

# 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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## Harold L. Spence Memorial Edition



**Missionary**



**Veteran**



**Husband**



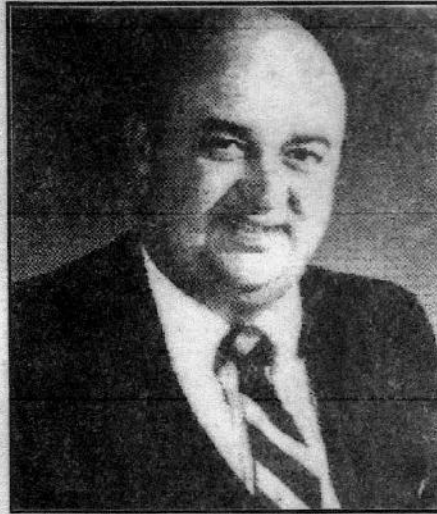
**Father**

The August 2014 Issue of the Historian had a two page spread In Memoriam to Harold Spence (pages 6 & 7). After the Issue was published I contacted Shelly Spence-Tripodo, Bro. Spence's' daughter, to see if she could supply additional information on her father. She sent the above photos and several pages of information that were not in his Archives File. Thank you Shelly for your help in honoring this Man of God.—RWC

# Harold L. Spence

1941 - 1986

Brother H. L. Spence was called home by the lord on Monday, December 8, 1986. Harold Lee Spence was born to Harold Joel Spence and Geneva Spence on October 30, 1941, in Pampa, Texas. He was saved at 9 years of age and baptized by the Missionary Baptist Church in Sunnyvale, California.



On December 8, 1962, Brother Spence married Sharon Irene Bevis, then a member of the Landmark Church, San Jose, California. Born to Brother and Sister Spence were two beautiful daughters, Shelly and Stacey, which, along with their respective husbands, are faithfully serving the Lord in His church in Clovis.

Brother Spence surrendered to the ministry at Landmark MBC, San Jose, California in 1969 and was ordained by Faith MBC, Concord, on November 6, 1970. Consequently, he spent 6 months as interim pastor at the Union City Mission, until he was called as pastor by the Vallejo MBC, California, where he served from 1970-1972. Brother Spence went to Cloverdale as State Missionary from 1972-1976. In April of 1976, the Porterville Church called him as missionary to Clovis, California, where he spent the balance of his ministry, leading the church from 9 in attendance at the outset to 152 at the time of his death.

He was not only a diligent preacher, but also a good teacher, engaging in the exhaustive study of the Word of God. He attended the Missionary College at Sacramento, CMBI extension classes at Antioch and Clovis, and was both a student and faculty member of FMBI and CMBI. He stressed love and strong discipleship for new believers, forming his own discipleship program and developing many of the lessons in the discipleship book published by FMBI.

Those who knew Brother Spence well, knew his many good characteristics and gifts that made him a great pastor and also a very close friend to all of us.

## ELDER HAROLD SPENCE



Brother H. L. Spence was called home by the Lord on Monday, December 8, 1986. Harold Lee Spence was born to Harold Joel and Geneva Spence on October 30, 1941, in Pampa, Texas. He was saved at 9 years of age and baptized by the Missionary Baptist Church in Sunnysvale, California.

On December 8, 1962, Brother Spence married Sharon Irene Bevis, then a member of the Landmark Missionary Baptist Church in San Jose, California. Born to Brother and Sister Spence were two beautiful daughters, Shelly and Stacey. They married two brothers, Mark and Alan Lohuis, and are faithfully serving the Lord in His church at Clovis.

Brother Spence surrendered to the ministry at Landmark MBC, San Jose in 1969 and was ordained by Faith MBC, Concord, on November 6, 1970. He spent 6 months as interim pastor at the Union City Mission, until he was called as pastor by the Vallejo MBC, California, where he served from 1970-1972. Brother Spence went to Cloverdale as our State Missionary from 1972-1976. In April of 1976, the Porterville Church called him as missionary to Clovis, California, where he spent the balance of his ministry. He led the church from 12 in attendance at the outset to 96 at the time of his death.

Brother Spence was Moderator of this local Association of Missionary Baptist Churches at the time of his death. Not only was he a diligent preacher and student of the Word, but he was a good teacher. He attended the Missionary Baptist College at Sacramento, CMBI extension classes at Antioch and Clovis, and was both a student and faculty member of FMBI and CMBI. He stressed love and strong discipleship for new believers, forming his own discipleship program and developing many of the lessons in the Discipleship book published by FMBI.

Those who knew Brother Spence well, know of his many qualities and gifts that made him a great pastor and a beloved friend. Following him as pastor has made me appreciate him much more. He would want us all to glory only in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto us.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Paul Hurth and Clovis MBC

"A SOLDIER IN THE FAITH"

Bro. H.L. Spence was called home by the Lord on Monday, Dec. 8, 1986. Harold Lee Spence was born to Harold Joel Spence and Geneva Spence on October 30, 1941 in Pampa, Texas. At 2 years old he moved with his family to California. He was saved at 9 years old and baptized by MBC in Sunnyvale, Ca., Bro. Odom (pastor).

On December 8, 1962 H.L. married Sharon Irene Bevis, one of the members of Landmark Church, San Jose, Ca. Born to Bro. and Sis. Spence were two beautiful daughters; Shelly Lynn on April 25, 1964 and Stacey Lee on June 2, 1965. Both sisters are now married to two brothers, Mark and Alan Lohuis and are all serving God faithfully in the Clovis Church. There are three grandchildren; Garrett, Andrew, and Bradley.

H.L. was a graduate of San Jose High School and spent 3 years serving his country in Germany. Bro. Spence was a strong believer in education. After his military hitch, Bro. Spence spent over a total of ten years in both secular and seminary education as he majored in Speech and minored in History. He was a student at Santa Rosa City College for 2 years in which he was in a debate with an evolutionist and won overwhelmingly. This man was later saved, praise God. Those of us who sat under Bro. Spence's teaching, know by experience that we have never met anyone greater than he when it came to speech, debate or homiletics. Within his 10 years of education, he also attended Missionary Baptist College at Sacramento, CMBI extension classes at Antioch and Clovis, and was both a student and faculty member of FMBI and CMBI.

H.L. Spence surrendered to preach at Landmark MBC San Jose, Ca. in 1969, and ordained by Faith MBC Concord, Ca. on Nov. 6, 1970. From there he spent 6 months as interim pastor at the Union City Mission until called as pastor at the Vallejo MBC, Ca. from 1970 - 1972. Bro. Spence went to Cloverdale as State Missionary from 1972 - 1976. In April of 1976, the Porterville Church called him as Missionary to Clovis, Ca. where he spent the balance of his ministry. Arriving in Clovis, counting his family, they made a total of 12 members meeting in a nursery school which the outgrew and moved to the American Legion Hall. About the time they filled that hall beyond capacity, they moved to the church plant which he led through Phase One of the building program. H.L. just recently led out and began the building program of Phase Two, Three, and Four. The Clovis MBC grew from 12 at the beginning of his pastorate to the Sunday before his death when the church ran 96 for Sunday School and the sanctuary at capacity for preaching.

The norm is to speak greatly of a preacher gone to be with the Lord but in this case, the same words would be used if he were still with us. Bro. H.L. Spence ranked with the top when it came to his homiletic abilities. He believed and taught that Spiritual growth came through study and prayers. He prepared and delivered every message as though it was the most important one he would ever preach. God used this man in a mighty way!

His being a vessel for the Lord was the most important thing in his life. Not only a great preacher but also as good a teacher believing in the exhaustive study of the different books of the Word of God. He stressed love and strong discipleship for new believers. He formed his own discipleship program and outlines and developed many of the lessons in the discipleship book put out by FMBI. While a staff member there, he stressed to his students the importance of a well rounded ministry and several years of homeletics in seminary.

Those who knew Bro. Spence well, knew his many characteristics and gifts that made him special and stand out in any crowd. Not only a great pastor but a very close friend to all of us. So strong a sincerity and humor that he could make us cry one moment and laugh the next.

In our thoughts of Bro. H.L. Spence, let us remember him well and that we will all meet him again soon!

**DEDICATION**  
**TO THE**  
**MEMORY**  
**OF**  
**HAROLD LEE SPENCE**  
**(October 30, 1941 - December 8, 1986 )**

This doctoral dissertation is dedicated to the memory of one of the finest Missionary Baptist preachers I have ever known. He went to be with the Lord rather early in life, but the effects of his ministry still endure. This dissertation is a product of that influence.

Harold "Hal" Spence and his family were members of Missionary Baptist Churches. He was saved at the age of 9. At the age of 17, he entered the U.S. Army and completed a tour of duty in Germany. On December 8, 1962, he married Sharon Irene Bevis and he became the father of two daughters, Shelly and Stacey. In 1965, he surrendered to the ministry and, in 1969, he was ordained and accepted the pastorate at Vallejo. Three years later, he became a missionary in Cloverdale, where he served for 4 years. He came to Clovis in 1976 to serve as a missionary at a work that consisted of 9 members. In 1979, the mission work organized into a church and Hal Spence served there as pastor until the time of his transition. By the time Hal Spence went to be with the Lord, the Clovis Missionary Baptist Church had grown to 152 members.

Hal Spence understood the need for ministerial education and training. He obtained an English Bible Diploma from the Missionary Baptist College in Sacramento and he attended Santa Rosa Jr. College, taking every speech class available. Having a heart burdened for the development of young preachers, he became an instructor with the Fresno Missionary Baptist Institute and the California Missionary Baptist Institute of Bellflower. He taught the subjects of Homiletics, Hermeneutics, and Defense of the Faith.

Hal Spence had a deep love for young preachers and a passion for Homiletics. He believed that Missionary Baptist ministers needed to be trained in Homiletics to be at their very best to preach God's Word. He believed that the pulpits of New Testament churches needed to be occupied by the most faithful and proficient preachers possible. He, constantly, encouraged young ministers to yield themselves to the Lord, so that they could become the best Bible preachers that God could develop.

Hal Spence earnestly desired to complete a dissertation in Homiletics for the edification of Missionary Baptist preachers. However, his ministry ended very abruptly. So in dedication to his loving memory, to his zeal for the Lord Jesus Christ, to his prosperous ministry, to his excellence in preaching, and to his love for young preachers, this work is faithfully submitted.

Pastor Alex Cervantes  
Three Rivers Missionary Baptist Church

Spence, Harold 70-76  
Vallejo

VALLEJO

Harold Spence, Pastor  
The Concord church ordained Bro. Spence Nov. 6th., and he has taken the pastorate of the Vallejo church. 11-70

Vallejo, Harold Spence, pastor

The church baptized 2 during Nov. and had 2 to come as candidates for baptism. They report excellent services. 12-70

VALLEJO ... 8-71

Is rejoicing in the many blessings that have come to them since H.L. Spence came to be their pastor in November, 1970. They have had 13 additions by baptism, 15 by letter, and at least 6 other professions of faith. Their membership has increased over one third. They have more than doubled their monthly income, and now support their pastor full time. They have also purchased a mimeograph and now print a weekly newsletter.

VALLEJO ... 10-71

Pastor H. L. Spence reports good attendance in recent services. They received a family of 4 by letter.

Cloverdale

ANTIOCH ... has endorsed Harold Spence as missionary. 7-72

ANTIOCH ... baptized 6 and received 3 by letter. Their new mission in the Cloverdale area will be called the Dutcher Creek Mission. The church will be supporting their missionary-pastor, H. L. Spence, full-time, with a salary of \$150 per week. Pastor Larry Reeves and wife Betty celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary July 11. The church is sponsoring a week of camp at Jenness Park, and has an enrollment of 300.

MISSION NEWS 3-73

First Missionary Baptist Church  
510 Texas Street  
Antioch, California  
Larry Reeves, Pastor

OUR RECOMMENDATION:

In regular business conference February 7, 1973, FMBC Antioch voted to recommend Harold Spence as a State Missionary on salary to the Missionary Committee of the Cooperative Association of Missionary Baptist Churches of California when it meets in Visalia, April 16, 1973.

ABOUT THE MISSIONARY:

Bro. Spence has been in the ministry since 1969. He surrendered to preach in the San Jose Landmark church where he was a charter member. He had been saved and baptized at the Sunnyvale Landmark church when L. J. Odom was Pastor. He was ordained by the Concord church in the fall of 1970, when he was called to pastor the First MBC of Vallejo where he served for almost two years. While serving in this church the Lord blessed his ministry greatly. The church doubled in attendance, almost doubled in membership, adopted a departmentalized Sunday School, initiated a bus ministry and undertook the full-time support of their pastor.

In June, 1972, we called Bro. Spence as our missionary to Cloverdale. He accepted and moved on the field that July.

ABOUT THE WORK

The old Cloverdale church had been disbanded and all property and monies given to us in trust to establish a new work in the Cloverdale area. Since the old Cloverdale church had only three active members and had not averaged more than six or seven in SS in the past several years, it was decided, after prayerful consideration, that this would be the wisest move.

God has placed His hand of approval on this work! In the last six months there have been eleven professions of faith. Of these six are adults

and five of these have followed the Lord in baptism. We have also received seven by statement and one by letter. In all, the mission now has a membership of eighteen! Over the last six months the average attendance has been about twenty in SS. BTC and mid-week attendance has steadily grown from an average of seven to last month's average of thirteen.

The mission has recently moved to a new meeting place, and we feel this will greatly enhance the opportunity for further growth!

In the near future the mission will initiate Cloverdale's first and only bus ministry, and great things are expected from this effort.

We thank God for the blessings received thus far, and look forward to the establishment of a strong, progressive, scriptural, self-supporting work in the Cloverdale area—and this we will do, if God permits!!

GOOD NEWS FROM CLOVERDALE

4-74

The beautiful building pictured below is at Cloverdale, California. Missionary Harold Spence is negotiating with the Methodists to lease or buy their building. Brother Spence reports that they have reached a general agreement and hope to have the building in the next few months. The main auditorium will seat 350. It has three other auditoriums as well; two that will seat about 150 each and one that will seat about 100 people. This, along with other Sunday School space will triple their present space and make it possible for the Cloverdale mission to grow tremendously. Pray with us about this.



11-74  
Cloverdale, Calif.

Missionary H. L. Spence reports that, while it has been a trying summer, things are looking up as they go into the fall stretch. They have leased the entire Methodist church building, and are reaching some of the formerly active Methodist members with the truth. They have had conversions during the summer and the mission is developing financially as well. The foundation seems to have been well laid for a full-time church in Cloverdale eventually.

Missionary Spence expresses deep gratitude for the support he is receiving. (IKC)

WORK IN CLOVIS 12-76

To the Churches of the California Cooperative Association,

It has come to my attention that there are a number of churches who are not receiving my report. To correct the problem, I am giving this summary of the work here in Clovis since I accepted the work in April.

During the last six months, God has blessed us with twelve additions, four by baptism and eight by letter. Our average attendance has grown from about eighteen in Sunday school to about thirty. Our attendance on both Sunday and Thursday evenings has grown from about fifteen to nearly twenty-five.

Our average offering has grown from four hundred per month to between seven and eight hundred per month.

I am very excited about what the Lord is doing here in Clovis and am very proud to have a part in it.

My thanks to all those churches who through their faithful support of cooperative mission effort are helping to make this work possible.

CLOVERDALE — reports 3 saved and a new SS record of 51. With all of the new members recently received they are in need of some experienced teachers. 5-75 Harold Spence, Missionary

CLOVERDALE — Their offer on a new church plant was rejected and they are making plans for a new building in the near future. One baptized last month. 9-75 H. L. Spence, Missionary

Clovis

CLOVIS MISSION — had four additions by letter during the past month, they are looking for a larger place to meet. 6-76 H. L. Spence, Missionary

7-76  
Good Report: Clovis

Bro. H. L. Spence reports that in May they had one profession of faith and baptism at the mission in Clovis, Ca., and that both attendance and offerings have been showing a steady increase. He states that they have just about outgrown their present

CLOVIS — has a new meeting place in the American Legion Hall, has had good attendance for Sunday School and more for preaching service. 9-76 H. L. Spence, Missionary

CLOVIS — had two additions by letter and offering were nearly eight hundred dollars for the month, they are still in search of property. 12-76 H. L. Spence, Pastor

Spence, H.L. 77-82  
Clovis

CLOVIS MISSION had a high attendance of thirty-two. The mission as made an offer on an acre of Land directly across the street from a new housing tract.  
 4-77 H.L. Spence, missionary

CLOVIS MISSION reports attendance in the high teens to mid-twenties. They had one addition by baptism in April. The mission is still looking for property in the area, but land arce and expensive.  
 6-77 H. L. Spence, missionary

CLOVIS MISSION broke their attendance record twice in May, with a high of forty. Two  
 7-77

CLOVIS MISSION is looking for help in raising \$6500 for the down payment on the property they wish to buy. The remaining \$8000-plus will come from the existing building fund. Three people have been saved at the mission, with two more coming into the work by letter.  
 10-77 H. L. Spence, missionary

**Clovis Still Growing 11-78**

Missionary Spence reports that they have had four additions during the month he is reporting, and that their offerings and attendance are both increasing. He states that their Sunday School is in the thirties, and that they have had a high attendance of 47. They have had a back-set in their building plans, but hope that it is only temporary. They do have the mobile building from Vallejo, and are seeking to purchase property where they can

CLOVIS has closed escrow on the mission property and it is now free and clear. One was saved and added by baptism.  
 2-79 H. L. Spence, missionary

CLOVIS suffered a drop in attendance due to illness and traveling, but still averaged 25 in Sunday School. Preaching attendance was in the mid-thirties. One was added by baptism. Plans are completed for building, and the mission expects to be meeting in its own facilities soon.  
 3-79 H. L. Spence, missionary

CLOVIS averaged 26 in Sunday School, with a high of 32. Two were added by letter. The mission is still working on meeting local requirements for use of their mobile building.  
 4-79 H. L. Spence, missionary

CLOVIS added four by letter and one by baptism. Sunday School attendance averaged in the high twenties, with a high preaching attendance of forty-three.  
 6-79 H.L. Spence, missionary

CLOVIS averaged thirty-two in attendance in Sunday School, with more in every preaching service. Seven were added, six of them on a single Sunday.  
 7-79 H. L. Spence, missionary

**Clovis Has Good Month**

Pastor G. R. Bernasconi, of the First Missionary Baptist Church of Porterville, Ca., reports that the month of May was an excellent one for their mission at Clovis . . . with an average of 32 in Sunday School and an average of 37 in the preaching service. The mission's offerings totaled \$1,600 and they had

CLOVIS added six by letter. Attendance is on the upswing, with an average of 37 in Sunday School, 43 for preaching, and 30 in the evening services. A building will be a necessity in the very near future.  
 8-79 Harold Spence, missionary

CLOVIS averaged forty-two in attendance for the month of July. Two were saved. The mission is in need of its own building. Plans are being made toward this end, with the hope of being self-supporting and able to organize in the not-too-distant future.  
 9-79 H. L. Spence, missionary

CLOVIS organized into a New Testament church December 1. Missionary H. L. Spence was called as pastor, and the new church has assumed his missionary endorsement.  
 12-79 H. L. Spence, pastor

CLOVIS added seven, five by letter, one by baptism, and one by statement. August Sunday School attendance averaged forty-nine. Offerings are good, but inflation makes work of building go slowly.  
 10-79 H. L. Spence, missionary

**Clovis Church Organized**

The mission at Clovis, CA, sponsored by the First Missionary Baptist Church of Porterville, George Bernasconi, pastor, was organized as a Missionary Baptist Church on December 1, 1979, at 10 a.m. Pastor of the newly organized church is Harold Spence who has worked faithfully with the mission for some time.

The church covenant was adopted after being read by David Hill, and the articles of faith, read by Kenneth Beebe and Ron Cowart from the Baptist Way Book, were also adopted. The organizational prayer was led by Monroe Patterson, and the sermon for the occasion was delivered by Roy M. Reed on "What Constitutes a New Testament Church."

Thirty five charter members went into the organization with eight more to be added who could not be present for the organization because of their work schedule. The name of the new organization is the First Missionary Baptist Church of Clovis. Thirty-four of our preacher brethren were present for the occasion. Bro. Spence states that though they are now a church they are requesting the aid of the churches a little while longer because the tremendous cost of construction leaves them unable to completely support a pastor.

CLOVIS added eight in December, bringing the total membership to forty-two. It is hoped that the mobile chapel building can be set up for use on the property within the next three months.  
 2-80 H. L. Spence, pastor

CLOVIS has almost doubled its membership since organizing last December. The capacity of the mobile unit has been exceeded before it is put into use. Help is needed both with salary and the building fund.  
 6-80 H.L. Spence, missionary pastor

Clovis MBC - 6-80 H  
 Harold Spence, Pastor.  
 They report 12 additions in recent weeks - four by statement, four by baptism, and four by letter.

CLOVIS added four by letter and five by baptism in the last ten weeks. The second Sunday in July saw a record crowd of seventy-eight for Sunday School, and about ninety for preaching.  
 8-80 H.L. Spence, pastor

CLOVIS is enjoying Sunday School attendance in the sixties and seventies; preaching attendance has reached as high as one hundred. Nine were added to the church in August and September. The present meeting place has been outgrown, and plans for a building are in the works.  
 11-80 H.L. Spence, pastor

CLOVIS MBC, Clovis - 3-81 H  
 Harold Spence, Missionary-Pastor.  
 They report two additions by letter in February, and the church has endorsed Brother Spence for another year of designated support.

CLOVIS added two families by letter in February. Sunday School attendance is steady in the sixties and seventies, with approximately thirty more attending the preaching services. A larger meeting place is sorely needed.  
 4-81 H.L. Spence, pastor

CLOVIS averaged sixty in Sunday School and eighty in worship services during June and July as summer activities took their toll on attendance. Three have been added by letter, and present plans are to have the new building framed up and closed in before winter.  
 H. L. Spence, pastor

CLOVIS added two by letter, one by statement, and two by baptism in the last two months. Attendance is running between sixty-five and eighty in Sunday School, with over one hundred for preaching. Building progress is slow, but construction is expected to begin in the spring.  
 3-82 H. L. Spence, pastor

CLOVIS baptized four. Summer vacations have reduced attendance somewhat, but work continues on the new building. It has been framed in and should be ready for the roof by the time you read this.  
 7-82 H. L. Spence, pastor

CLOVIS should have their own building ready for framing inspection by the time this appears. The building fund, however, is nearly depleted and work may be delayed for a time. Three have been added to the membership and attendance is picking up again.  
 10-82 H. L. Spence, pastor

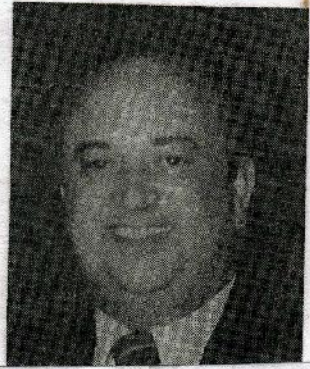
CLOVIS has their parking lot completed and framing inspection complete. They hope to be occupying the structure by the first of the year. Three have been added by letter and one by baptism. The church has apparently brought many couples together, with six marriages in the congregation this year and another pending.  
 12-82 H. L. Spence, pastor

Spence, H. L. 82 -  
Clovis

CLOVIS, CA., MBC had the honor of hearing Bro. Albert Garner lecture and preach. They have baptized five brethren and the missionary in Reno, Bro. Carver, reports one to be baptized. 4-84 H. L. Spence, pastor

Clovis MBC 5-86  
Harold Spence, Pastor H  
They report two saved and baptized. Bro. Spence will be preaching a revival in Grants Pass, Oregon, during the second week of May.

12-86-H  
PROMOTED HOME



CLOVIS MBC, Clovis -  
Harold Spence, Pastor. 1-83-H.  
They report three saved and four additions — two by letter and two by baptism. One young man, Bob Dye, surrendered to preach recently, and he plans to enter FMBI for the Spring semester. Work continues on their building, but funds are depleted, and help is needed to complete construction. Brother Spence was hospitalized recently for what was believed to be a heart attack, but tests revealed that it was pleurisy, and he is back in the pulpit.

CLOVIS, CA., MBC had two saved, two baptized and their missionary in Reno, Nev., Bro. Larry Carver has baptized two brethren. 5-86 H. L. Spence, pastor

CLOVIS MBC, Clovis -  
Harold Spence, Pastor 3-83 H  
They report one addition by letter, and they have several standing approved for baptism. Work continues on their new building.

CLOVIS, CA., MBC reports two saved and baptized. Bro. Spence will be preaching a revival in Grants Pass, Oregon, in May. H. L. Spence, pastor 6-86

CLOVIS M.B.C. had 140 in preaching services and six additions since moving into their new building. They received about \$1,000 to help them finish their building. 4-83

CLOVIS, CA., MBC reports five additions by letter. Attendance has been excellent with many visitors. 9-86 H. L. Spence, pastor

Clovis MBC  
Clovis 4-84 H  
Harold Spence, Pastor  
They report two professions of faith, who were also baptized, one rededication and several regular visitors in their services. The ladies of the church continue their Thursday afternoon visitation program, and their extension courses through CMBI are underway.

Clovis MBC 9-86-B  
Harold Spence, Pastor - They report seven additions by letter, five saved and three baptized. Attendance has been high and the church is enjoying a revival spirit.

CLOVIS, CA., MBC reports seven additions by letter, five saved and three baptisms. Attendance has been high and the church is enjoying revival. 10-86 H. L. Spence, pastor

12-86-H

HAROLD L. SPENCE  
1941 - 1986

Bro. Harold "Hal" Spence passed from this life in the early morning hours of Monday, December 8, after a short illness. He was in the Clovis Community Hospital at the time of his death.

with the Cloverdale Mission. He stayed with that work until 1976 when he took the oversight of the Clovis Mission. The mission was organized into a New Testament Church December 1, 1979, and he remained pastor of the church until his death.

CLOVIS, CA., MBC reports two professions of faith and these followed in baptism. One rededicated his life for service. The extension courses through CMBI are well underway with enthusiastic attendance. The Ladies of the church are continuing with Thursday afternoon visitation. 11-84 H. L. Spence, pastor

Graveside services were conducted for Bro. Spence December 10, at the Clovis Cemetery, Bro. Larry Reeves officiating.

Bro. Spence worked with the Fresno School several years, first as a student teacher, achieving a Bachelor of Theology Degree, and then as Instructor and Registrar.

CLOVIS, CA., MBC had five professions of faith and one addition to the church by baptism. Bro. Spence held a revival in Antioch. The Clovis church has been blessed with many regular visitors. 3-85 H. L. Spence, pastor

Bro. Spence was saved at the age of nine years, and he surrendered to preach in 1969 in the Landmark MBC in San Jose. Bro. Royce Smith was his pastor at that time. He was ordained by the Faith MBC in Corcord November 11, 1970 under the ministry of Bro. J. C. Pack.

All of Bro. Spence's ministry was spent in California, and he will surely be missed by the brethren.

CLOVIS, CA., MBC enjoyed outstanding messages delivered during the special lecture week. Also the Walk-a-Thon for CMD was a success. 7-85 H. L. Spence, pastor

Bro. Spence and his wife, Sharon, had been married 24 years to the day. He passed away on their 24th wedding anniversary.

CLOVIS, CA., MBC had ten additions to the church, three by baptism and seven by letter. Bro. Bob Dye has been elected as Minister to the Youth and Bro. Alex Cervantes as Minister of Evangelistic Outreach. 9-85 H. L. Spence, pastor

Bro. Spence first served as missionary pastor of the Union City Mission in 1969, leaving there to accept the pastorate of the Vallejo MBC in 1970, remaining as pastor until 1972. In 1972 he was elected as State Missionary, working

CLOVIS, CA., MBC had four professions of faith and three baptisms, and one addition to the church by letter. New classes in Evangelism, Church History and An Exposition of Proverbs are offered in BTC. 12-85 H. L. Spence, pastor

CLOVIS, CA., MBC had three additions to the church last month. The church endorsed Bro. Lawrence Carver as missionary to Reno, Nevada. 2-86 H. L. Spence, pastor

CLOVIS, CA., MBC baptized one, had two professions of faith and three additions by letter. Their missionary to Reno, Bro. Carver, reports a high of 17 in the mission attendance. 3-86 H. L. Spence, pastor

Clovis MBC  
Harold Spence, Pastor 4-86-H  
They report two saved and two baptized. Their missionary in Reno, Bro. Larry Carver, has baptized two brethren.



72-75

To the Churches of the California Cooperative Association  
of Missionary Baptist Churches

Dear Brethren,

It has been a pleasure to serve you this year as one  
of your state missionaries.

This past year has been one of the best years for  
state missions in our history. We have seen the organi-  
zation of three new churches; Sacramento, Dairyland, and  
Merced, all led by state missionaries.

We have become much stronger in Union City and in  
Cloverdale. These two works are in the process of building  
strong churches for the glory of our Lord.

At Cloverdale, we have been blessed with souls saved  
and with good increases in both attendance and offerings.

We have set as our goal in Cloverdale to become self-  
supporting, and we are reaching ever closer to that goal.  
The town of Cloverdale is small, the average income low,  
but the dedication and the spirit in the mission is high.  
With only five working heads of families in the mission,  
our offerings have been averaging about \$125.00 per week.

The Lord has opened the door for the Cloverdale Mission  
to purchase a building. This building is the finest church  
building in Cloverdale and can easily handle in excess of a  
350 Sunday school. We are now leasing part of this building  
and are negotiating for the lease of the entire building  
with option to buy.

The ultimate purchase of this building can only be  
made possible through programs like C. M. D., and we truly  
thank God for all those who, as churches and individuals,  
are supporting C. M. D. making possible stronger more suc-  
cessful missions in California.

As we look forward to this coming associational year,  
we anticipate the salvation of many souls, the growth of  
new converts, and the establishment of strong scriptural  
New Testament churches, by the preaching of the gospel and  
the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the Master's Service,

H. L. Spence