle, and no personal injuries to edress. Our differences and alienations grew cut of issues that have been swept away by the war.

## A Temperance Song

Published January 24, 1879



#### **Temperance Song - Continued**

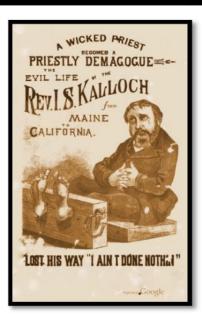




Isaac Kalloch had assumed the editorship of The Evangel after his arrival in San Francisco. "...he was one of the most popular and eloquent preachers who ever filled a pulpit on these shores, and his church in San Francisco, the Tabernacle, was always crowded while he officiated there. He was the idol of the laboring

classes in that city, and about seven or eight years ago was elected mayor by an overwhelming majority. He was also an able editor, and for some time ran a paper in San Francisco which circulated extensively." Quote from Kalloch Obituary as printed in *The New York Times, Dec. 12, 1887.* 

His popularity in San Francisco was not enjoyed by all and he made a very dangerous enemy in Charles De Young, Editor of the San Francisco Chronicle. De Young's attempted assassination of Kalloch catapulted him into the office of Mayor.



I recently discovered this booklet online and enjoyed reading it. While no one claimed to be the author of it, I believe it was Charles





# The Seventh of a 12 part Series in The Western Baptist

THE SECOND COMING OF OUR LORD NO. 7 BY J. H. MILLER

### THE SECOND COMING OF OUR LORD NO. 7

BY J. H. MITLER.

The last number treated largely of the Angel with little book (the covenant of Redemption made—the Father and the Son—our Lord Jesus Christ being parties to it—while the livy Spirit is the active Agent's bring about its benefits to all concerned. That chapter 10 and also 11, both belong under the sixth—the second was trumpet, including verse 14 of 11.

I wish to mention a mistake as I understand it by some of our D. D.'s in regard to the 4th chapter verse one, where the voice tells him, "Como up hither." They claim it to be necessary that the rapture of the saints must occur at that time that the Living ones and Elders 4: 4, 6. They seem to have overlooked the fact that namy of the saints arose at Christ's resurrection, which would seem to me to have been arranged on purpose to be on hand to meet the necesity for organizing the forces for the Judgment period.

Now, chapter 11 is probably one of the greatest puzzles of the whole book of Revelation; but I give you my view of its contents.

Taking into consideration that the Mother of Harots becomes finally the Great Babylon, chap. 17 and the Woman of cap. 12 merges into the NEW Jerusalem (Paul's allegary —Gal. 4: 21-3) but this NEW Jerusalem is the mather of unall. Let the realest turn to and read it carefully. Then read Matt. 25: 1-13.

Now, because of what follows in Chap. 12 I am stongly inclined to the view that the measuring refers to character. Part tell us that we who are attree and remain shall be caught up in clouds to meet the Lord in the air. The statement, "We who are alive,' is a very positive inference that there will be some who are live-wire and ready to go (1 Tim. 5: 6). A full third of the larger number of the churches are living in pleasure. See their dresses so low that a virtuous man can hardly shake hands with them, but in their polite lowing the man is reminded of his infancy, and is disgusted that profesors of the religion of Christ should live so like His murderers.

The Two Witnesses—Who are they? Some think they are Moses and John the Baptist—as beginners of the two depensations. "It is appointed to men once to die." Now those two monal lid die—God buried the first and the other lost his head because of the dance. But, mark, those who attain to that resurrection are like the angels, "Neither can they die any more" [Luke 20: 30]. But we are drive to find some two men who have not yet died. They are mentioned in fact's faithful record, Enoch, the seventh from Adam Gen. 5: 21 also Elijah the Tishbite 2, Kings 2: 11. These two men of all mankind havenot died, or will die—except those live-wire Christians who remain in the world till Christ changes them (1 Cor. 15: 51). So the two itnesses must be Enoch and Elijah. These witnesses work 1260 dars, as Christ said Matt. 17: 11 and Mark 9: 12) He "shall restore all things"—i.e. he re-establishes the Jewish sacrificial forms of worship.

From Rev. 13: 4 that he is a very great warrior, and this opinion of him could not easily be without his performing sone great military feat, and the first thing said of him after his form disscription is given (Rev. 13:1-3. It should be understood that there is not only a heavenly Trinity, but also an infernal trinity —God the Fatter, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit—One God. One great wrier said the Devil is God's ape. So there is The Diagon—anti-god, the least is anti-Christ, and the lamb like beast in Rev. 13: 11 is anti-HolySpirit—i.e. he holds the same relations to the antichrist as the Holy Spirit does to out Lord Jesus Christ—the active Agent in carrying on the Divine work in the world.

Now if you should hear of Leninegoing to Palestine, and making a covenant with the Jews [Dan. 9: 27 Jno. 5: 43] then look out.

The antichrist will have important things to perform—re-organize and establish the Roman Empire—avolving the same tengovernments it did contain when it went down. Is must contain a seven years; but he will be busy in other parts of the world for three years and a half, then returns to Jerusalem, but find there the two Witnesses— Enoch and Elijah have the old Jewish economy re-established, and in terrible anger he kills the two man and hen begins the terrible persecution of the Jews. [Jer. 30:7-] Alasi for that day is great, so that none is like it; it is even the time of Jacob's troble; but he shall be caved out of it.

Now, these two witnesses are allowed to lie unburried on the streets of Jerusalem three days and a half, the beast [antichrist] forbidding burial, but at the end of that time the Spirit of life from God enters

into them, and they stand upon ther feet.....and they heard a great voice from heaven saying "Come uphither; and they went up to heaven in a [Greek-the] cloud." But I think they did not go alone—that for next number.



Originally published by R. Y. Blalock in The Western Baptist, Volume 1 - Number 8 dated July 1, 1922

### **Minister Photos Needed**

If you have or know of someone that may have minister photos, please send a jpeg image of the following brethren to: e-mail: Lbfolsom@aol.com

Elmer J. Polson **Dean Pounds** Dud G. Povnor Glen Robert Priddy N. Austin Quick Randy Rankin, Sr. Harry C. Redmond J. H. Reeves **Paul Reeves** Mark Reeves Albert Henry Regis, Jr. Fred C. Reusser **Don Reynolds** Eli Rice Lester E. Rice **Dan Robbins Henry Frank Robbins** D. W. Roberts Rudy Rodriquez, Jr. Jim Ross Wavne A. Ross John Rudd Randy J. Rudd

More requests each month.



New Technology is a great benefit to the preservation of Baptist History & Heritage. The photo below is a perfect example. Pam Whala and I are Friends on Facebook and I requested a portrait quality photo of her father-in-law Bill Whala. Here it is:









## Memorial from 2007 Cooperative Association Minute Book page 7 & 8.

## 1932 - 2006



"Brother 3ill" was born in Bluffton, Arkansas, n July 23, 1932, to Othur Cleo Whala an Sadie Lee Whala. He was promoted b glory in Merced, California, on Decemer 6, 2006, aged 74 years, 4 months, arl 13 days.

He was søed as a youngster during a Vacation lible School/Revival at the Bluffton Methodist Church. Brother Whalamoed to California with family in 1951, settlag in Modesto. There he met Brother Rihard Harless and was shown from the sciptures that the Baptist belief of eternal scurity was true; he decided to be baptized by the Airport Missionary Baptist Church and remained a Missionar, Baptist the rest of his life.

On January 3, 1954, he married Betty Lois Ierrington, who was his loving wife and anchor for his life for over 47 year, until her promotion to glory in February 2001. He and Sister Betty ha two children, Billy Dee, Jr. (1954) and Lois Kay (1956).

Brother Whala answered God's call to the ninistry in 1951 and preached every opportunity, at the Rescue Mission, asister churches, and helped in the early work of the Missionary Baptist Mision at Hughson. In 1959, he was called to pastor the Lindsay Missionry Baptist Church and was ordained by her in November of that year.

He pastored churches in five western states CA, OR, WA, ID, AZ) for the next 50 years, retiring from pastoral work a Hughson Missionary Baptist

Church. He never retired reaching - doing upply work and preaching at revival services and fellowship meetings unil his health hindered him.

He had varied pastorates, such as leading inuilding and growth programs in Lindsay and other places, and starting a bs ministry in Ukiah. It seemed the area he was especially blessed with washelping broken churches heal and restoring shattered lives.

Brother Whala served as Clerk-Treasuer for the California State Missionary Baptist Association from 1979 o 1986,

He had a lifelong affection for education, atending one year at Arkansas A&M in Duman, Arkansas, before moving o California, he continued his education by correspondence and taking ollege work wherever he was pastoring. He received his Doctor of Theology from Covington Theological Seminary in the 1980's.

He and Sister Betty traveled extensively. Boore her health failed, they had visited all lower 48 states.

He was preceded in death by his mother ad father, his brothers, G.E., Jimmy, and Fay; and by his loving wife letty. He is survived by two sisters, Mary Sue Jones of Dublin and Bett Louene Reeves of Ceres; his son, Billy, Jr., of Merced; daughter, Les Stevenson of Yuba City; grandsons, Brian Baker and Eric Stevenson of Yuba City, Billy, III of Tulsa, OK; grandaughters, Colleen Green of Rogers, ARK and April Stevenson of Marysville; and two great-tranddaughters, Brooke and Morgan Baker of Yuba City.

Brother Bill is missed by all who appreciate his straightforward stand for the truth.

# Reuben Young Blalock

His Missionary Life; an Autobiography
As Published In The Western Baptist
(page 3 of September, 1950 issue)



## Chapter 1

I was born in North Carolina, February 9, 1867, born again, 1880. I was raised by Christian parents, the 7th child in a family of 14 children. My parents were of English and Scotch-Irish extraction, early settlers in America.

Father, being a poor man and an ordinary farmer, was unable to give any of his children a

college education, so what schooling we got above the common schools of that day was acquired by ourselves after we were grown.

In the spring of 1891, when I felt called to preach, I decided I would go west and get that idea out of my head. I came to Walla Walla, Washington, where I had a cousin, Dr. N. G. Blalock. I worked for him on a fruit farm just below the city. I attended the Baptist Church and put my membership in the church. I was elected clerk and treasurer of the Sunday School. That fall I attended school in Whitman College for a few months, then I secured a position as an attendant in the State Insane Asylum at Fort Stillicum. This is 9 miles from Tacoma, where I attended church and put my letter in the First Baptist Church. I attended it and took part in the Young People's Society.

While there I took several Baptist papers, The Pacific Baptist, published at McMinnville, Oregon: The Baptist Sentinel, published in Dayton, Washington, and The Western North Carolina Baptist, published in Ashville, North Carolina. All three of these papers are extinct now. I ordered D.B. Ray's Baptist History and read it. I felt all the time I should preach.

After I had worked there a year I was entitled to two weeks vacation with pay. I told Bro. Walker, who was clerk of our church, that I thought of taking my vacation and attending the Puget Sound Baptist Association that was to meet in Puyallup soon. So he had me elected as a messenger from our church. I went, and the pastor of our church was elected moderator. I was put on a committee to report on Religious Literature. A brother preacher was chairman of the committee, and he told me to write out what I wanted and give him, and he would put it in his report, so I did and recommended The Baptist Sentinel, but he left it off. When he read the report, a Brother Crouch wanted to know why The Sentinel was left off. The chairman said, "Oh, I believe

one of the committee did mention that, but I misplaced it." The moderator said it could be brought in by an amendment. Bro. Crouch, a fine young preacher from Kentucky, wrote out an amendment. I seconded it. Then the fire flew. One Englishman, a pastor in Olympia, said, "It is measly, trashy, no account," and he did not want it in his house. Several warm speeches were made on both sides. I finally got the floor and told them I recommended the paper and had been reading it for some time, and that when the Brother says, "It is measly, trashy, no account," and he does not want it in his house, he says the doctrines of this New Testament (holding up a New Testament) are measly, trashy, no account, and he doesn't want it in his house. A Brother, W.H. Sherman, got the floor and made a kind of a compromise speech. When the vote was taken the amendment lost by a few votes. Alien immersion was not mentioned, but that was the main issue. The Baptist Sentinel had opposed alien immersion, and it was hated by the alienists.

Bro. Walker, a good friend who was from Georgia, talked with me and asked me if I ever felt called to preach. I confessed and denied not. He told me to go ahead and preach and said, "We need real God-called men that will preach the truth out here."

After the association and my two weeks vacation I went back to work, but could not rest. I could read my Bible and pray every night. One night I surrendered and said, "Lord, I will do the best I can."

I resigned my job and went back to North Carolina in the fall of 1893 and went to school to R.L. Patton, a great teacher and Baptist preacher in Morganton, North Carolina. I began to preach some then in school houses or wherever the Lord opened up an opportunity. I was licensed to preach by Bakersville Missionary Baptist Church in the spring of 1894.



Elder R. Y. Blalock with sons, T. M., Elder John, & Elder Harold Blalock Photo Courtesy of Tom Blalock



## in Visalia

## 2005 Cooperative Association Meeting



Don Hernandez Hesperia



Jewel Vance Anaheim



Jim Nixon Shafter



Lester Miller Freedom



Dewayne Hoppert Tulare



Kenneth W. Beene Clovis

### **Cluny the Puppet of Kansas Attends the Meeting**



With Russell Bailey



Dr. Randy & Sandra Cloud



Robert Cullifer and Kenneth Beene



Art Richardson & M. D. Keeling