

LANDMARK BAPTIST HISTORIAN

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"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."

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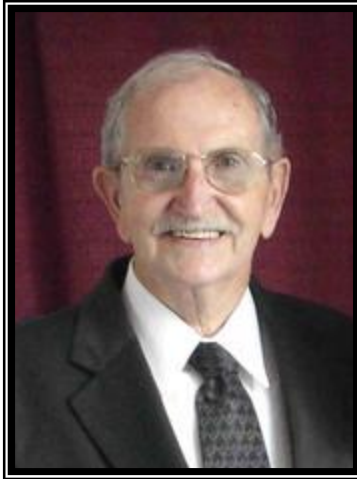
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James Clifford Pack

(August 30, 1922 - March 7, 2013)

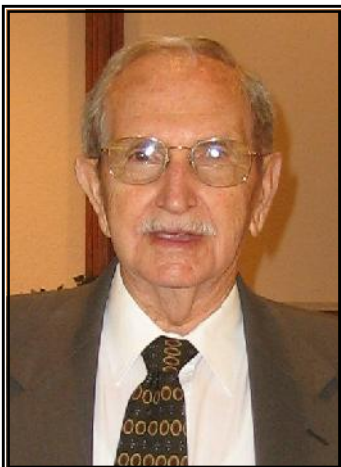
James Clifford Pack, 90, of Red Bluff, CA passed away on Thursday, March 7, 2013. He was born on August 30, 1922 in Nogo, Arkansas to parents Emily and Bernard Pack. At the age of 20, James entered the military and served as a Sergeant in the 712th tank battalion. He participated in five major campaigns throughout Europe, and landed on Utah Beach on June 28, 1944. James served as

Pastor of the Faith Missionary Baptist Church in Concord, CA for 36 years and upon retirement , continued to serve God through outreach services in Red Bluff, CA and as active members of Anderson Missionary Baptist Church in Anderson, Ca. James is survived by his wife of 67 years, Alma Lorneva Pack; two daughters Linda Michel and husband Mike, Louise Lawson and husband Bob, five grandchildren; Jim

Sloate and wife Ashley, Kim Liddy and husband Michael, and Michael Michel; and five great grandchildren, Jacey Bolton, Jordan Sloate, Olivia Bolton, August Michel, and Wesley Sloate. Viewing will be held at Moore's Mission Funeral Home in Concord, Ca Friday, March 15, 2013 from 4pm-8pm. Services will be held at Faith Missionary Baptist Church in Concord, CA on Saturday, March 16, 2013 at 11 am. Graveside services will be held Saturday, March 16, 2013 at Linden Cemetery in Linden, CA at 4pm. In lieu of flowers, a love offering may be made to either Faith Missionary Baptist Church in Concord, Ca or the Anderson Missionary Baptist Church in Anderson, Ca.

Copied from: mooresmissionfuneralhome.com

From:History & Archives Pastor Information Request



Date & Place where saved: 9/30/42—Nogo, Arkansas

Date & Location of Baptism: 11/30/1942

Pleasant Hill MBC—Nogo, Arkansas.

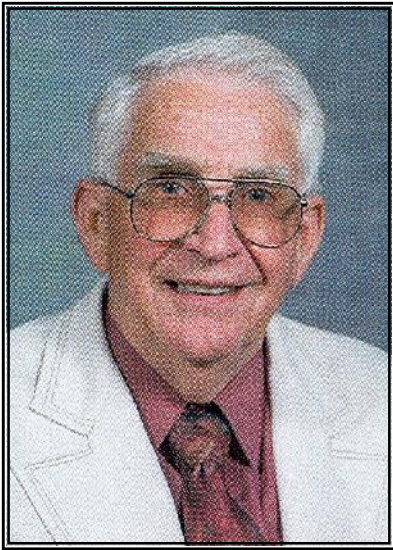
Name of Pastor who baptized you: W. L. Chadwick

Date called into the ministry: Called in 1953– surrendered in 1962.

Date & Church that ordained you: July 22, 1962—First MBC Russellville, Arkansas.

Names of ordination Council: Robert Williams, Earl Lee, Alvie Emerson, O. L. Kinsey, R. H. Adams, Harold Walker, Wayne Paron, Ernie Bridges, Bill Voss, R. L. Speer, Carl Johns, Floyd Busby, & Willie Jennings.

List of Churches & addresses you have pastored: Shiloh MBC—Russellville, Arkansas; Landmark MBC—Stockton, CA; Emmanuel MBC –Hayward, CA; Faith MBC—Concord, CA.



Luther Douglas Perdue: Mission Work and Building Programs In which I have been involved

December 1, 2000

I have been asked by Robert Cullifer to put together a brief list of the churches I helped organize and the building programs I have been a part of. I will do this in two sections.

Missions:

1. January 3rd, 1947, I led in the organization of the First MBC of Oakdale, sent out by the Riverbank FMBC. (See Riverbank and Oakdale minutes.)

2. In May 1947, through my efforts as Pastor, we called Brother Vic Salyer and worked with him to start the Escalon Church out of some of our members. (See Oakdale minutes.)

3. August 18, 1949, the First MBC of Modesto (Tully Road) was organized under my work, sent out by the Oakdale church. I was the first pastor. (See Oakdale and Modesto minutes.)

4. In 1954 I was endorsed by Antioch as local Missionary for the Northern Association and started a mission in Berkley. Had good success numerically but could not find a permanent

meeting place. No church organized.

5. In 1955 I assisted Brother Guilford Sheffield a few weeks in organizing the Hawthorne church. (See CA State Minutes 1956)

6. Also in 1955, I led in the organization of the Calvary MBC in Whittier and became Missionary Pastor. (See CA State Minutes.)

7. In 1956, I led in the organization of the Pedley MBC and became Missionary Pastor.

I was also instrumental in leading the Mira Loma and Lomita churches into our association. I also worked with Brother Canavan in setting up the Dominguez School. It was also in the year of 1956 that the concept of the Dollar-A-Month program was started which led to the start of CMD. (See my reports for 1956.)

8. In November 6, 1956, through my efforts as Pastor of the Landmark Church in Sacramento, we endorsed Allen Tabor as State Missionary and with our authority organized the Eureka church, March 19, 1957. (See CA State Minutes, 1957)

9. In 1958 through my efforts as Pastor of Landmark, Sacramento, we sent one of our members, Elder Guy Martin, to Lobster Valley, OR and supported the work, which resulted in the church being organized there. (See 1958 State Minutes.)

Note. It was at this time with Lobster Valley in my ministry that I began to lead the churches I pastored to sponsor the missions with full control over them. This is not the only way to organize churches, but I was comfortable with it.

10. In 1958, I, along with Lee Shirley, purchased a nice piece of property in Fair Oaks and offered it to the Landmark church to start a mission, which she did. We sent one of our members, Brother M. B. Hubbard to be our Missionary. The church was soon organized and called Bill Fritz as Pastor. (See Sentinel July 58.)

11. In 1960, Bob French and I bought 5 acres in North Highlands and sold half of it to the Landmark Church, where I was pastor, for a fraction of what we paid for it in order to start a new church. Landmark furnished the members and called George Walton as our missionary. The church was organized on November 11, 1960.

12. Woodland MBC was organized August 1962. One of my Deacons, Henry French, had surrendered to preach. After a time, we sent him to do mission work under my guidance in Woodland. Later on, George Walton took over, at our request. It was under close cooperation with the Landmark church in Sacramento where I was pastor. (See 1963 Valley Association Minutes.)

13. The Downey Central MBC was organized March 22, 1964. The Landmark Church, L. D. Perdue, Pastor, sponsored the work. Bro. Brown had resigned Granite Park and was very upset with our Cooperative work. I met with him and encouraged him to stay with us and recommended him to the church. We closely worked with him and the mission as is reflected in his reports. (See Downey church minutes.)

14. In 1964, I started the work in Talent, OR, working as a local Missionary and then as a State Missionary. The church was organized April 5, 1965. (See CA State Minutes 1965)

15. I was able to restart the Glendale, OR, church and we were able to call Brother Henry French as Pastor in January 1965, and he moved on the field. (See CA State Minutes 1965.)

16. Grants Pass, OR. About the end of 1965 Brother Henry French resigned Glendale and moved to Ashland and joined Talent. We then looked into starting a mission in Grants Pass, which was done. This would be the third work that I assisted Henry in. Woodland, CA, Glendale, OR and Grants Pass, OR. (See L. D. Perdue mission reports 65-66.)

17. Santa Rosa, 1967. (State Minutes 1968)

18. Folsom, March 30, 1969 (Folsom Minutes.)

The following churches were sponsored and property bought by the Bend church under my leadership. (See Bend records.)

19. Redmond, March 6, 1976

20. Madras, 1977

21. Heritage, Bend, January 24, 1981

22. LaPine, December 5, 1981.
23. Dillon, MT, 1976.
24. Helena, MT. Shortly after I left Bend. The mission and property were bought and built under my watch.
25. Anchorage, Alaska. (Reorganization. February 1984)
26. Sunnyvale, Unity, March 1986. (The New Hope Church merged with the Sunnyvale Church and formed the Unity church under my leadership.)

Building Programs

1. Pastor of Hamilton, Carlisle, AR, and Installed Air Conditioning and painted the exterior.
 2. Pastor of Oakdale, CA Had my first experience with Building Inspection Departments and helped build the basement of the original building.
 3. Pastor of First Baptist, South Crossett, AR. The church built a parsonage.
 4. Pastor of Crossroads, Hamburg, AR. Sanded and refinished the floor.
 5. Pastor of New Hope, Hot Springs, AR. Remodeled. My first experience in finishing sheet rock.
 6. Pastor of Sulphur Springs, Hot Springs, AR. Built addition on parsonage and remodeled Church.
 7. Missionary at Freedom. Drew plans obtained permits and built auditorium.
 8. Pastor at Landmark Sacramento. Built Parsonage,
 - 9 & 10 building additions to the church.
 11. & 12. First unit at Highlands and subdivided the 5 acre property including road improvements.
 - 13-19. Houses on the Highlands property.
 20. Fair Oaks Church.
 21. Woodland Mission.
 21. Pastor at Ashland. Made the deal for the property in Talent including church building. Added on and remodeled.
 22. Made the deal for the Santa Rosa property. Drew plans and obtained all the permits for building and development of property.
 23. Drew plans and helped build Santa Cruz. Obtained permits.
 24. Did some remodeling for Sunnyvale.
 25. Drew plans, obtained much of the material and helped build Valley Springs.
 26. Made the deal for Folsom property and did extensive remodeling. Also Pastor.
 - 27-33. While Pastor at Bend, made the deal for the property, drew the plans. Also led out in all the projects there, including three units to church, large Bus shed and 14 apt. units.
 34. Made the deal for Redmond.
 35. Helped Brother Harold Loyd make the deal for Madras.
 - 36-37. Made the deal and drew plans for both units at Heritage, Bend. Also Pastor.
 38. Drew plans and helped some at Pasco, WA.
 39. Drew the plans and helped build Hood River, OR.
 40. Drew the plans for Dillon, MT.
 41. Drew plans and helped build Helena, MT.
 42. Drew the plans for Winston, OR.
 43. Drew the plans for an addition at Springfield, OR.
 - 48-49 Years after I drew the original plans, I became Pastor of Arroyo Grande and led in two building programs there.
 50. Drew the preliminary plans and worked on Hesperia.
 51. Helped on Calvary, Fresno.
 52. Helped on Comox Valley, Canada.
 53. Egypt, Hamburg, AR. Helped draw plans, showed church how to make blocks and helped them lay blocks.
 54. Drew plans for Buena Park.
 55. Drew plans and helped Simi Valley in their permits.
 56. 57. Drew plans and helped build two units at LaPine, OR.
 58. Drew plans for Lompoc, CA
 59. Helped Lockeford put in Heating plant and obtained material for it.
 58. Drew plans for Sand Point, ID.
 59. Remodeled the old auditorium in Woodbridge.
 60. Did much of the preliminary work on the new building in Woodbridge, (It has since been built.)
- I am sure there are other building programs I worked on but I cannot recall at this time. (2009) L. D. Perdue

I have had many honors given me over the years. I am sure I did not deserve some of them. One of the most rewarding was being elected one of the Historians Emeritus by the 2008 Messenger Body Meeting of the American Baptist Association.

To God be the Glory. L. D. Perdue

Continued on page 4 with History Merit Award

History Merit Award

Brother L. D. Perdue was born in 1926 in Oakdale, CA. He was saved in 1941, baptized in 1942, surrendered to preach in 1943, and ordained in 1944, all at/by the First Missionary Baptist Church in Riverbank, CA.

He moved to Little Rock, AR, in 1944, to attend the Missionary Baptist Institute. He pastored his first church in 1945. He married Maurine Cook in 1946 and this marriage is still going strong. Three daughters were born to them. They also have eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Brother Perdue pastored five churches in AR while attending school, and moved back to CA in 1954. He has pastored churches in the west since then and led in the organization of eighteen churches. He has also worked in two Bible schools, CA Mission Development, camps, and historical research. He has worked in the History and Archives for over thirty years and provided the section in the 2000 ABA History Book that dealt with CA, OR, WA and Hawaii.

He is presently a member of the American Baptist Association History and Archives committee. He is Chairman of the CA History and Archives Committee, working full time at the Porterville, CA History and Archives Committee property.

He has always served in the churches of the American Baptist Association.

Presented at the American Baptist Association messenger body meeting, June 24, 2004.

I have had many honors given me over the years. I am sure I did not deserve some of them. One of the most rewarding was being elected one of the Historians Emeritus by the 2008 Messenger Body Meeting of the American Baptist Association.

To God be the Glory. L. D. Perdue

March 28, 2013—Thursday Morning Session—Sixty-Third Messenger Meeting Held at Landmark Missionary Baptist Church



Photo by Robert Cullifer

History & Archives Committee Meeting—March 27, 2013

8:00 AM—Sequoia Room- Comfort Suites

Members present: Larry Crouch, George Wood, Robert Cullifer, Collin Goodrum, Lonnie Wiggins, Michael Olsen, Lyndon Sparks, Ed Robinson, Tim Chambers.

Visitor: Bret Olson.

Collin Goodrum led the opening prayer

Ed Robinson read an appropriate scripture:

Minutes of 2012 meeting was read from pages 74 & 75 of 2012 Yearbook.

Bro. Wiggins presented the HAC Treasurers report.

Old Business:

1. The history of the History & Archives Committee, prepared by Robert Cullifer, was discussed. An Introduction to be written by Larry Crouch, our chairman, will complete this project. This will be a PDF booklet, requiring no cost for publication.

2. Larry Crouch mentioned the Landmark Baptist Historian, published by Robert Cullifer and Landmark Baptist Church, Folsom. It is an 8 page monthly PDF newsletter regarding California Baptists. This is distributed via e-mail.

3. Robert Cullifer distributed a document for the California Baptist Historical PDF Collection. This is a list of 80 books/booklets that have been scanned and converted for e-mail distribution by request.

New Business:

1. George Wood discussed our website – calhac.org. We need to keep the History of Landmark Baptists of California Vol. 1 & Vol. 2, updated, and George will be discussing this with our web-master, Jerry Henness.

2. Discussed the scanning of our association minutes from 1952 to current year. The History & Archives Committee of the ABA has produced a DVD covering the years 1905 to 2009. Motion made by George Wood, seconded by Tim Chambers to commence the project. Bro. George will coordinate project. Motion Carried.

3. The location of our Archives was discussed. We have been seeking to relocate to the school in Fresno. The Visalia church was also discussed as a possibility. For now, it will remain in Porterville.

4. Robert Cullifer requested permission to remove items from archives for use at his home. Items will be INVENTORED AND RETURNED, as soon as possible.

Motion made & carried to give permission for the off-site use of the requested material.

5. Election of officers:

Motion made that our Current Officers stand as nominees, with privilege of substitution. Motion carried They were no substitutions. The 2013 Officers of our Committee are:.

Chairman: Larry Crouch

Asst: George Wood

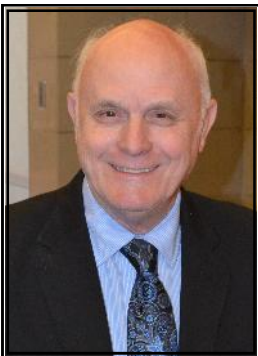
Clerk: Robert Cullifer

Asst. Collin Goodrum

Our 2014 Meeting location, by common consent, will be the Sequoia Room- Comfort Suites

Dismissed in prayer by: Bret Olson

Respectfully Submitted, Robert W. Cullifer, Committee Clerk



George Wood



Ed Robinson

TEN BIBLE PROOFS OF BAPTIST PERPETUITY

Answering The Question

WHICH CHURCH DID JESUS START?

By

ROSCO BRONG

You Are Invited To Attend

Bible Baptist Church

517 Tres de Abril
Cebu City

Schedule of Services:

SUNDAY

Bible Classes 8:30 A.M.
Preaching 9:30 A.M.
Youth Fellowship 4:00 P.M.
Evening Preaching 5:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 P.M.

LISTEN TO:

"WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS BROADCAST"
DYSS DAILY 6:30 A.M.
DYOO (Iloilo) Mon., Wed. & Fri. .. 7:30 A.M.
DZBB (Manila) Mon., Wed. & Fri. .. 5:45 A.M.
CHANNEL 7 Telecast Every Friday 6:15 P.M.
"LANDMARK HOUR" DYCB

SUNDAY 7:00 A.M.

"It does make a difference what you believe.
Come and see."

If God's Word is True. The Church That Jesus Started Still Stands, Has Endured

"The church of the living God, the pillar and
ground of the truth."—I Tim. 3:15.

Recorded history often reveals more of histor-
ian's prejudices than of actual events, and the
history of Christianity has been written mostly
by the enemies of Baptists. Even so, there is
historical evidence for the continued existence
of what would now be called Baptist churches
from the days when Jesus was on earth in the
flesh down to the present time. This evidence
is not beyond dispute, but it is more than suf-
ficient if we are willing to believe the promises
of God's word.

My purpose here is to show from the Bible,
APART FROM ALL HISTORICAL EVIDENCE,
that we must believe in Baptist church perpet-
uity if we believe that God's Word is true.

1. THE GATES OF HADES

His Promise of Perpetuity

"Upon this Rock," said Jesus, referring to
Himself, "I will build my church; and the gates
of hell (Hades) shall not prevail against it."
(Matt. 16:18.)

We may find various interpretations of this
statement of Jesus, but despite a great variety
of ideas in detailed interpretation it is fairly
clear to all that we have here a **PROMISE** of
our Lord that His church would not be over-
come by the powers of evil. Whatever this
church was, it could not fail if Jesus spoke the
truth. We believe that this church was what
would now be called a Baptist church, and any-
one who will honestly examine the organization
and doctrines of this New Testament institution
in comparison with the organization and doc-
trines of Baptist churches today will reach the
same conclusion.

If the church that Jesus built was not a Bap-
tist church, then we need to find out what kind
of church it was, and join that church, if we
want our service to be pleasing to Him. One
thing we can be sure of: if Jesus spoke the
truth—and what real Christian would deny
this?—the church that Jesus built has been in
the world ever since and will be here till He
comes again.

The popular Protestant dogma in this connec-
tion speaks of an "invisible" church to which all
Christians belong. More on this as we go along,
but for the present note a few simple facts:

a. Neither the expression "invisible church"
nor the idea of such an expression can be found
in the New Testament.

b. The whole purpose of the "invisible
church" dogma is to justify the Protestant splits
from Roman Catholicism. But since Baptists
are not Protestants and were never a part of
the heretical Catholic system, we have no need

Rosco Brong—Baptist Minister and Teacher

Rosco Brong was born March 16, 1908, in Monroe County, Pa., of Pennsylvania Dutch and English ancestry; he had his home in Kentucky since 1926. He became a Christian in 1920 and a Baptist in 1932. He was qualified to write on Biblical subjects by many years of study and teaching in this field and by a sincere faith in the infallible truth of the written word of God. [Ordained](#) to the Baptist ministry in 1934, he began teaching in 1952 in Lexington Baptist College, [a Bible school](#) in which he served as Dean from 1954 until 1979.

[Continued on Page 7]

of any such dogma to justify our existence.

c. Most Protestants and many ignorant Baptists suppose that Christ built two churches; that is, two kinds of churches: the "invisible church" of their own vain imagining and the organized assemblies that they cannot help recognizing in the New Testament. Then, to add insult to injury, they call their imaginary monstrosity the "true" church! but the Bible says that there is only one body (church), that is, one kind of body, just as there is only one baptism, that is, one kind of baptism. (Eph. 4:4,5.)

d. Since there is no just reason to do otherwise, we must understand that Jesus used the word "church" (Greek "ekklesia") in Matt. 16:18 in the same general sense that it has everywhere else in the New Testament: that is, an assembly, almost always an organized assembly. The word here is used abstractly; that is, it expresses an idea whose realization is to be found in a particular organized assembly.

2. CHURCH DISCIPLINE

"If he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican. Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven." (Matt. 18:17, 18, AV, with corrected tenses of verbs in verse 18.)

This text suggests three simple questions that believers in an "invisible" church might try to answer:

a. How can a wronged brother tell his grievance to an "invisible" church?

b. How can an "invisible" church decide an issue, make known its judgment to a trespassing brother, or execute that judgment "if he neglect to hear"?

c. Is not the authority to "bind and loose," whatever this means, in verse 18 given to the same church that is in view in verse 17?

Obviously the reference here is to an organized assembly; and obviously such organized assemblies must always have existed from that time to this in order that faithful followers of Jesus might obey His instructions here given.

3. BAPTIZED INTO ONE BODY

"For also in one Spirit we all were baptized into one body. . . And ye are a body of Christ, and members in particular." (I Cor 12:13, 27, corrected translation.)

Verse 27 of this quotation tells what kind of body is meant in verse 13: the kind of which the church at Corinth was an example. I Cor. 1:13-17 shows what kind of baptism is meant: namely, baptism in water. In fact, there is only one kind of baptism recognized in the New Testament as an ordinance of Christ: all other so-called baptisms are figurative or symbolic, deriving their significance from this baptizing in water to declare the death, burial, and resurrec-

tion of Christ and all that this means to us.

Almost all Christians recognize baptism, or some substitute for it that they call baptism, as sprinkling or pouring, as a church ordinance. But if it is a church ordinance, then there must always have been churches to administer the ordinance. If the church to which Jesus entrusted the ordinance passed out of existence as an institution, then the ordinance lapsed with the church, and nowhere in the Bible is anyone authorized to start it up again.

4. "TILL HE COME"

"As often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come." (I Cor. 11:26.)

Again, practically all Christians recognize the Lord's Supper as a church ordinance. But how could the ordinance be continued if at any time there were no true churches to observe it? Note that the Scriptures give no hint of any possible lapse or failure of our Lord's churches to declare or show forth His death by eating this bread and drinking this cup "till He come."

5. CHURCH OFFICERS

"If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. . . . They that have used the office of a deacon well, purchase to themselves a good degree." (I Tim. 3:1, 13.)

The context of the two verses shows that bishops and deacons are church officers, and to this fact practically all Christians agree, however far they may depart from Scriptural ideas of the duties of these offices. Even believers in an imaginary "invisible" church become at least temporarily realistic and operate in some kind of organized assembly in naming bishops and deacons.

But if bishops and deacons were officers in the kind of church that Jesus built, and if this kind of church passed out of existence, as Protestants allege and as ignorant Baptists admit, then by whose authority are such officers named today?

6. A HOLY TEMPLE

"Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; in whom all the building (or, better, every building) fitly framed together groweth unto a holy temple in the Lord: in whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit." (Eph. 2:19-22.)

Paul was writing to the church at Ephesus and he reveals here the glorious fact that a true New Testament church is a holy temple in the Lord, and that one purpose for which the Lord built His church at Ephesus, and, we believe, every other true New Testament church, is that God in the Spirit might dwell therein.

Can anyone believe that God, having chosen to manifest His presence in a special way in the churches of the Lord Jesus, allowed His purpose

Rosco Brong—Continued from page 6

Dean Brong held the A. B. [degree from](#) Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky, and the M. A. degree from the University of Kentucky, besides the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

From 1927 to 1944 he assisted his father, the late F. S. Brong, in the publication of a weekly newspaper, the *Licking Valley Courier*, at West Liberty, Kentucky, in various capacities from "printer's devil" to manager and editor. He has also worked on five other Kentucky newspapers: at Pikeville, Lancaster, Georgetown, Frankfort, and Lexington, Kentucky. [Continued on Page 8]

to be frustrated, so that for centuries He had no such habitation on earth? But Protestants do so declare, and countless Baptists, ignorant of or indifferent to their blood-bought heritage, are deceived by or are silent in the fact of this monstrous lie!

7. A DEAD BRIDE?

"Ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead." (Rom. 7:4.)

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it." (Eph. 5:25—read on through verse 32.)

These and other Scriptures compare the spiritual relationship of Christ and His church to the human marriage relationship. That the "wedding" is still future is shown by Matt. 22:1-13; 25:1-13; and Rev. 21:2.

Was our Lord at any time betrothed to a dead bride? After He gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her by the washing of water in the word, that He might present her to Himself in glory—after all this, was there ever a time when nowhere on earth could be found a church that could be truly called His bride? Was there ever a time when the only "Christianity" on earth was the religion of spiritual harlots? Perish the thought! But if it be so, what are all the churches today but harlots and offspring of harlots?

8. "I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS"

"Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." (Matt. 28:18-20.)

Practically all Christians recognize that Jesus was speaking here to His church. The only real question is, what kind of church was it?

Of course, an imaginary "invisible" church cannot go anywhere, it cannot disciple any nations, it cannot baptize anybody in any way, it cannot teach anybody anything, and being non-existent, it would not know the difference whether the Lord were with it or not.

But an organized assembly of baptized believers, such as Jesus had constituted His disciples, can do what He commanded and in doing so can claim the promise of His continuing presence—and it is the only organization on earth that can do so.

Jesus promised this kind of church that He would always be with it, even to the end of the age. But He could not be with it unless it existed to be with. Therefore if Jesus spoke the truth He has had His churches in the world ever since and He has been with them all the time—and so it will be to the end of the age.

9. GLORY IN THE CHURCH

"Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end." (Eph. 3:21). More literally translated: **"To him the glory in the church in Christ Jesus, unto all the generations of the eon of the eons."**

We have here a Spirit-inspired declaration or prayer. If it was a prayer, as the KJ version indicates, it nevertheless declares an assured fulfillment, for the Holy Spirit does not inspire vain prayers. "He maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." (Rom. 8:27.)

Therefore we understand that God gets glory in the church in Christ Jesus. This was true in Paul's day and it was to continue "unto all the generations of the eon of the eons," and expression of eternity beyond our comprehension. But He could not get glory in the church unless the church continued to exist. And of course He is far from getting glory in an imaginary "invisible" church whose advocates reject and deny the plain simple, straightforward teachings and promises of His Word.

10. PILLAR AND GROUND

"These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: but if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." (I Tim. 3:14-15.)

Speaking of the church as an organized assembly, as the context clearly shows, Paul here calls it "the pillar and ground of the truth." That is, the church not only, as a pillar or column, upholds the truth, but it is the foundational support of the truth.

Here we have the explanation for the wholesale loss of Bible truth by false churches and unattached Christians. It has pleased God that His church should be the pillar and ground of the truth, and so it has been through the centuries.

.....

A SOLEMN WARNING!

WHEN MEN REJECT BIBLE TRUTH ABOUT THE CHURCH, and refuse to recognize its rightful place as the body and bride of Christ, the house of God, the pillar and ground of the truth, THEY QUICKLY LOSE OTHER TRUTH AS WELL.

The truth of God's Word is still upheld in the world today because of the faithfulness and the martyr's blood of the true churches of God through the dark ages, and this truth will still be upheld to the end of the age because there will still be some churches, the true churches of our Lord, to serve as the pillar and ground of the truth.—By Rosco Brong.

Rosco Brong—Continued from page 7

His experience as a Baptist pastor included service with churches in Morgan, Magoffin, Garrard, Owen, and Pulaski Counties, Kentucky.

Dr. Brong's work at Lexington Baptist College included the teaching of Latin, Greek and Hebrew. His knowledge of the Biblical languages proved to be of great value in scriptural exposition and interpretation. [Continued on Page 9]



The following appeared in the *Ashland Avenue Baptist* paper shortly after the death of Bro. Brong:

BRO. ROSCO BRONG

On July 9, 1985 Bro. Rosco Brong, long-time Dean of Lexington Baptist College (KY), and dear friend of the school, went home to be with the Lord.

Bro. Brong started with Lexington Baptist College in 1952 and retired June 30, 1979, after 27 years of faithful service. He taught Bible and languages, along with other subjects, leaving his influence on students now serving around the world. He was loved and respected by all who knew him.

He wrote the Sunday School lesson for many years and many messages that were published in the *AAB* paper.

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**Jay Pruden, First Moderator of the Baptist Missionary Association of California
Later known as the California State Missionary Baptist Association**



**DR. JAY PRUDEN
BURIED MONDAY**

He was buried from the little Baptist church where he had labored during most of the past 30 years, but the church couldn't hold the host of friends of Dr. Jay Pruden, who paid their respects to his memory Monday afternoon.

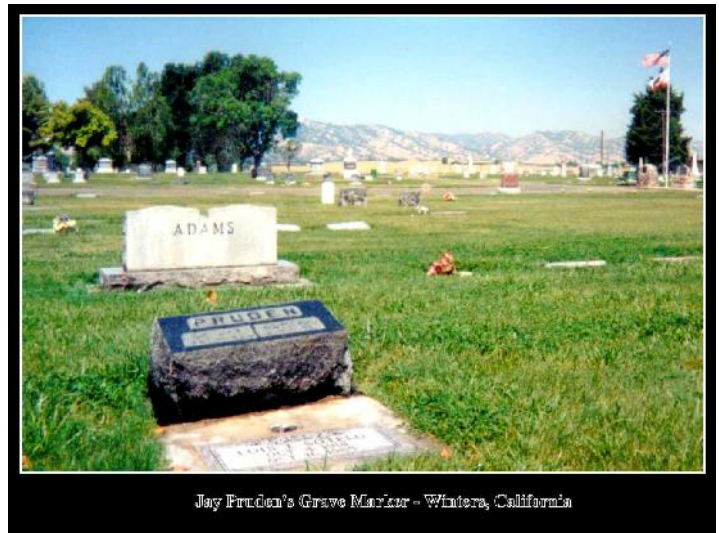
Officiating at the last rites were Elder Martin Ralston of the Vallejo Bible Baptist church and Rev. T.J. DuBois, pastor of the Twelfth Avenue Baptist church of Sacramento. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson of Woodland provided the music. The services were under the direction of the McNary Funeral home of Woodland. Burial followed in the local cemetery.

The deceased was born in St. Johns, Michigan, October 2, 1857, and was the oldest of seven children, and the last to survive. He was a graduate of Kalamazoo college at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and received the degree of doctor of theology at Ft. Worth, Texas, Bible school.

On December 14, 1898, he was married to Bertha M. Mains, whom he met while in Salt Lake City. To this union was born thirteen children, eight of whom survive his passing. Elder and Mrs. Pruden observed their golden wedding anniversary a year and a half ago.

Rev. Pruden worked for the American Baptist Publications society for some time, and at the age of 30, became Sunday school missionary for southern Michigan. One year later he was sent west as a Sunday school missionary in Utah. After returning to Michigan in the same capacity, he was ordained as a Baptist minister in 1907, and moved to California.

Three of the couples children passed away within months after they arrived in California. In 1913 Elder Pruden left the employ of the publications society and became pastor of Calvary Baptist church in West Oakland. Through his remaining years, he pastored this church, Calvary Baptist church of Berkeley, and Hopewell Baptist church of Winters.



Jay Pruden's Grave Marker - Winters, California

During his active years of service, he organized and helped organize churches in Michigan, Utah, and California.

He is survived by his wife, Bertha Mains Pruden of Winters; eight children, Stewart Pruden, Wayne Pruden, Mrs. Fern Griffith and Mrs. Doris Delp, all of San Jose; Mrs. Lois Satelo and Mrs. Jean Clark, of Sacramento; Mrs. Maxine Young of Denton, Texas, and Dean Pruden, of the U.S. Navy.

There are twelve surviving grandchildren: Barbara Jean Pruden, Stewart M. Pruden, Jr., Charles Griffith, David Griffith, Gareth Delp, Bonnie Taylor, Jackie Taylor, Sherril Clark, Wayne Eldon Clark, William Young, Arthur Young and Robert Young.

**THE WINTERS EXPRESS, WINTERS, YOLO COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA, APRIL 21, 1950**

[Original Article contained a photograph, but the photo does not reproduce well. Picture used is from the Missionary Gallery of the NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BAPTIST CONVENTION, SIXTIETH ANNUAL MEETING, NOVEMBER 12TH TO 15TH, 1912.]

Chart by Rueben Young Blalock

TO THE LAW AND TO THE TESTIMONY: IF THEY SPEAK NOT ACCORDING TO THIS WORD IT IS BECAUSE THERE IS NO LIGHT IN THEM" ISA. 8:20
 "ALL SCRIPTURE... 2 TIM. 3:16,17. 2 PET. 1:21
 TRY THE SPIRITS - 1 JOHN 4:1
 JUDGED BY THE WORD - JOHN 12:48

THE CHURCH - LUKE 6:13 1 COR. 12:28. MATT. 16:18,19
 THE COMMISSION - MATT. 28:19,20. ACTS 1:8
 HOLY SPIRIT - JOHN 14:16,17. ACTS 2. AND 10
 HIS DWELLING - EPH. 2:22. JOHN 14:17
 HIS WORK - JOHN 16:8,11,14. ACTS 13:7-4. 16:6,9
 THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD - MATT. 5:14-16
 HONOUR THE CHURCH - ROM. 13:7
 PROVIDE THINGS HONEST ROM. 12:17
 CHURCH SENDS DIRECT RHIL. 4:16
 "YE SHALL NOT ADD - DEUT. 4:2. 12:32

"GOD HATH SPOKEN ONCE"
 LET ALL THE EARTH KEEP SILENCE

BAPTIST OCTOPUS

A RELIGIOUS CORPORATION

N. B. C. A.D. 1814
 S. B. C. - A.D. 1845
 W. F. B. M. F. A.D. 1932

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 Cooperative Association of Missionary Baptist Churches of California

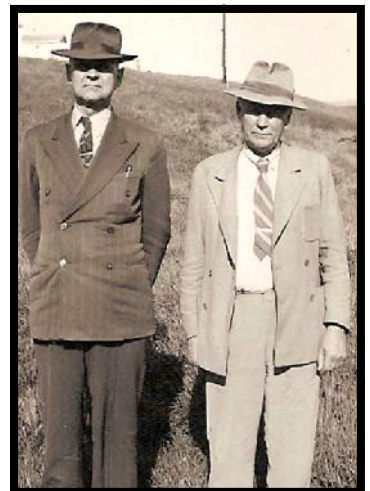
Photos below from the Cullifer Archives



Bro. & Sis. John Cooper—Bro. & Sis. R. Y. Blalock



R. Y. & Clara Blalock



M. B. Hubbard & R. Y. Blalock