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## ELDER RAUL CABUYAO



I am Elder Raul Cabuyao. My wife's name is Marianita E. Cabuyao. I have two daughters, Marissa and Richlyn. I am a pastor of Mt. Olive Church at Tagum City, Philippines. Before I joined the Primitive Baptist Church, I served also as pastor of a group called Baptist, and I also studied in seminary for three years. The reason why my family and I joined the Primitive Baptist is because of the doctrine of grace of God taught in the Bible and preached by the Primitive Baptists. That is the great blessing of God.

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## ELDER KENNETH CADLE



Elder Cadle was born 9/3/14 to Elder Paris and Sister Melvina Cadle in Sandstone, West Virginia. Elder Cadle joined the Methodists as a young man but soon became dissatisfied with their doctrine and practice and united with the Primitive Baptists. He was baptized into the fellowship of Little Bluestone PB Church in Jumping Branch, WV, in 1939.

He had married Gladys "Patty" McComb in 1937 and they moved to Craigsville, WV, in 1942 where he placed his membership into Zion's Rest PB Church. They were the parents of Oliver Keith, Jerry, and David. Kenneth was ordained as a deacon in 1944 but soon became burdened to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. He was liberated to preach in 1949 and was ordained as a minister of the gospel in January 15, 1950. Elder and Sister Cadle moved to Crestview, Florida, in 1979.

His pastorates included Zion's Rest Church in Craigsville, WV (1961-1979); Indian Creek Church in Greenville, WV (1961-1973); Pilgrims Home Church in Webster Springs, WV (1970-73); Little Meadows Church in Meadow Bridge, WV (1971-78); Enterprise Church in Enterprise, Alabama (1981-83); and the Palm Chapel Church in Crestview, Florida (1980-1999).

### **ELDER PARIS PRESTON CADLE**

Elder Cadle of Sandstone, West Virginia lived from 7/4/1877 to 8/30/1949 dying at the age of 72. He married Melvina Bowers in 1898. He was the father of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters.

Elder Cadle was a schoolteacher but poor health forced an early retirement. He left the Methodists and united with the Primitive Baptists in 1926 and was obedient to the call to the ministry in 1929.

By reason of chronic ill health he declined pastoral care but was highly respected and welcomed throughout the churches in West Virginia. At the time of his death he was a member of Little Bluestone Church in Jumping Branch, WV and he and Sister Melvina are buried nearby.

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### **ELDER R. EDWARD CAGLE**

Brother Edward was born on June 24, 1927, the son of Floyd and Alice Cagle, who were both were members of Boiling Springs Church for many years.



He married Florine Parker on February 1, 1947 and they were blessed in marriage to have 4 sons, Stanley, Randall, Nathan, and Stephen.

Brother Edward felt the Spirit calling him to preach as a young man a few years after his baptism in April, 1943. He exercised that calling by preaching for the first time on Labor Day weekend in 1947 at Boiling Springs Church.

Interestingly, Sister Florine felt moved to join the church following that sermon and has been a constant and loyal helpmate throughout his long ministry. The blessings on Boiling Springs Church continued for a season as six others joined the following Sunday.

The pastor of Boiling Springs Church for the years of his earliest development as a minister of the gospel was Bartow Alred Phillips. They spent innumerable hours together by the fireplace in the winter and on the porch in the summer as Elder Phillips expounded the word to his eager student. Brother Edward accompanied Brother Phillips as he traveled to the four churches he served in those days.

Brother Edward's first appointment to preach away from his home church of Boiling Springs was at Ebenezer Church in what is now known as Dunwoody, Georgia on the second Sunday evening in October, 1948. He was called to pastor Shoal Creek Church in Cherokee County, Georgia in December 1949 and was subsequently ordained to the full

work of the ministry, the ordination service held at Boiling Springs Church on January 28, 1950.

Brother Edward's love for the Lord is manifested in his boundless zeal to serve His people. He has served as pastor in the following churches: Shoal Creek, 1949 to 1965; Boiling Springs, 1954 to 1973 and 1975 to 1976; Big Creek, 1958 to 1965; Union 1966 to present; Cross Roads 1971 to 1981.

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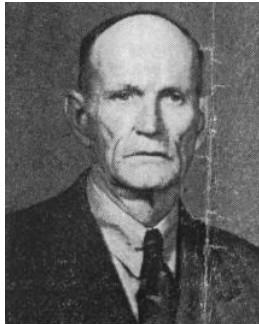
**ELDER A. J. CALDER**

FROM A RESOLUTION OF RESPECT IN THE "PRIMITIVE BAPTIST:" Elder Calder was born April 28, 1887 and passed from this life at a Galveston hospital on August 16, 1956. He was married to Bertie May Jackson on October 27, 1908. To this union seven children were born.

He was a member of the Friendship Church of Baytown, Texas. He united with the Primitive Baptist church early in life, and remained faithful till death. He was ordained to the full work of the ministry the third Saturday in June 1917.

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**ELDER ELMER CALTON**



Elder Elmer Calton was born April 25, 1889 in Wright County near Grove Springs, Missouri. He died December 26, 1973, at the age of eighty-four years. On March 13, 1910, he was united in marriage with Margaret Randolph who preceded him in death February 17, 1970. On August 10, 1971, he was married to Vay Ryser.

In 1921, he professed his faith in Christ and united with the Primitive Baptist Church. He was ordained to the ministry in 1935 and made a splendid record as a true servant of God ever since. At the time of his death he was pastor at New Hope Church, which he had served for thirty years. Also he pastored several churches in Ozark Association and one church in Arkansas.

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**ELDER GRADY E. CAMP**

I was born near Friendship, Tennessee on September 15, 1930, to Adell and Luther Camp. I had nine siblings - three sisters and six brothers.

I cannot date a time when the Lord touched me, but I believe that he has. In my earliest memories, I believed that God is real and that he loved me, but would also chastise me for my sins.

When I was seventeen, I entered the service of my Country - serving in the United States Navy for over four years. At the age of twenty-two, I married Marjorie Craig and came to live in Memphis, Tennessee.



As a young child, I attended Mt. Moriah Church at Friendship, Tennessee with my parents. As a youngster, I vowed never to join an Old Baptist Church. Marjorie, my wife, had been raised a devout U. S. A. Presbyterian, who believed that when Sunday came you presented your body at church in the service of your Lord. For a few months after our marriage, she put up with my indifference to serving God. On Saturday before the third Sunday in August of 1953, I was issued an ultimatum. Marjorie's statement was, "We are not going to live like heathens - either we will go to your church, my church, or find a new church." I knew exactly where Morris Memorial Church was located if I just had to go. We went! It was their Association, and two years later, we joined the Church together and were baptized on the third Sunday in January of 1955, by Elder E. C. Holder.

Raleigh Church was organized in 1963, and constituted on May 8, 1964, with Elder Wiley Sammons serving as pastor. I was a charter member. It was during this period of time that the Lord burdened me to preach the gospel. I was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry at Raleigh Church on October 18, 1968. I preached at Raleigh on a third Sunday until May of 1975, when I was called for their pastor. After my ordination in 1968, I was called to pastor Mt. Moriah Church where I had grown up, I have served this Church most of my ministerial life, although we went to Saturday services after I was called to pastor Raleigh each Sunday. I have also served Indian Creek Church located at Brighton, Tennessee as pastor, and Chewalla Church located at Potts Camp, MS as pastor for a short period.

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#### **ELDER RILEY CAMPBELL**

Elder Campbell was born July 22, 1891 near Fort Meade, Florida, was one of seven children born to Alexander and Biddie Weatherington Campbell.

Elder Campbell met Eliza Ann Lightsey near Corinth Church and they were married October 2, 1912. To this union were 13 children.

On March 14, 1914 Elder and Sister Campbell offered themselves to Hopewell Church and were gladly received and baptized the next day by Elder W. M. Whidden, and the following September was elected Clerk of Hopewell Church in which he served many years.

On April 15, 1933 a Presbytery was called together to ordain Brother Campbell to the full work of the ministry and presented him back to the Church a fully ordained minister

Elder Campbell served Hopewell, Corinth, Mt. Carmel, Empire, Peace River and Salem Church for different periods of time. He served 11 years as Clerk of the Association and one year as moderator.

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**ELDER W. W. CAMPBELL**

William Wiley Campbell was born on July 30, 1866 in Florida and died on January 4, 1933 in Miami, Florida. On September 23, 1886, he married the former Lillie Idelia "Della" Carroll. To this union eight children were born. He was ordained to the gospel ministry on March 21, 1903 at the Pilgrim's Rest Church in Ormond Beach, Florida. Elders T. H. Bennett and J. B. Hall comprised the presbytery.



He established churches in Homestead, Ft. Pierce, Vero Beach, Opie, Okechopee, and Miami.

He was pastor at Antioch Baptist Church in Vero Beach, and had to leave Miami in a Model T Ford, on a Thursday and drive three days to get to Vero. Dirt roads and all made the trip difficult as he drove all day and slept in the car at night.

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**ELDER JOE O'NEAL CANNON**

Elder Cannon was born on October 2, 1923. He was baptized in 1943 at the Shawmut Church in Shawmut, Alabama. He was ordained in June 1965, at Hephzibah Church in Opelika, Alabama. He married Margaret Sledge Cannon on October 31, 1942. To this union three children were born: Timothy, Michael and Jeffrey.



At the age of ten, the Lord brought him under conviction of sin. He knew he loved the Lord and wanted to obey Him. However, he was not baptized until 1943. It was the sad and tragic belief during those years in that part of the country that children should be discouraged from being baptized and joining the church until they were older and understood more. When he was ordained, he made sure that young people who the Lord had worked upon were part of the assembly and that they would be encouraged to follow the Lord in baptism and be an active part of His Church.

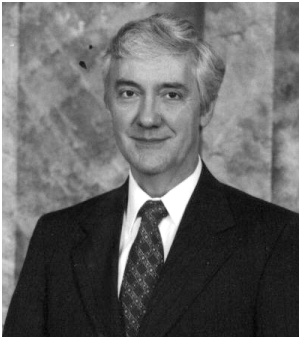
He received the call to the ministry during World War II but was not ordained until June 6, 1965. It was at this time while on active duty in the United States Air Force that he was ordained to the gospel ministry. The next month, with the blessings of Hephzibah Church, his family was stationed in Honolulu, Hawaii. He likens this tour of duty to that of Paul. The Roman government paid for Paul's transportation to Rome, where he preached the glorious gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. The United States government paid for his family's transportation to Honolulu, Hawaii, where he was stationed at Hickam Air Force Base. There he ministered to men and women in the armed services stationed in Hawaii, the men coming from Vietnam and their families coming to Hawaii during the Vietnam War, and families coming to Hawaii for vacation. Several men flew from far away places just to come and discuss scriptures with him. One military man flew from Africa just to visit for three hours and receive intense instruction in the doctrines of grace before he had to leave. During this three-year span of time in Hawaii he was instrumental in constituting the first Primitive Baptist Church in Hawaii that ministered to many military families. The Lord honored the sacredness of the baptismal ceremonies by opening perfect baptismal pools of water in the secluded, sandy beaches away from the crowds. The day following the baptism, the particular pool, which had been used for a baptism, would be filled with sand. Elder Cannon can readily identify, with those who have a calling to preach the gospel in far and distant lands to feed God's children the truth about His sovereign salvation.

Elder Cannon served the church in Hawaii from 1965 - 1968. When it was time for him to return to the mainland, all military men and their families had been stationed elsewhere. A precious chapter came to an end. His family was the last Primitive Baptist to leave so the doors closed. He has served Concord Church in Wadley, Alabama, and Macedonia Church in Lafayette, Alabama. He resides with his wife, Margaret, in Cusseta, Alabama.

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#### **ELDER TIMOTHY NEAL CANNON**

Elder Cannon was born on February 14, 1948. He was baptized on July 1976, at Pine Hill Church, Elder Hassell Wallis officiating. On February 14, 1970 he married the former Emily Guess. To this union three daughters and three sons were born: Tanya, Esther, Rhoda, Peter, Titus, and James. He was ordained on October 2, 1982, at Grace Chapel Primitive Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee.



ELDER CANNON WRITES: In June of 1971, while camping at Sardis, Mississippi, the merciful Lord of Glory revealed to me the depths of my life that had been spent in abominable sins. In the darkness of night the Holy Spirit worked conviction and repentance, bringing light and life to my soul. It was then and there that He revealed the pungency and beauty of Jesus Christ's blood, which was willingly shed for me at Calvary as He, the precious Lamb of God, took my place, enduring the wrath of God on my behalf: The Holy Spirit led the brethren that were with me during this life-changing event to read to

me Psalm 51. The next day, the Lord reassured me of His infinite love through Psalm 116. Both these Psalms have been my testimony and calling to a life's ministry of music, writing, and preaching the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

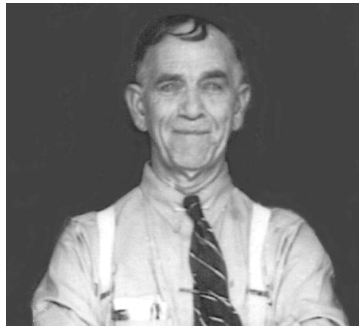
I have written several plays for homeschool and private school students, the most recent being "The Battle of the Titans," a play, which concerns the famous Scopes trial of 1925. I have also composed a major oratorio, ICHTHUS, which has been performed by choral festival students. This composition puts to music the last seven days of Christ's life and His ascension.

Caraway Church, Caraway, Arkansas, called for my ordination and I served this church for six years (August 1982 to September 1988). While living in Memphis, Tennessee, our family ministered to Greenwood Church, Greenwood, Mississippi (1988 to 1992). In November of 1992, I was called to pastor Little Flock Church in Burnsville, Mississippi, where I continue to serve.

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### **ELDER FELIX CANTRELL**

SUBMITTED BY ELDER LYNN H. RUSSELL: Elder Felix Cantrell was born September



29, 1876, DeKalb Co., TN; baptized August 1891, and ordained at Mt. View, Smithville, TN, October 1909. The presbytery consisted of Elders J. B. White, E. D. Young, W. P. Russell, and Deacons T. R. Vaughn and A. P. Cantrell. He was called pastor at Mt. View, December 3, 1910 and served until April of 1948, 47 years. He also pastored New Bildad for twelve years. He was married to Mary Luna August 1896. To this union fourteen children were born. He died April 1, 1957.

At a very early age he was eager to hear the Gospel. When he was left at home with his brothers and sisters, while his parents went to church, he would run up to the church house and sit on the rail fence, listen to the sermon, and run home before his parents got home.

He was a pioneer preacher and traveled by horse and mule. Elder Avery Land said as soon as he was on the mule, he would begin to sing the song, "Savior, More Than Life to Me." The mule was relaxed by the singing and would flop his ears back and forth. Once he and a companion were selling fruit trees in North Carolina and became lost on a mountain trail at dark. They built a fire to keep the wild animals away and Eld. Cantrell took his hymnbook and mountain and valley resounded to his singing. People came out of the dark and gathered round. When he had a good crowd he preached to them. Someone carried them to their house to spend the rest of the night.

Elder Cantrell died April 1, 1957, and was buried in Jefferson Cemetery, in DeKalb County.

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**ELDER BILL CARAWAY**

I was born January 28, 1931 on a Wednesday at LaWard, Jackson County, Texas, to Leonard D. and Lucy M, (Woods) Caraway. I was the youngest of seven children.



I married Emogene Ethel Startz on August 24, 1951 at Alice, Texas in Jim Wells County by Bobby Elliott, Southern Baptist minister. We were blessed to have 9 days together before leaving for Korea. We were blessed to have four children: Sandra Jean, David Lyons, Timothy Lee and Billy Michael.

My first contact with the Primitive Baptist Church was at Elk Creek Church near Elk City, OK. We visited this church from time to time while visiting Mom and Dad.

Jean and I joined the Church on April 2, 1960 during a special meeting in Oklahoma City. We were baptized on April 16, 1960 by Elder Oba Cummings at Bethlehem Church because our church did not have a baptistery.

On fourth Sunday, at Bethlehem Church, Oklahoma City, OK, I was ordained to the office of deacon.

In the spring of 1980 during conference, a motion was made that I be ordained to the full work of the ministry. The Ordination was held in Oklahoma City, OK on July 12, 1980 on Saturday afternoon during our association at the request of Bethlehem Church.

I have had the privilege of serving five churches by appointment and have pastored Zion's Rest Church of McAlester, OK, and Salem Church of Wichita Falls, TX. I presently pastor Walnut Valley of Blanchard OK, and Bethel Church of Ada, OK.

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**ELDER ROBIN W. CARLISLE**

Elder Carlisle was born about the year 1805 in the State of Georgia and later removed to Tallapoosa and Coosa Counties, Alabama. In 1850, he was living in Tallapoosa County with his wife, Clarissa, and 10 children.



Brother Carlisle united with the Primitive Baptists in 1830 and was soon set apart as a deacon. He was ordained to the ministry in 1845 in Tallapoosa County by Elders Moses Gunn and John M. Duke at Darien Church. In 1859, he removed to Coosa County and served from three to five churches until the infirmities of age forbid him to continue. For more than twenty years, he was moderator of either the Wetumpka or Hillabee Association of Primitive Baptists. Elder Carlisle was regarded as a sound, consistent and able minister and he served in that capacity for nearly fifty years.

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#### **ELDER HAMILTON B. CARPENTER**

WRITTEN BY ELDER A. J. GARLAND: Elder Hamilton B. Carpenter was born November 3, 1850 and was baptized into the fellowship of the brethren in the Lord in Robinson River Church by Elder P. W. Yates Sept. 20, 1879. He gave evidence of the Lord calling him to preach the precious gospel and was licensed in April 1894, being ordained in October 1909.

He married Annie Elizabeth Ciore and to this union two sons and three daughters were born. Brother Carpenter fell asleep in Jesus on June 23, 1920.

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#### **ELDER HARVEY G CARPENTER**



Elder Carpenter was born on Oct 6, 1932. He was married on Jun 20, 1954 to the former Julia Ann Poplin. They have two sons.

During late 1969 and early 70's, I became very restless spiritually. It seemed I was starving. All the efforts I would put forth, by taking part in the church at that time would not satisfy my hunger. On Feb 14, 1984, I was instructed that I was to go preach for the Primitive Baptists. I visited Elder Clifford Allen, pastor of Bear Creek PBC and also Elder C. M. Mills, pastor of Meadow Creek PBC among others at that time. After visiting them I began to visit the various churches in the area and then in October of 1974 asked for a home and was baptized in November 1974 at Meadow Creek PBC by Elder Charles Smith.

In 1980, I moved my membership to Pleasant Hill PBC, close to the community that I was living in. I was ordained in 1980, after filling an appointment there for several months and later became assistant pastor to Elder J. A. Langhum at Pleasant Hill in 1982. Later I was

called to pastor the church in 1985 and continued to do so until I resigned, April of 1996. In June of 1997 I joined by relation, Amarillo PBC which is pastored by Elder R. A. Tindall.

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**ELDER JOHN CARSWELL**

WRITTEN BY ELDER BOB DICKERSON: Elder John Edward Carswell, age 74, of Tifton, Ga., died Dec. 11, 1988. He was born in Tift County, Ga., Nov. 25, 1914, the son of the late Edward and Mary Jones Carswell and had lived in Tift County most of his life. He was retired from Armour & Co. He was a member of Valley Grove Church.

I had known Brother John for 35 years, as he and I were with another order of Baptists for several years and came over to the Primitive Baptists about the same time. He was an honest, straightforward and dependable brother. He served as a deacon with the other order and later after uniting with Old Ty Ty Church of the Primitive order was ordained a deacon there. After several years he manifested a burden to preach the gospel and was ordained to the ministry. While never pastoring churches, his efforts as he visited among the churches were always uplifting, true to the scriptures, and straight from his heart. The last few years his health had failed to where he was no longer able to occupy the stand, although he was blessed to attend services right up to the end.

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**ELDER ELZERT CARTER**

Elder Carter served the Providence Church of the Pilot Grove Association of Texas for several years. No other information could be obtained

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**ELDER LAWRENCE CARTER**

We, the members of Harmony Church, Mathews, Indiana, mourn the loss of our precious brother in Christ, Elder Lawrence Carter, who passed away Jan. 7, 1996.

Brother Lawrence joined Harmony Church by letter on April 3, 1948. On Dec. 1, 1956 he was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry. He was a humble and faithful servant of the Lord. He served several churches during his ministry and also served as moderator of the Lebanon Association for several years. He was an earnest contender for the faith of God's elect, and of the doctrine of salvation by grace.

### **ELDER HOWARD CARTWRIGHT**

Elder Cartwright has served as pastor several Arkansas churches, including Bethesda, New Bethlehem, Reveille and New Prospect. Though of a warm and loving personality, he is firm in the defense of the truth.

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### **ELDER WILL CARTY**

WRITTEN BY HIS DAUGHTER, THEDA (CARTY) SALYER: Elder Will Carty was born March 6, 1910, the son of Richard and LillieCarty.

He was raised by an Aunt, Amanda (Carty) Craft and Uncle Dury Craft. They didn't have any children of their own. His parents separated when he was eighteen months old. He married Mollie Howard on July 11, 1929 at the home of Mollie's parents at Foraker, Kentucky. To this union five children three sons and two daughters were born.



Elder Carty was baptized the 3rd Sunday in July 1952. The Lord's will was for him to preach his Gospel. He began in the Ministry, and was ordained the 3rd Saturday in May 1953 at the Bear Branch Church. The Presbytery consisted of W. E. Bentley, Smith Ealem, Lee Wilson, and Arthur C. Johnson (Clerk), and Jack Wheeler (Moderator).

He traveled many miles throughout Kentucky, and surrounding States during his Ministry. He was called in many Funerals, and would always try to go whenever needed by his friends.

He was a poor man, not having much money and materials things, I never heard him complain. He would have to buy gas on a credit sometimes, He would just say, "The Lord will Provide." This also was one of his favorite hymns, sung the day he was baptized.

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### **ELDER JAMES M. CARVER**

FROM "GOSPEL APPEAL:" Elder James Monroe Carver united with Refuge Church near Pearson, Ga., in 1919 and was baptized in Tan Vat Lake in Sweet Water Creek. Later the same year he was asked to open services at the church, and then was liberated to preach on Feb. 7, 1920. He was ordained to the full work of the ministry on Nov. 9, 1929 on request of Salem Church where he had been called as pastor. In the winter of 1954 he was struck with a heart attack while preaching in the stand at Red Bluff Church, Atkinson County, Ga. Elder John Davis led him to a chair by the pot-bellied stove and the brethren quickly carried him to the hospital where he shortly passed away. His last words were: "We

should not grumble over these pains, seeing our Lord and Savior suffered much more severe on the cross for us."

Brother Carver was a great believer in prayer. One of his favorite scriptures was the promise in James 5:16: "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." Once, during a great drought which had parched the land throughout South Georgia, the members of a nearby Missionary Baptist Church (Mt. Pleasant) requested Elder John Davis to come to their meeting house and to pray for rain. Elder Davis sent word to Elder Carver to meet him there. Elder Carver hitched up his mule and wagon, called his family together, and gave these instructions: "Children, carry your rain coats along; Brother John is going to pray for rain." The old-timers in that community say that when Brother Davis went upon his knees at the meeting house and began to beg the Lord for the needed blessing that it thundered and the rains soon came.

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#### **ELDER WILLIAM CASE**

FROM "A HISTORY OF THE PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS OF ALABAMA, MT. ZION ASSOCIATION" BY ELDER E. B. WATTS: Elder William Case was a member of Enon Church. The first account we have of this Elder is that he was appointed to preach on the Sabbath at the 1824 session of the Mount Zion Association.

Elder Case was a very active minister in the early years of the association and helped organize several churches. At first, he supported domestic missions; however, when the state convention assumed the authority of designating the areas of mission effort, Elder Case was opposed to it and turned bitterly against the mission system.

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#### **ELDER C. L. CASEY**



OBITUARY WRITTEN BY ELDER G.H. CRAIN: Elder Claude Lee Casey, well-known pastor and able defender of the doctrine of God's sovereign grace, finished his work on earth December 25, 1977.

Brother Casey entered Ft. Worth Osteopathic Hospital a few days before his death with deep lung congestion and other complications. He had recovered from previous heart attacks and was able to preach until just a very short time before his passing.

Elder Casey was baptized in 1932 by Elder J.H. Fisher; he began preaching the gospel in 1934 and was ordained in

1941. Pastoral labors were with the church in Cisco, Texas, Comanche, Mt. Olive, Odell and perhaps others unknown to me.

Brother Casey spent most of the last three years in the rest home in Kennedale just a few miles from the Arlington Church, where he placed his membership, attending service when he was able.

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#### **ELDER BRYANT CASH**

Was born May 5, 1867, at Keytesville, Mo. His father was James Cash, who was born in Kentucky. He grew to manhood in Chariton County, and had very little chance for an education, as he was one of a family of fourteen children and reared on a small farm. His father was a Primitive Baptist and his mother a Presbyterian. After attending a funeral, the first sermon he ever heard, he saw himself as a sinner in the sight of God; and at the age of fifteen he joined the Presbyterian church, but did not find any comfort until he heard the "Old Baptists" preach. After being urged by some of the old ministers, he joined the Primitive Baptist church in September 1891. After much concern and feeling of condemnation in regard to being a preacher, he finally gave in to the impression and made his first public effort in his own home. He was ordained to the full work of the ministry in the year of 1907. He was married to Miss Dora Brooks in 1888 and they had two children. He was a cousin of Elder Walter Cash.

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#### **ELDER HARVEY CASH**



WRITTEN BY HIS DAUGHTER, SIS. LETHA JEFFERIES: Elder Harvey D. Cash was born in Bowie County, Texas. His parents were both members of the Primitive Baptist Church. Due to the death of his mother, Harvey moved to Alabama at three years of age and was raised by his grandparents. In 1917, he moved back to Charlie, Texas and attended the church where his brother Elder Henry Cash lived. In May 1919, Harvey joined the Primitive Baptists church at Charlie, Texas and was baptized by Elder H. G. Currington. He married Retie Harris on August 17, 1919. Her family belonged to the Primitive Baptist church and they were a great influence on him. From this union, they were blessed with nine children – four girls and five boys.

Harvey D. Cash was ordained to the ministry the fourth Sunday in September 1933. He served several churches in Oklahoma including his home church in Marlow, Oklahoma. In September 1936, Brother cash moved his family to Lyford, Texas. He served several

churches in Texas including, Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Luling and Houston. At the time of his death, March 8, 1983, he was the pastor of the Sardis Primitive Baptist Church at Lyford, Texas. Elder Cash labored for fifty years to preach in word but also in precept and example, endeavoring by the grace of the Lord to live what he preached.

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### ELDER HENRY CASH

I was born in Perry County Alabama, February 9, 1891. I came to Maud, Texas on January 15, 1901. While there my parents, J. P. Cash and E. J. Cash, united with Mt. Olive Church, and were baptized by Elder J. S. Griffin of Queen City, Texas, who was pastor at that time. My mother was burned to death on April 28, 1904. My family was soon separated one from the other. My father did not live long after the death of my mother. He passed away at Big Spring, Texas, in April 17, 1907.



I was left there alone with no funds to go anywhere so I remained there for some time, while there I met a very nice lady named Miss Ada Lloyd in the year of 1908. And we were united in marriage on October 17, 1909. We were blessed with nine laughing children. My first wife passed away in May 22, 1957. I lived single for nine months when I was married to Mrs. Maggie Graves on February 28, 1958 by Elder H. G. Ball. I united with Holiday Creek Church in October 1915. My first wife and I were baptized by Elder H. G. Currington. I began to exercise in a public way in 1916. I was ordained to the full work of the ministry in May 1920. I was soon called to serve churches. The first one was at Temple, Oklahoma in March 1921. I served them until 1943. And then was called to serve a church at Grady, Oklahoma. I was called to serve Bethlehem Church at Mundy, Texas sometime later. I served the church at Wilson, Oklahoma from early in the 20's until I moved to California in 1943. I was elected moderator at the Salem Association in the 20's and served till 1943. Before moving to California, I had traveled over 800,000 miles serving as a minister among the Baptists of Texas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas, and some in Louisiana. It has been my happy privilege to baptize hundreds of the Lord's people as well as to perform hundreds of marriage ceremonies. I served Golden Gate Church at Oakland California till I moved back to Texas.

I served as moderator of the Golden West Association for a few years until the Pacific Golden West Association was organized. I served as moderator for same till 1957.

While young I listened to Elders preach namely S. F. Moore, J. C. McElray of old, W. S. Broom, and many others. I have always been satisfied with the goodness of God's house. The Elders that were in my ordination was Elders, H. C. Currington, J. T. Huckaby, D. B. Koen and Thomas Johnson.

NOTE: Elder Cash passed from this life on May 3, 1971 in Oakland, California.

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### ELDER WALTER CASH

FROM A SKETCH IN "MESSENGER OF PEACE" BY ELDER EMERSON MCAFEE: Elder Cash was born in Linn County, Missouri, in 1856. He joined West Union Church in 1873, was licensed in 1877, and ordained to the work of the ministry in 1880. He taught school for some years, trying to farm in the spring and summer.

In December of 1891, he became owner of the *Messenger of Peace*, and continued until August of 1894. He was pastor of four churches most of his ministerial life. He was very gifted in his work and left many writings, which are of great value to God's people. His book *Practical Suggestions for Primitive Baptists* had wide circulation. It holds many useful helps. He published a Clerk's Record Book, also a Deacon's Account Book. He put out the *Primitive Baptist Hymnal*, which was well received.

Elder Cash was kind and of tender heart, but knew no compromise with the innovations that came to try the faith and practice of our people. He was strong for the principles of the Old Baptists, and was greatly loved by the great body of Baptists. He passed away May 16, 1937.

During his life, several false doctrines were introduced among the Baptists, but he fearlessly stood against all these. There was the Eternal Vital Union theory brought into his own church. He would have none of it. Then the Progressive idea and the threat to start another paper, and while this movement made great inroads in the states east of us; only one association in Missouri was affected. A brother whose church had gone down, and who asked for membership in the church, was asked if he believed in the resurrection. He replied, "Not just like you do." He did not believe the Adam body would be raised. He was rejected. Would that all our people had rejected all false teachers.

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### ELDER DAN CATES



I was born January 20, 1962 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama to Bobby Joe and Helen Deloris Chapman Cates. We moved to Kansas City, Missouri, but after my parents divorced, we moved back to Alabama to live with my Grandfather and Grandmother, Louis Daniel and Trannie Estelle Chapman. My Grandparents were the greatest influence in my younger years, and the values they held have become my values. At around age nine, I joined Cottondale United Methodist Church, where my Grandparents were lifelong members. We attended faithfully, including singing in the choir and Sunday School. As a teenager I felt what I thought was a calling to

go into the ministry. I began exercising at a very young age, but struggled with some of the teachings of the scripture. Although the Methodists accept “sprinkling” for Baptism, I had a strong belief that the Bible teaches total immersion and insisted on that when I was baptized as a teenager. My plans were to attend seminary.

I met my sweetheart in High School. Gail Wright and I dated eight years before marriage. We were debate partners in High School and both attended Troy State University on debate scholarships. Even though I was a member of the Methodist Church, I began attending church with Gail. She, her three sisters and one brother, grew up in the Primitive Baptist Church. We were married in 1984.

While her parents were members at Bethel Church in McKenzie, Alabama, Gail joined Bethlehem Church near Tuscaloosa. I was simply attending church to be with Gail, but after a while, what I was hearing began to get my attention. For the first time in my life, I heard preaching from Romans Chapter 8, and the fact that Jeremiah was ordained a prophet while still in the womb, that God’s children are drawn to Him not by their own will, but through His will and His loving-kindness, and that all that are led by the Spirit ARE Sons of God. I asked my Pastor about the scripture and he immediately asked if I had been to a Primitive Baptist Church. He told me that the Primitive Baptists are dying out and are mostly “a bunch of old people who believe if you get hit and killed by a car, it’s God’s appointed time for you to go.” That explanation wasn’t good enough for me, because I was being strongly convicted that God’s Truth was something different than what I had been taught as a child. I joined Bethel Church in 1984.

For the first 12 years of marriage, Gail and I had no children. We tried everything and it simply didn’t happen. We prayed very hard. We felt led to adopt, and after much frustration with domestic adoption efforts, we decided to look into international adoption. In 1995, we traveled to Paraguay to adopt our daughter Olivia Grace. In 1997, we traveled back to South America and adopted our son Carson Daniel. Natural adoption has taught me so much about spiritual adoption.

While in Paraguay, I prayed about church. “In God’s Own Time” also stayed in my mind. When we returned from South America, I was ordained and have served Bethel Church of the Antioch Association since then. I have been influenced by such Elders as Charlie Tucker, Jim Powell, Glenn Payne, Herman Hyde, and Lewis Floyd as well as many dear sisters of the Church. I am Old Line and pray the church never strays from the paths Christ laid. I am also News Director at WKRG, the CBS Television Affiliate in Mobile, Alabama. God has richly blessed my family so much more than we deserve.

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#### **ELDER BENJAMIN CAVE**

Elder Benjamin Cave, a pioneer minister, was born in Culpepper County, Virginia on June 15, 1760. His father was of English blood and migrated to America about 1730 and was a member of the House of Burgesses in 1756. Elder Cave served in the Revolutionary War



for 21 months. After the war was over Elder Cave moved to Guilford County, North Carolina, and finally resided in Perry District, Fairfield County, Ohio on November 7, 1832.

In Fairfield County, Ohio, Benjamin Cave joined the Old School Baptists and was soon ordained to the ministry. In 1803, he helped organize Laurel Baptist Church and became the first pastor of Licking Baptist Church in 1807. He served as pastor of other churches in Ohio.

Even though the exact date of his death isn't known, he lived to a ripe old age and passed from this life in Ross County, Ohio.

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#### ELDER C. H. CAYCE



FROM A MEMORIAL IN THE "ADVOCATE AND MESSENGER," WRITTEN BY ELDER C. E. WEBB: Brother Cayce, perhaps the most widely known and the most widely influential minister and editor in the Primitive Baptist ranks, is dead. The hearts of true Primitive Baptists throughout the nation will be grieved at the sad news of the passing of this great and good man who for well over fifty years, championed the cause of our dear people by tongue and pen and faithfully defended the denomination against every conceivable kind of heresy and -ism, gaining for himself the love and respect of all good people who knew and understood him, and the bitter hatred of those who thought to trouble and divide our precious people.

Perhaps no minister among us during the past century has been so universally acquainted with our people and their various problems, and certain it is, that through the medium of his publication--the *Primitive Baptist*, which went out to several thousands of our readers twice each month, the good influence of his faithful labors and his safe and sound counsel was most widely felt--and will certainly be more widely missed and mourned--than that of any other minister who has lived during the past century.

FROM A MEMORIAL IN THE "PRIMITIVE BAPTIST," WRITTEN BY ELDER ARIEL WEST: Elder Cayce passed away on the morning of November 4, 1945, at The Davis Hospital, Pine Bluff, Ark. He was taken ill on October 22, at his home in Thornton.

Elder Cayce was born in Moscow, Ky., on June 1, 1871. He was the oldest child of Elder Silas Fleming Cayce and Flora Magdalene Cayce. Elder Cayce felt to be a condemned sinner at the tender age of eight, and received deliverance and was enabled to rejoice in a Saviour's love in 1885, at the age of fourteen. He united with the Primitive Baptists at Greenfield, Tenn., on the second Sunday in August 1889, and was baptized by his father on Thursday before the second Sunday in September of the same year. He made his first effort

to speak in the name of his Master on January 4, 1890, using Ephesians 2:8 as a text. He was liberated to speak in public by the church at Greenfield on Saturday before the second Sunday in October 1890, and was ordained by the authority of the church at Ralston, Tenn., December 6, 1896. He became connected with his father's paper, *The Primitive Baptist*, in 1886, and became its editor at his father's death in 1905, and remained editor of that publication until death called him home.

Elder Cayce was married to Miss Lollie Lawler, of Brownsboro, Ala., on March 19, 1917. She was a true helpmate to him, in the cause he loved, until his call to come higher. To this union five children were born.

He contended for the same things at death that he had contended for more than fifty years as a preacher and writer. His last sermon was preached in West Tennessee, at the Greenfield Association, from the following text: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

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#### ELDER WILLIAM HARTSEL CAYCE



Elder William Hartsel Cayce the youngest of five children born to Elder C. H. Cayce and Lollie Mae Lawler Cayce, was born July 13, 1926 at Fordyce, Ark. Elder Hartsel Cayce joined Flint River Church during the Union Meeting of the Flint River Association at Hurricane Church in August of 1948 and was baptized in Flint River at Brownsboro, Ala. by Elder L. C. Swanner. He requested a letter of dismissal to join Cane Creek Church in Thornton, Ark., which was granted, and he joined Cane Creek Church the first weekend in September 1948, by letter.

He was united in marriage to Jo Ann James on December 18, 1948 in her parent's home in Thornton, Ark. by Elder L. C. Swanner.

Elder Hartsel Cayce was elected clerk of the South Arkansas Association the third weekend in September 1948 in which position he served until 1962. He was ordained as a deacon in the 1950's with Elder L. C. Swanner delivering the charge.

Later on April 2, 1961 he was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry. The presbytery was composed of: Elders L. C. Swanner (who delivered the charge), K. W. Yeager, John R. Harris, Howard Cartwright, R. H. Attaway, W. A. Clayton, Marion O'Mary, Curtis Barham, and Andrew J. Isaacs.

After the ordination Cane Creek Church called him to serve as joint pastor with Elder John R. Harris and Elder R. H. Attaway, until Elder Harris' death in December of 1961 and

Elder Attaway's resignation in 1979. Elder Hartsel Cayce has continued to serve his home church, Cane Creek, as pastor and also served New Prospect Church, Beard Camp, Ark. as pastor for a number of years. He is currently serving and has served Sardis Church near Malvern, Ark. since 1967 as pastor.

He has assisted in the constitution of one church, ordination of several ministers and deacons, performed from 75 to 100 baptisms, and many weddings.

Elder Cayce grew up working in the printing office of *The Primitive Baptist* and *For The Poor*, and is the present editor of both papers. He held the elected position of Recorder/Treasurer of Thornton, Ark. for 40 years, only having an opponent two times in all those years.

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### ELDER E. JOHN CEDONIO



A healthy boy was born in a cold and quiet village called Kisante on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of September year 1958. My parents were so poor that I was delivered at home with no doctors and nurses in attendance. Hospitals were miles and miles away.

I attend both grammar and high school in this village. Sometime during my high school days I went with my friends to go swimming in a nearby falls that dropped to a beautiful lake; a friend of mine almost drowned, but with my

swimming skills I was able to save her.

After high school, I earned my way to college by driving a tricycle (this is a motorbike with a side cab that could carry at least 7 passengers). I met my wife, Grace Tabanyag, who was my childhood friend. She was instrumental to my becoming a Christian. She shared with me the gospel and I understood very well how that Jesus Christ came to die in my stead. This was the young lady whom I saved from drowning when we were in high school. She was a member of a Missionary Baptist Church, pastored by her father Elder Ricardo Tabanyag Sr. I was also baptized by this pastor.

The Lord became so real to me that my heart was inspired to serve "Him" in the ministry. After 2 years I became an assistant pastor to a church sponsored by Timberlakes Missionary Baptist Church in U.S.A. Then I heard about the doctrine of grace, which is far different from what I've learned. It tells about election, predestination, and particular redemption. That was in 1992.

My Senior Pastor was so furious and upset that I was excluded from the Missionary Baptist Church. They were so fearful that I would teach this doctrine in their church. My support was also stopped.

Sometime in 1994, my father-in-law, Elder Ric Tabanyag Sr. embraced the doctrine of Primitive Baptist brought by Elders Jeff Harris and Norvel Mann. I also accepted it. I understood how the Lord ordered my life to be conformed to "His" will. He, even by His providence, blessed my friend to become my wife (whom I saved from drowning in the lake). The Lord also blessed my wife and me with a beautiful little girl, whom we named Johana. I continued to serve the Lord in the Primitive Baptist Church. I was baptized by Elder Jeff Harris, assisted by Elder Norvel Mann. I felt I needed more time to study the scripture and to organize my schedule because I was holding a secular job that requires five whole working days.

In 1996 a worker abandoned his flock of two families in Digos City; for he realized that there was no fixed salary for him. The Lord moved me to help them. We held our Sunday Services in a thatched-roof hut under the jackfruit tree; unfortunately the owner of the lot drove us away in the pretext that they needed the lot, so we transferred to a humble chapel by the shoreline.

When my wife worked in New York, she helped finance the construction of this temporary chapel in Digos City. We bought a second-hand pick-up truck to ferry the old and new members to the meeting place. The Lord is so good to us, and my wife came home last February 1999.

I was ordained as an Elder of the Primitive Baptist in March 2000.

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#### **ELDER ALVIN B. CHAMBERS**



WRITTEN BY HIS GRANDSON, ELDER BOYD CHAMBERS: Elder Alvin Benjamin Chambers was born January 13, 1849 in Newton County Missouri. He died November 18, 1929. He moved to Coryell County, Texas about 1869. Joined the Bethlehem Church not long after it was constituted in 1877. He was ordained to the full work of the Ministry in July 1891 by Elders P.M. Lancaster, F.D.L. Koen, M.W. Dumas, J.B. Dumas and Deacons William Kensie, W.M. Lester, Jasper C. Chambers (his father) and Arthur Harley.

Elder Chambers was a very able and active minister. He traveled far and near by horseback or buggy and in later years by Model T. Ford car. He helped to constitute six churches; three are still active today.

He was a father to many young ministers and baptized many into the church in creeks, rivers and stock ponds in a wide area of Central Texas.

After his ordination by the Bethlehem Church, he was called as pastor and served as their pastor until his death.

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**ELDER DARREL CHAMBERS**

WRITTEN BY HIS FATHER, HULEN CHAMBERS: Elder Chambers was born April 21, 1961, to Hulen and Jean Chambers in Marshall County, Alabama. He was the first of three sons born in this family.



Darrel joined Pilgrim's Rest Church at Rainsville, Alabama at the age of nine, being baptized by his uncle, Elder Guy Hunt. He since has been a member of Pine Level Church at Atmore, Alabama, Flint River Church at Huntsville, Alabama and Union Church at Woodville, Alabama. His membership is presently at Union Church where he was ordained and serves as one of the pastors.

Darrel was ordained as a deacon at Flint River Church in 1982 at age 21 and performed those duties until he was ordained to the ministry in April of 1996. From age five, he has shown great interest and concern in spiritual matters and to the church and it's function.

He is married to the former Donna J. Kennamer and they have two daughters, Laura age 15 and Jessica age 13 and one son, Benjamin age 8. All are members of Union Church.

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**ELDER JASPER C. CHAMBERS**



WRITTEN BY HIS GREAT GRANDSON, ELDER BOYD CHAMBERS: Jasper Columbus Chambers was born in Montgomery County, Kentucky, in the year of May 8, 1829 and died November 3, 1922.

He united with the Primitive Baptists in Kentucky some time before moving to Texas in the late 1869. He was in the Constitution of the Bethlehem Church in Coryell County, Texas in June 16, 1877. Ordained to the Ministry in 1897, by Elders R.W. Kirkland, A. B. Chambers (his son), F.D.L. Koen, M.W. Dumas and Deacons W.B.

Hudgspeth, R.B. Hester, A.W. Halley and W.J.D. Bradford.

Elder Jasper C. Chambers was very active in the Church, helping to constitute five other Churches in surrounding Counties, two of which are still active today.

Elder Chambers was a very able Minister even though he could not read or write. He would contend for the Truth that was once delivered to the Saints that by Grace are you Saved, until he died November 3, 1922.

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### ELDER W. J. CHAMBERS

WRITTEN BY ELDER AFTON RICHARDS IN THE "BANNER OF LOVE:" A man known and loved by Primitive Baptists in many states is Elder W. J. Chambers of Lampasas, Texas. Being one of the great evangelists among the Primitive Baptists, he stays on the road a great deal of the time, and goes far and near. He has probably baptized as many people during his ministry as any present day minister among the Primitive Baptists.



At times in the past, he has served as pastor of two churches on one weekend, beginning his preaching on Friday night and preaching two or three sermons each day until Sunday night. He told me once that his regular routine, without any funerals or extra appointments, called for him to preach about twenty sermons a month. This is what I call devoting his full time to the ministry.

In a recent letter he said of himself, "I received a hope in the Lord and joined the church when I was fourteen years of age. It looks like I ought to be a better preacher than I am, but I have done my best.

"My first wife died in May 1924 and I was left with four boys, the oldest eleven and the youngest eighteen months. I have been very poor and unworthy, and I reckon I will be as long as I stay here, but I have much to be thankful for."

About noon of Wednesday, Jan 17, Elder W. J. Chambers died at his home near Lampasas, Texas. He had been in ill health for a number of years

He was the pastor of four churches, Lampasas, Snyder, Florence and Providence near Stephenville.

## ELDER W. T. "BOYD" CHAMBERS

I was born February 18, 1921 in a little farm house 6 miles east of Adamsville, Texas in Lampasas County, the third Son of Elder Jasper and Minnie Chambers.

Tragedy struck early in my life. My precious Mother died when I was only 3 years old. I can't say when I first believed in God and the Lord Jesus Christ. I can remember at the tender age of three, loosing my Mother was an awful feeling. I felt so alone and the only comfort I could get was to go alone into the woods, kneel down and talk to my God and my Mother who I felt surely was in Heaven. This feeling and strong belief in God has never left me.

At the age of 10 years I had the strong urge to preach the Gospel of Christ and I began to study the word of God.

In March 1942 I enlisted in the United States Army and was soon sent over sea to be engaged in battle. In December of 1943 I was wounded and sent back to the States on a hospital ship, arriving back home in March 1944.

It was while I was over Sea that I began to think about my self and what a mess I was making of my life. I was in the Hospital for several months and this gave me a lot of time to think. I thought again of my dear Mother and how much different my life might have been had she lived.



Then, I thought of my father who I was sure had been praying to that same God for the safety of his two sons that were in that awful war.

In 1951, I moved back to Texas and the little town of Florence. This strange feeling to preach the Gospel began to take hold of me again. My father was pastor of the Florence Primitive Baptist Church and I went there from time to time but I was still fighting the call to the ministry and I would not join the Church on that account. Finally, I decided I could join and still not have to preach, so I joined in 1958 feeling very unworthy and still do until this day

In January 1971, I was asked to fill in for the pastor of the Abilene Church, which I did. I filled in again that month and twice in February. In March, the Church called me for pastor. On the fifth weekend in August the Lampasas Church ordained me to the full work of the Gospel Ministry.

I had a great desire to have a Church at Burnet, Texas. Finally, the Lord gave me the proof that I had been looking for, that it was his desire also. In March of 1975, we started having services in a rented building, the service was each 4th Sunday morning.

The Abilene Church extended an arm to Burnet and 8 souls were added to that arm. On March 27, 1976, we constituted the Burnet Primitive Baptist Church and started having service twice a month, the 2nd and 4th Sundays. Soon after we built our new building at Burnet, I resigned the Abilene Church and the Burnet Church started having services every Sunday.

NOTE: Elder Chambers passed from this life in 1999.

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**ELDER MAURICE H. CHAPMAN**



FROM AN OBITUARY IN "GOSPEL WITNESS" WRITTEN BY ELDER JAMES BIBLER: Maurice H. Chapman was born March 16, 1907, to Howard and Bessie German Chapman in Gratiot, Ohio. We were in the same graduating class in the Newark High School, where we received our diplomas in 1925. In 1930, when I was in the state of Georgia, Maurice wrote to me telling of his approaching marriage to Miss Hazel B. Claggett. Their marriage and home proved a blessing and was noted for its hospitality.

Several years had passed away when a complete change came into the life of Brother Maurice; he began to tremble when the gospel was preached by the pastor, Elder Ivan Hindall. Then in August of 1948 he asked for a church home with the Primitive Baptists. He was baptized, then given the right hand of fellowship and was welcomed into the church at Newark, Ohio.

The Newark Church called for the ordination of Brother Chapman to the office of the gospel ministry. In February 1954, Brother Maurice became one of the ordained elders in the Newark Church and was soon asked to be the pastor. He was also called to pastor the Clinton Church, Columbus, Ohio, and the Mt. Pisgah Church.

Elder Chapman traveled in forty-seven states and preached in many of them. He passed away in Florida during a church service.

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**ELDER GRANT C. CHASTAIN**

Elder Chastain, the son of Elder Omer Chastain, was born July 6, 1906, in Washington County, Indiana. He married Opal Blanch Stevenson and joined Lost River Primitive Baptist Church. They had eight children. He was ordained at the age of sixty-one on February 4, 1967 and preached among the churches in southern Indiana. He died on April 4, 1996.



### **ELDER HARVEY O. CHASTAIN**

FROM AN OBITUARY IN "PRIMITIVE MONITOR:" Elder Chastain was the son of Jasper N. and Mary J. (Elkins) Chastain. He was born at Indian Springs, Martin Co., Indiana, on January 12, 1880.

He was ordained on May 28, 1910, and died May 28, 1958. He and Dora McDermed were married on May 30, 1904, and to this union six children were born.

At the time of his death, he was a member of Indian Creek Church and a retired schoolteacher.

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### **ELDER OMER OLIVER CHASTAIN**

FROM "MESSENGER OF PEACE:" I believed in what I was taught pertaining to God as a Creator of the world. I beheld it and knew it was the creation of power and wisdom, yet I felt no reason to fear Him nor be alarmed as to my present condition nor the future. This was my state of mind until I was seventeen, but one night, after retiring in a peaceful state of mind, I began to weep from a feeling sensation of sin. I lay for some time weeping and trying to pray to God to have mercy on me, a poor sinner. This condition continued every night for several nights until I had a great revelation. It was Jesus lifted up, hanging on a cross, paying the price for my sins, for which I have never paid. This brought comfort and peace to my mind and soul.

But it is my only hope - Jesus. It is still in Him, and entereth within the veil; whither the forerunner is entered. It is a sweet hope through grace.

OBITUARY WRITTEN BY ELDER LLOYD CHASTAIN: Elder Omer Chastain, son of John S. and Emma Duncan Chastain was born in Washington County, Indiana, June 11, 1883 and departed this life, October 21, 1970. He was united in marriage to Atta Cornwell. To this union eight children, three daughters and five sons, were born.

In January 1949 a great sorrow came into this home and family when the death angel visited them and called away the beloved wife and mother. He was united in marriage to Eleanor Stark on April 27, 1949 who preceded him in death December 30, 1968.

Elder Omer united with the Primitive Baptist Church at Lost River, June 26, 1906. On November 7, 1914, the church having seen the qualifications of the deaconship manifest in him, ordained him to the office. It soon became apparent however that God had other work for Brother Omer to perform and had given him a great gift to preach the gospel of His sovereign grace. His call to the ministry was especially vivid and forcible, and we can say of him, as the apostle Paul, that he was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but obeying the call of the Master, he submitted to the mind of the church and was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry on the fourth Saturday in May, 1918.

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**ELDER PAUL OSBORN CHASTAIN**

Elder Chastain was born on July 26, 1916 in Washington County, Indiana near Campbellsburg. His father was Elder Omer Chastain. At the age of thirteen, he united with the Lost River Primitive Baptist Church and began speaking before he was twenty. In June of 1938, he was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry. He met Mary Alice Johnson on a preaching appointment in central Indiana, and they were married in November of 1939. They lived a short time in southern Indiana and then an opportunity to move to central Indiana presented itself. This proved to be a blessing to the family as they were able to purchase a small farm in the same community in which his wife had grown up. He was privileged to baptize his wife, and they both became members of Harmony Primitive Baptist Church near Matthews. They had two sons.

Elder Chastain was a true pastor and faithfully served many churches in central and southern Indiana preaching the gospel of our Lord with power and demonstration of the spirit until his death at an early age of forty-seven. He was a very spiritually minded man who loved the Lord, the church, and the children of God among who he labored. He was the moderator of the Lebanon Association from 1950 until his death in November of 1963.

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**ELDER PAUL A. CHILDERS**



Pastor.

Paul A. Childers was born on May 3, 1898, to Dolly Campbell and William Wesley Childers. He married Beatrice Peters on October 3, 1920, and they had three children, J. E., Juanita, and Sue Childers. On September 13, 1930, Brother Childers joined Friendship Church in Ringgold, Georgia, and was baptized. He was ordained as a deacon on September 6, 1938, with Elder Lee Hanks serving as Moderator. On April 13, 1941, Elder Childers was ordained into the full ministry of the gospel by the following presbytery: Elders Roy Mitchell, W. C. McMillan, W. R. Abernathy, and J. W. Dempsey as Moderator. Elder J. W. Dempsey was the Pastor of Friendship Church and Elder Childers served as Assistant

Elder Childers became the Pastor of Friendship Church in 1953. On December 12, 1964, the church called Elder Ralph Howell as Pastor and requested that Elder Childers be an "honorary pastor for as long as he lived." Elder Childers died on January 11, 1970, after a long illness.

### **ELDER W. A. CHILDERS**

Elder Childers was born in North Carolina April 30, 1854. He was first married to Miss Minerva Grant. To them two sons and four daughters were born. His first wife died and he was later married to Miss Sutiza Hall. To them five sons and three daughters were born. Elder Childers first joined the Free-will Baptists but joined the Primitive Baptists before the death of his first wife at Harmony Church, Morgan County, Alabama. He was Pastor of Harmony Church from 1900 till 1926 without a break. He served as moderator of the Mt. Zion Assoc. in the early 1900's and helped to organize Gum Pound at Eva; Alabama, Mt. Vernon at Bailyton, Alabama; and Dripping Springs also in Cullman County, Alabama. He died May 22, 1928.

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### **ELDER EARL JOSHUA CHILDS**

Earl Childs was born February 25, 1907. He passed away October 23, 1984. He was baptized on the first Sunday, June 1937 by the Mizpah Church of Pelham, Georgia, of the Flint River Association. Elder T. J. Davis baptized him.

Elder Childs was ordained to the ministry on the first Saturday in June 1940 by the Mizpah Church.

He married Eliah Blanch Sellers December 22, 1929. Their children are; Elwyn H. Childs, who married Yvonne, and Elder Max Childs, who married Carolyn.

Elder Childs pastored 8 different churches. He pastored Mizpah for 42 years, Prosperity for 37 years, Poplar Springs for 15 years and other churches from 1 to 10 years. He baptized 515, ordained 47 ministers and deacons, and married 485 couples.

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### **ELDER PAUL CHRISTENSEN**



Allen Paul Christensen was born in Ray County near Excelsior Springs, MO, July 14, 1922, the son of Henry and Alice (Smith) Christensen. He was the 6th of 7 children born in this family. In November of 1942 he was called to serve in the U.S. Army Air force and did so until February 1946, when he was honorably discharged. When he was 21 years old he married his high school sweetheart Vivian Lorraine O'Dell on May 27, 1942, in Reno, Nevada, and have been married for 48 years. They were blessed with one son, Brian Paul Christensen.

Paul was reared in a Primitive Baptist home. His father served as deacon at the New Garden Church,

located near Excelsior Springs, for several years. During his early years he did not feel a drawing to attend church on a regular basis. That later changed. In June 1959, both he and his wife were baptized into the New Garden Church. Shortly thereafter, the church called for his ordination to the office of deacon, which took place on July 31, 1960. Over the next few years the church recognized he possessed a gift to preach the word of God. On September 30, 1963, at the request of New Garden Church, he was ordained by a presbytery to the full work of the Gospel Ministry. In January 1964, he was appointed pastor of New Garden Church when Elder Hugh Hall, then pastor, moved to Alabama. He remains the pastor to this day. During his ministry he has also preached for or pastored the following churches, Pleasant Grove Church in Independence, MO; Big Rock Church in Versailles, MO; Pleasant Hill Church in Plattsburg, MO; and Sardis Church in Leeton, MO.

Elder Christianson was called home by an all-wise and merciful Heavenly Father on May 6, 1993.

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#### **ELDER A. J. CHRISTOPHER**



Elder A. J. "Andy" Christopher was born July 19, 1871 in Estill County, Kentucky, and died Jan. 3, 1942 in Madison County, Ky. He joined Liberty Church in Estill County before he married on December 19, 1919. He was ordained to the ministry in the early 1920's. He never pastored a church, but his home church was sometimes without a pastor, and he acted in that capacity during those periods. He traveled among the churches in Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio.

Elder Christopher had 18 children and one step-daughter. His first wife died when their baby died at nine months old from tuberculosis. His second wife died leaving eight children surviving her. Three children died before her and a 4-months baby died a month later. He had seven children at home when he married his third wife, Ella Alexander, who had a daughter. They had seven more children. Ella died in 1986, having raised six children by herself, believing that God would take care of her and the children. She loved to entertain Old Baptists and her door was always open for them.

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#### **ELDER ISAIAH J. CLABAUGH**

WRITTEN IN "THE GOSPEL MESSENGER" BY ELDER R. A. OLIPHANT: Was born November 18, 1844, in Hancock County, Ohio; died September 29, 1905. He was married March 4, 1866, to Miss Nancy E. Beebe. To this union seven children were born. Sister Clabaugh died August 22, 1882, and on May 7, 1885, he was married to Miss Anise Hinote. To them five children were born.

Elder Clabaugh obtained a hope in Christ, and in the year 1860 united with the Primitive Baptists of Friendship Church, in Knox County, Ill. Having moved to the State of Nebraska, he united with the Blue River Church of Page County, where, on May 10, 1873, ho was ordained to the work of the ministry. He, soon after, moved to the State of Missouri, and united with the Rock Creek Church, in Worth County, of which he has been a member and faithful pastor for nearly twenty-nine years. In his ministry he knew nothing but Christ for salvation, and, thank God, was content to walk in the old paths, and did not pamper to public sentiment, nor seek to compromise the Old Baptists with the popular will. Elder Clabaugh was a deep thinker, an able and lovely writer, and at his death was on the editorial staff of the *Banner of Peace*, published at Graham, Texas.

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**ELDER LLOYD CLAPP**

I was born February 26, 1915 near Birds, Illinois in Crawford County, a son of Thomas and Cora Clapp.

I joined the church at Willow Hill, Illinois during the last few sessions of the Central Association, in Sept. 1935. I asked to be a member of a little church at Alma, Ill. I was baptized in November by Elder N. F. Graves, and was liberated at this church in August of 1936 (Liberty Church).

In August 1936, I married the oldest daughter of Elder Graves. Norma had joined the church at Alma in May 1931.

When the New Liberty Church of Champaign, Illinois was constituted in June of 1941, I was one of the 15 charter members. I was ordained the 5th Sunday in October 1943.

I have pastored the New Liberty Church of Champaign, Ill. since the death of Elder Graves in May 1944. I also pastored Old Hopewell, near Covington, Indiana until it had no members to go on. I also pastored New Hope Church at Hinsboro, Ill. for a few years. At present, I am pastoring Lick Creek Church near Carrel, Ill. on the 4th weekends, and on 2nd weekends I pastor the Recognized Salem Church that meets in the Crossville meeting house in Crossville, Ill. I am pastor here at New Liberty with Elder Williams as Assistant, on the 1st and 3rd weekends.

We have four children, Carolyn, Nancy, Thomas, and Marilyn.

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**ELDER CHARLES CLARK**



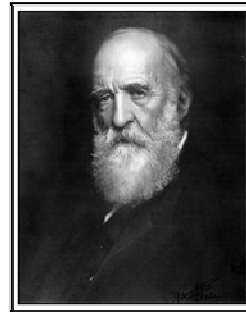
Elder Clark was born and raised in California. He joined the First Primitive Baptist Church of Santa Paula, California in March of 1974. He was ordained as a deacon in October of 1982, and was ordained an Elder in March of 1997.

Elder Clark serves as pastor of the First Primitive Baptist Church of Santa Paula, California. He is married and has two grown children.

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**ELDER JOHN CLARK**

John Clark was born in Gilboa, Schoharie County, New York on March 9, 1838, the youngest son of Reuben and Eliz Wright Clark. On his twenty-fourth birthday, 1863, he was married to Jennie E. Hannah who died in 1875.



On October 22, 1876, Mr. Clark married Julia M. Webb.

Eld. Clark was licensed in September, 1880, to preach in the Church at Gilboa, Schoharie County. He was ordained in June 1884, serving the Gilboa, Second Roxbury, Schoharie, Middleburg, Olive, and Hurley Churches. Elder Clark became a church member when twenty-six years old, but did not become a minister until over forty, his labors being, however, none the less effective.

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**ELDER STEVE CLARK**



Elder Stephen D. Clark was born March 4, 1948 in Stamford, Texas, son of Charles and Dorothy Clark. After spending his childhood in Sagerton, Texas, he enlisted for four years in the Air Force. In March 1972, Bro. Steve married Donna Fleming, daughter of Adele Fleming and the late Don L. Fleming. Elder Clark graduated from the University of Houston in 1976 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Technology. Bro. and Sis. Clark have one son, Shawn.

Elder Dan Newman baptized Bro. Clark in 1987

when he joined Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church of Dallas. In 1990, Bro. and Sis. Clark moved their membership to Median Chapel PBC, Graham, Texas. When they moved to Webster, Texas, in 1998, they moved their membership to Gulf Coast PBC.

Elder Clark was ordained to the full work of the ministry at Gulf Coast PBC in Alvin, Texas, on November 11, 2000. At his ordination, Elder John Horner of Nacogdoches, Texas, questioned him, and Elder Sonny Pyles of Graham, Texas, delivered the charge.

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**ELDER WILLIAM HERMAN CLARK**



William Herman Clark was born December 24, 1942 near Iuka, Mississippi, the son of William Harvey and Shirley Clark.

On August 21, 1963, he was married to Martha DePoyster of Prentiss County Mississippi. His firstborn son, Dwight Dion lived only five days. The Lord blessed them with another son, Christopher Shawn Clark.

Elder Clark cannot remember any time in his life that he did not love the Lord. He was taught by his father to always be honest, to do the best he could in any undertaking, and the value of working, and not to be slothful. However, during all these years he felt in his heart that something was not right. He knew that he sinned every day and lived in fear of eternal hell. It was after his marriage to Martha that he began to attend the Primitive Baptist Church with his Father-in-law. He laughed at the things he heard preached but it was not long until the laughter ceased, and the songs, which were sung in the minor key and the preaching, began to have an effect in his heart. Many Sundays he would leave the Church heavily burdened to submit himself for baptism. He united with Little Flock Church, Burnsville, Mississippi, and after a few months began to exercise and later was ordained on November 13, 1976. Elder Clark served as pastor of Little Flock Church after the death of his father in the gospel, Elder Quitman DePoyster. He served as Pastor of New Hope Church, Booneville, MS, Greenwood Church, Greenwood, MS, Bethel Church, Bruce, MS, Old Enon Church, Middleton, TN, Blooming Grove Church, Dresden, TN, and is at present the pastor of Mt. Moriah Church, Possum Trot, KY.<sup>7</sup>

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**ELDER COY RAY CLAYTON**

Elder Coy Clayton was born on April 26, 1915, and was united with Salem Church in Madisonville, Kentucky, pastored by Elder J. D. Shain, in the spring of 1933. He married Miss Thelma Moore on December 24, 1951, who bore him two sons. Elder Clayton was ordained to the ministry on April 15, 1951 at Barker Avenue Church at Evansville, Indiana.



ELDER CLAYTON WRITES: When I was a small child we went to Antioch Church in a buggy or a two-horse wagon--the first church of my memory. My father being a tenant farmer, we moved to many places all over Hopkins County. I was born in a log house and I lived in at least two other log houses.

When I came under conviction at twelve we lived near Hanson. I know by experience that the Lord is gentle with children. I knew at 12 that I was that sinner, and I was a mourner. Suddenly I remembered what Jesus said, "Blessed are they that mourn," and I had found my resting place. Later, we lived in Madisonville near the church on Kentucky Avenue, and I united then with my sister Irma.

Most of my ministry has been in Kentucky and Indiana. I have served as pastor at Antioch near Hanson, in Louisville, Kentucky; at Barker Avenue in Evansville, Indiana; and at Old Beech Church in Posey County, Indiana.

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#### ELDER J. T. CLAYTON

FROM "THE GOSPEL MESSENGER" WRITTEN BY A. C. CLAYTON: Elder John T. Clayton was born November 11, 1854, and passed away September 16, 1910.

At the age of twenty-four, on the first Sunday in September, 1878, he united with the Primitive Baptist Church at Valley Grove, Tallapoosa County, Ala. On the first Sunday in March 1881, his church liberated him to preach. In 1884, the church at Union, Russell County, Ala., called for his ordination, and he was ordained to the full work of the ministry in August of that year. The officiating presbytery was composed of Elders John Rowe, N. M. Cook, and W. Lively.

He served the following churches as pastor: Union, Russell County, Ala.; Mt. Gilead, Lee County, Ala., Harmony, Harris County, Ga., and Bethlehem, Macon County, Ala.

He was married December 2, 1875, to Susan Ella Jones of Pike County, Ga. To this union seven boys and five girls were born.



### **ELDER W. A. CLAYTON**

Elder William Alva Clayton was born in Missouri, March 25, 1894 and died at Malvern, Ark., March 10, 1971. He joined the church at age 17 and began declaring our Lord's goodness soon thereafter. He was ordained in 1931 at Salem church near Damascus, Ark. Elder Clayton served Friendship Church, near Rosston, Ark., from 1942 until his death. He also served Mt. Zion Church in Texarkana.

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### **ELDER JERRY CLEBURN**

Brother Cleburn was born on June 1, 1930.

He was licensed to preach for the Southern Baptists in Monticello, Utah in 1958. His searching for the truth did not take long as in 1960 he joined the Old Baptist Church.

He came back to the Houston area and in 1966 he was ordained an Old Baptist Minister in Baytown, Texas. Since his ordination he has served the following churches as pastor: Texas City for 17 years, Stratton Ridge, Angleton, Bethel in Houston, and Houston Primitive Baptist. He stepped down as pastor of Houston Church in 1999.

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### **ELDER J. D. CLEEK**

It was during the great depression on April 18, 1935 that I was born to the union of Robert Dane and Sallie Lou Rutledge Cleek in Sullivan County at Kingsport Tenn. I was the youngest of five children, three boys and two girls.

On April 28, 1955 at the age of 20 I had a very deep experience in grace that turned my life upside down. From that time on I had very little desire for anything but church. Unfortunately I was raised Arminian and for about twelve to fifteen years after I had the experience in grace I only had enough salvation to spend as much time being miserable as I was glad due to the dissatisfaction of the practices of the churches I attended. I would read in the Bible how churches were supposed to conduct themselves but there was little comparison between what the Bible taught and what those churches practiced.

At age twenty-one I met a very beautiful young lady named Cleo Faye Mullins who also came from a very large family. On March 28, 1959 at Weber City, Virginia she became Mrs. J. D. Cleek and later blessed me with three very handsome sons.

About 1967 while living in Greensboro, N. C., I met a man whose questions just about affected me as much as the experience in grace I had in 1955. This brother asked me if I believed once in grace always in grace. I answered, absolutely. He then asked me if I believed that Christ died

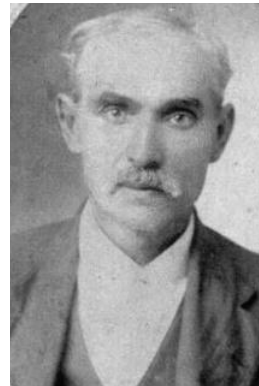


for every man. Again I answered in the affirmative. He then asked me if Christ died for every man, and if some of them he died for perishes in hell, would it not be a logical conclusion to believe that those who die in hell, die there either because Satan snatched them away, or else Christ did not die for them. Again I agreed with him that, that would be a logical conclusion. He then asked me that since Christ died for all men and since Satan had snatched some of them away, then where was my eternal security since I was trusting in the same thing that those who perish in hell were trusting. Never in my life was I ever confronted with such a soul-searching question. For about two weeks any available minute that I had for concentration was spent trying to answer that soul-searching question. After about two weeks I saw the condition of an unregenerated man. Up to that time I had always thought of total depravity only in Adam's sin. When I saw the condition of the unregenerate my hair stood on end. I saw the unregenerate not only to be sinners but also dead sinners. After that, the hated doctrines of election and predestination came very easy to believe. I left the Arminian order, and after about a year or so I found the Old Baptist Church, and it is the church of Christ, or else there is not one.

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**ELDER C.A. CLEMMONS**

FROM PERSONAL AND FRIENDSHIP CHURCH MINUTES SUBMITTED: FEBRUARY 12, 2000: Charlie A. Clemons was born in a valley known as Redwine's Cove located southwest of Dalton, Whitfield County, Georgia. Little is known of his life until mention of attending Friendship Church in Ringgold, Catoosa County, Georgia, as recorded in their church minutes. On November 22, 1902, Brother Clemons moved his letter from Mellville Church to Friendship. His wife Lula Clemons was baptized at this time. While in conference on July 17, 1908, the church called for the ordination of Brother Clemons.



On November 7, 1908, Friendship Church called Elder C. A. Clemons as their Pastor to follow Elder B. R. Bray. Elder Clemons was also active in Harmony Church in Calhoun, Georgia, and helped constitute Corinth Church in Dalton, Georgia, on September 29, 1917. He faithfully served as Pastor of Friendship Church until January 8, 1921, when he was followed by Elder J. W. Dempsey. He died in May 1938 and is buried in the cemetery next to the church.



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**ELDER KENNETH WAYNE CLEVINGER**

Elder Clevenger, of Cameron, Missouri, son of Jewell S. and Alma F. (O'Dell) Clevenger, was born in Excelsior

Springs, Missouri, March 3, 1930, the first born of five children. He received his formal education at Cleveland Chiropractic College, Kansas City, Missouri, where he received his doctorate in Chiropractic in 1959.

He married Shirley Jean Jeude of Wellington, Missouri, June 7, 1950, and they have two children. Dr. Clevenger opened his practice at Cameron in July 1959 and practiced there for thirty-six years where he served on a number of boards and two years as mayor.

Brother Kenneth was brought up in a Primitive Baptist home and can't remember ever believing anything else but salvation by grace. Sister Shirley was brought up in a Missionary Baptist environment, however, soon after she started attending the Primitive Baptist Church was blessed to see the truth and in July 1964 they both joined Old New Garden Church near Excelsior Springs, Missouri. They were baptized by Elder Loyd Bryant, Brother Kenneth's cousin.

Brother Kenneth began exercising soon after joining the church, making his first effort at Log Creek Church near Polo, Missouri, and was ordained at Old New Garden the fifth Sunday in October 1966. Elder Leon H. Clevenger, his pastor and distant cousin, preached the charge to him, Sister Shirley and the church.

Elder Kenneth has served as pastor of Big Piney Bethel Primitive Baptist Church, Rolla, Missouri; Brush Creek Church, Goldsberry, Missouri; Clear Creek Church, Fairview, Missouri; First Nodaway Church, Savannah, Missouri; Council Bluffs Church, Loveland, Iowa; and co-pastor of Old New Garden. At the time of this sketch he was serving Brush Creek and Clear Creek Churches, also keeping a regular monthly appointment at the Kansas City Church.

He is the editor and publisher of *The Old Path Contender*, a quarterly old line Primitive Baptist publication. He has also written numerous articles, which have been published in many of the Primitive Baptist papers over the years.

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#### ELDER LEON H. CLEVINGER



IN 1970, ELDER CLEVINGER WROTE THIS SKETCH OF HIS LIFE. "I was born in Cherokee County Kansas, March 14, 1880, and was reared to manhood in Ray County, Mo., near Excelsior Springs. I was married to Mattie M. O'Dell, a granddaughter of Elder Isaac O'Dell, in 1897. Ever since I can remember,

I have had strange thoughts of things beyond this world.

"I was deeply convicted of my sinfulness at the age of thirteen, and given a precious hope in the mercies of my Saviour. I then joined the Missionary Baptists, continuing with them until I was seventeen. As I studied my Bible, I found that I did not agree with them on the plan of salvation, and finding that New Garden Primitive Baptist Church preachers preached a doctrine that fitted my experience, I joined them, and my wife did, also. We were baptized by their beloved pastor, Elder Allen Sisk, in April 1897.

"I, with my little family, moved to Kansas City, Mo. early in 1906, and we put our church letters into Mt. Vernon Church there. I had had serious reflections on the responsibility of preaching the gospel since my earliest religious impressions. Elder Wm. T. Brown, the pastor of Mt. Vernon Church became interested in my meditations and through his invitations, I began speaking in the pulpit.

"Sometime in 1910, I was called to the care of Palestine Church near Kansas City, and they requested Mt. Vernon Church to ordain me in 1911. Mt. Vernon Church ordained me to the full work of the ministry in May 1911. Soon all my Sundays were in church services, and other churches called me to their care.

"I began writing for our Primitive Baptist papers, and that perhaps caused me to receive invitations in other states, and I have had many appointments in various parts of the U.S. I have filled such appointments in 27 different states."

NOTE: Elder Clevenger passed from this life on January 10, 1980 two months shy of his 100th birthday. He preached the gospel for over seventy years. As well as preaching, he was an accomplished writer of Christian articles, writing for several Baptist publications. He was also known as a songwriter. His songs "Counsel" and "Traveler" are well loved.

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#### **ELDER NORMAN CLEVINGER**



Elder Norman Clevenger was born on December 1, 1933, the third child of Jewell and Alma (O'Dell) Clevenger in Lexington, Missouri. His parents joined Old New Garden Church, located in Ray County, Missouri, in 1947. In 1954, Elder Clevenger was united in marriage to Donna Mary Simmerman of Lexington, Missouri. They were married nearly 44 years. To this union two children were born, Norman L. Clevenger Jr. and Crystal Cathleen Clevenger. Elder and Sister Clevenger joined Old New Garden Church in October 1965 and were baptized by Elder Lloyd Bryant, who also performed their marriage ceremony.

Elder Clevenger was ordained the fifth Sunday of May 1970, by Old New Garden Church. He was called to be a joint pastor in March 1970 upon ordination, having been joint pastor, co-pastor and at present pastor of the church.

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**ELDER EPPIE NETUS CLIFTON**

FROM AN OBITUARY IN THE "PRIMITIVE BAPTIST," WRITTEN BY HIS WIFE: Elder Clifton was born October 6, 1885 and departed this life on July 25, 1956. He was married to Melissia Honeycutt on August 2, 1908. To this union six children were born. His wife passed away July 23, 1928. In 1929, he married Elizabeth Byrd. To this union four children were born.

Brother Clifton joined the Primitive Baptist Church at Coats, N. C., in October 1923. Some years later, he was ordained as a minister. He was unable to fill his appointments for several years before he passed away. For a few years, he prayed to live and get well, but in his last days he said that he was ready to meet his Saviour.

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**ELDER WILLIAM TAYLOR CLIFTON**

WRITTEN BY HIS DAUGHTER, RHODA KEMP: Elder Clifton was born on September 20, 1899. He married Lizzie Ruth Cochran in 1922, and fathered six living children. Elder Clifton joined Dan River Church in Vesta, VA September 27, 1936. His wife followed in

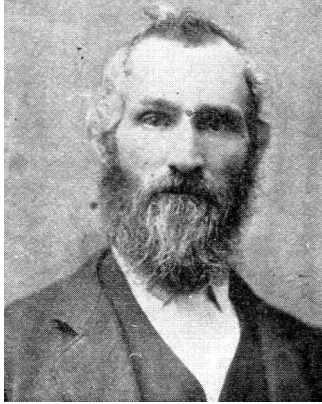


1939. They moved their membership to Indian Creek in Floyd County in April 1949 for the purpose of sending all arm to establish a church in Roanoke, VA. Mt. Olive Church in Roanoke was organized May 24, 1947. Elder Clifton was given liberty to speak at Mt. Olive Church on December 2, 1950. He was ordained October 30, 1954. Elder Clifton was chosen assistant moderator at New Hope Church in Carroll County in May 1954, joint moderator with Elder Nester at Panther Creek Church (later Green Hill Memorial Church) in August 1955. He was chosen joint moderator with Elder Jethroe Harris at Mt. Olive Church in December 1956, and served as moderator for several years after Elder Harris resigned. Elder Clifton and his wife were members at Puckett Memorial at the time of

his death December 21, 1982 at the age of 82.

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**ELDER JACOB CLOUD**



FROM "THE GOSPEL MESSENGER" WRITTEN BY ELDER S. F. MOORE: Elder Jacob Cloud was born in Clairborne County, Tennessee, on July 16, 1833, and immigrated with his parents to Southwest Missouri in 1852, and was united in marriage with Miss E. C. Bullard on December 3, 1854. Of their union five children were born, two sons and three daughters. His wife died on December 27, 1864, leaving him with five small children, and on May 31, 1866, he was married to Mrs. M. J. Bullard, who died June 21, 1910.

Brother Cloud received a precious hope in Jesus Christ, in December 1853, and united with the Primitive Baptist Church and was baptized January 1, 1854 (the ice was cut for his baptism). He was ordained to the full liberties of the ministry in 1877 and has had the care of churches ever since until recent years, when the afflictions of old age prevented him.

Brother Cloud died on July 4, 1912.

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#### **ELDER ANDREW JACKSON COALE, SR.**

On May 1, 1847, Robert S. and Hannah (Martin) Coale, became the parents of a son in Wellsville, Ohio. They named this son Andrew Jackson Coale.

Early in life, Brother Coale joined Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church near Crossville, Illinois. With no spiritual satisfaction, he left this church and joined Mount Pleasant Primitive Baptist Church near Burnt Prairie, Illinois in 1872. The church began using Brother Coale in public speaking in 1874 and selected him as a deacon in 1881. On the fourth Sunday in February 1887, Mt. Pleasant Church ordained him to the full work of the ministry and he served as pastor of that church until his death on July 9, 1929. Elder Stephen Williams was the moderator of the presbytery that ordained Brother Coale.

Elder Coale fulfilled his responsibilities as pastor of other churches: Pleasant Union at Centerville, Illinois and Little Zion near Enfield, Illinois.

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#### **ELDER CHALMUS L. COCHRAN**

WRITTEN BY ELDERS ROY E. SPEIR AND JOE F. HILDRETH: Elder Cochran, a devoted member of the church at Utoy, departed from us on November 30, 1966, in Thomasville, Georgia, where he had lived for several years. His body was returned to Atlanta where funeral services were conducted by Elders Roy E. Speir and Joe F. Hildreth.

Brother Cochran was born February 17, 1892, in Haralson County, Georgia. He was at one time clerk of Utoy Church having been baptized into the church in a creek near the church house on Sunday morning at 10:00, July 2, 1911, by Elder W. H. Smith.

Brother Cochran moved his membership to Bethlehem Church, Durand, Georgia, in 1937. Here he was ordained to the full work of the ministry. He returned to Utoy in 1955 remaining a loyal member until his death. Most of that time he lived in Thomasville, Ga. but he never failed to write the church every month and forward a liberal donation.

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**ELDER ROY COKER**

I was born April 14, 1930 to John Marshal and Mollie Thompson Coker in Marshall County near Arab, Alabama. I was married to Clodene V. Hyatt on Nov. 5th, 1948 by Elder J.A. Monsees. We are blessed with two children Kenneth Roy and Kathy Teresa.

I united with Rocky Mount Church at the Mt. Zion Association the Saturday before the second Sunday in September 1949 and was baptized on Sunday morning following by Elder H. P. Copeland.

We moved to Birmingham in 1949 and were charter members of Center Point Church, which was constituted on July 31, 1966.

Rocky Mt. Church liberated me and Center Point Church called for a Presbytery for my ordination on July 30, 1967.

I have been Pastor or assistant Pastor since my ordination except for about a year at Center Point Church. I pastored Beulah Church at Leeds, Alabama, for approximately 20 yrs.

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**ELDER JOHN S. COLE**

I was born February 7, 1877 of Daniel F. Cole and Amanda Waters Cole at Nicholls, Ga. I was the third of a family of twelve.

On the 19th day of February 1899, I was married to Miss Pearl Smith of Homerville, Georgia. To this union there were five children born. As I am approaching the 85th milestone of my life, now I can look back over the past years of my ministry and say that I stood for peace in Zion.

NOTE: Elder Cole passed from this life on February 26, 1966.

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## ELDER RICHARD COLE

FROM "THE BAPTIST TRUMPET" OCTOBER 25, 1928: I was born December 13, 1875 in Caldwell, County, Texas near the place I now live. I am the son of J. J. and M. E. Cole; oldest of ten boys and three girls except one sister older. I grew up as most boys do in the country. Received a common school education; at the age of 24 I left home to do for myself. I chose blacksmithing for my trade and worked for sometime with an experienced workman, then set up for myself. I drifted into bad company, and took up many bad habits, drinking, gambling and etc. I went from bad to worse.

At the age of 27 something came over me; I have never fully understood what it was; but I thought at the time that it was because that I had gone so far in sin and so degraded myself that I was beneath all people. So I separated myself from all society of all kind. I labored under this for two years. I began to have thoughts of death and of the future; how that thought weighted me down. When I had given up all hope and began to think I would not live long, while in this burdensome condition, I was making a trip from Williamson County where my father lived with others in a two-horse wagon. About four miles south of Georgetown on the Austin road, while this burden of sin and guilt was heavy on my mind, these words came to me; I heard no voice, but the words seemed to be impressed on my mind and soul--"Jesus Christ is your Savior." This brought instant relief to me and filled my soul with joy such as I have never been able to describe. I well remember the first words I spoke after this, "I will not use the Lord's name in vain again."

On Saturday before the third Sunday in September, 1902, at the age of 29 years, I went to Bethel Church and told them a part of what I have written and was received and baptized by Elder A. A. Culpepper. I greatly enjoyed my church privileges for several years. I read the Bible constantly and loved to talk about it and even disputed with people that disagreed with me about it. Soon I began to be impressed to speak in public, I cannot tell the feeling this caused, but just felt I could not possible do it. So I tried to put the impression off and get away from it.

January 5, 1905 I was married to Miss Sulie Jeffrey. My impressions to speak in his name got heavier, more burdensome to bear alone. After laboring under this burden for sometime I made an effort and it pleased the Lord to bless me to talk, greatly to the relief of my mind. I was liberated to exercise my gift in 1907; ordained to the full work of the ministry in May, 1910 by Elders J.W. Shook, A. A. Culpepper, G. W. White, J. W. Baker and thirteen deacons.

I have been a member of Bethel Church 25 years and have not missed but one Conference Meeting when I was well enough to get there. I have been through two divisions in Bethel Church and truly hope I will not see another. I am for peace among God's people and the reuniting of all of them that believe the same doctrine and practice. I stand for peace on gospel principles. If I can't have peace that way then I am for war. I am against all worldly institutions being brought in the church of God secret or otherwise, believing the church to be not of the world; believing her to be the bride of Christ, leaning upon him for support, both for time and eternity.



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**ELDER SAM "SAMMY" COLEMAN**



SUBMITTED BY HIS LOVING WIFE OF 32 YEARS: Elder Coleman was born October 19, 1945 in Stuart, Virginia to Sam and Gladys Coleman. He married Shirley Stowe on July 11, 1964. This union brought two sons, Michael, born October 23, 1977, and David, who was born June 15, 1982. He was a deacon with the missionary Baptists before being enlightened to the Doctrine of Grace and uniting with the Primitive Baptist church in June 1975. He was a charter member of Grace Primitive Baptist Church in Stoneville, NC, which was constituted in 1975.

Elder Coleman asked for liberty to begin speaking in June of 1977. Then in July 1979, he was ordained to the full work of the ministry by his home church. Elder Coleman was also blessed with a gift of writing and contributed many articles to the *Christian Baptist* during the early 1980's. He has pastored Martinsville Primitive Baptist Church in Martinsville, VA and was the pastor of Spoon Creek Primitive Baptist Church in Patrick County, VA at the time of his death, which was caused by complications with cancer.

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**ELDER THOMAS R. COLLIER**



WRITTEN BY ORDER OF THE MT. OLIVE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH, ST. HELENS, OREGON: Elder Collier was born October 2, 1907 in Normangee, Texas and was orphaned at the age of four. His grandmother first instructed him in the scriptures and by the young age of nineteen he began to exercise. Elder Collier was ordained into the ministry at the age of twenty-four on July 12, 1931 by Mt. Zion Church in Normangee, Texas.

He was married to Sister Lorene Barber on December 25, 1928 and they raised four children, three daughters and one son. In 1943 he served his country as a depot clerk at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He returned to Texas after the war and began serving several church bodies, including assisting with the organization of a new church in Tyler, Texas.

The Lord motivated him to move to Oregon in 1957. He moved his family from Texas strictly on his faith and trust that the Lord would provide employment with the Carnation Dairy in Portland, Oregon, which he retired in 1972.

The Lord also led him to the church. He found a small flock meeting in Portland, but also discovered several children of God in the St. Helens area needing guidance and a minister to feed them. In April 1960 Mt. Olive Church was organized with twelve charter members who called Elder Collier as pastor. He served faithfully for thirty-one years, also feeding a small flock in Milton-Freewater, Oregon. Typical of Primitive Baptist ministers, he drove the four-hour journey faithfully every month for as long as his health would allow. By 1991, he succumbed to failing health and was no longer able to preach.

After the death of Sister Collier, Elder Collier was united in marriage to Sister Emmy Griffin. The church shared in their celebration of marriage on Jan. 14, 1973.

Elder Collier was called home by the God he loved and faithfully served on Nov. 27, 1993 in Hillsboro, Oregon.

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### ELDER H. L. COLLINGS

FROM "A TRIBUTE TO ELDER COLLINGS," WRITTEN BY OLAN WILSON, WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS, IN THE "BANNER OF LOVE" NOVEMBER 1981: Eld. H. L. Collings is buried in old Mt. Peak cemetery west of Waxahachie, Texas. His home at the time of his death, I believe, was in Oklahoma. He was visiting Mt. Peak Church when he became ill, and like a soldier fallen in battle, he was buried in the field where he fell.



He seemed to know his time was come even before we were aware that he had more than a mild upset. I remember him saying to my brother and me, "Boys, I think I have preached my last sermon." As his condition worsened and his sons and daughters gathered at his bedside in their grief, we knew that our loss was equal in every respect to theirs, as is spoken of Abraham. We are his children after the faith.

Now a modest stone dated Nov. 1941 marks his final resting place.

What a blessing that this great man has been a part of my life.

FROM ELDER AFTON RICHARDS-- I too cherish the memories of this great man. He was my pastor at one time. He had such a brilliant mind, and a keen understanding of the truth, and, like the Apostle Paul, a zeal unsurpassed by any.

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**ELDER ROBERT WILSON COLLINS**

I was born September 30, 1946 in Northwest Alabama. I was raised among a different people than Primitive Baptists but never had any desire to join them. Through God's providence I met my dear wife whose family were members of the Elgin Crossroads Church, Elgin Alabama. Once I was able to understand the message of the gospel I believed it. I joined the church there and was baptized in September of 1967 by Elder L.V. Goodman. I soon began preaching the truths I had found so precious and was ordained to the ministry in April of 1972. I have pastored six churches: Elgin Crossroads, Hurricane Springs, Sweetgum Flat, and Mars Hill (all in Northwest Alabama), and Desert Hope (in Bloomfield, New Mexico). Currently I am the pastor of Sulphur Springs Church near Aberdeen, Mississippi and have preached in eighteen states.

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**ELDER JAMES L. COMPTON**

Elder James L. Compton was born on February 18, 1905, in Iredel County, North Carolina. His parents were James Garfield Compton and May Henry Compton.



Both Brother and Sister Compton united with Columbia Church (near Silver Springs, MD) during the Ketockton Association and were baptized by Elder T. E. Majors on the first Sunday in September 1957. Brother Compton was ordained as a deacon in Columbia Church on the 3rd weekend in July 1958.

Having felt the burden to speak in the Master's name, he began exercising in 1964. His first attempt to speak in a preaching way was at Needmore Church, Needmore, PA. His text was the 23rd Psalm. He was liberated shortly thereafter and began to fill appointments as he was invited to other places.

Columbia Church called for his ordination (along with Brother Tommy Alderton) and he was ordained on Saturday before the 3rd weekend in July 1967. The presbytery was composed of Elders T. E. Majors, Troy Edwards, F. E. Thompson, J. Harvey Daily, W. G. Fletcher, Emory Alderton, W. E. Balir, Phillip Johnson, and several others.

He began his first pastorate at Landmark Church -who had called for his services - (Old London Tract Church) from the time of his ordination until July of 1978. Later he was called to serve Columbia Church.

During the time spent in the ministry, he has traveled quite extensively and has preached in more than 20 states.

After a few years on the farm in North Carolina, Jim Compton traveled to Washington, D. C., where he became employed as a repairman in a jewelry store. (He can relate many stories how he and his brother learned the skill of watch and clock repairs --mostly by their own initiative and self-taught experience). Shortly after he became settled down on his job, he was married to Miss Becie Loren Beaver in the state of North Carolina on the 28th of December, 1927. They immediately moved to Washington to live. They were blessed to raise four fine children.

After a short tenure as jeweler, salesman, and manager in the shop where Brother Compton worked (and a brother in the flesh) they bought out the owner and went into business for themselves. Through lots of hard work, caring for some government agency's clocks, the Compton Brothers built their business up to be one of the most dependable and trusted watchmakers in Washington. Their business, which is located very near the White House, brought them in contact with many of the politicians and military officials and came to be the trusted advisors of their trade.

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#### **ELDER A. J. CONLEE**

Elder Conlee was born September 8, 1864, in Morgan County near Jacksonville, Illinois. His parents, Whitfield and Sarah A. Conlee, were Primitive Baptists as were five of his sisters and two of his brothers. His father was also an Elder.

In 1885, he was married to Miss Emma E. Campbell and to this union four sons and one daughter were born. After spending over twenty years in rebellion, trying to rid his mind of all desires to preach, he was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry in June 1907. He served four churches.

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#### **ELDER JOHN CONLEY**



Elder John Claude Conley was born November 21, 1951 in Odessa, Texas, to Ralph and Wanda Eldora Lincoln Conley. He passed from this life on November 25, 2000, in Jackson, Mississippi, after a courageous battle with cancer.

John was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He married the former Debbie Chappell on April 28, 1973. To this union was born two sons, Philip and James and one daughter, Sarah.

He was ordained to the ministry by the Primitive Baptist Church in Midland, Texas in July 1978. He had pastored at Salida Church in Salida, California from 1979 until 1991, and at Middleton Creek Church in Meadville, Mississippi from 1991 until his death.

Brother John was a well-loved minister and was respected across the country.

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**ELDER J. B. CONNER**

Elder Conner was born on August 26, 1923 and passed from this life on August 30, 1998.

Elder Conner united with the Conner's View Primitive Baptist Church, Meadows of Dan, VA, April 1957 and was baptized May 1957. He started his ministry in 1972 and was ordained November 9, 1974.

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**ELDER W. MATT CONNER**



Elder Conner was born on June 8, 1883 and passed from this life on April 30, 1942. He was moderator of Conner's View Primitive Baptist Church, Meadows of Dan VA, 1930 - 1942

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**ELDER CLEM EDWARD COOK**

I was born in Kiowa County Oklahoma, May 14, 1929, the first child of Lonzo (Lon) and Maybelle Cook.

I first attended a Primitive Baptist meeting in 1939. Elder O. V. Ray spoke of a Father's love that exceeded all my sins. I saw that the heavenly paradise, which I believed to be far beyond some distant cloud, was really here on earth. It was called the Primitive Baptist Church. Yet, I felt unfit to be allowed therein.

My uncle Clem Cook convinced me that it was not my righteousness, but that of the Son of God which was required, so I ask for membership in the Mt. Park congregation, and was baptized by Elder D. A. Layne in June of 1945. When he brought me out of the water, he told my father that he had just baptized a preacher.



My first experience of speaking to a congregation came in the spring of 1949, at the Mt. Park Church.

I met my wife while attending school at Panhandle State, at Goodwell Okla. We were married on May 26, 1952.

We started attending services at Colorado Springs, and Ordway, later having monthly meetings in our home in Pueblo. The Ordway congregation made my first appointment on the third Sunday in May 1955, in absence of their Pastor H. Q. Holdern. We moved to Las Animas, Bent County Colorado in Feb. 1956, and joined the church at Ordway by letter.

Though very reluctant, I began to teach, whenever called upon by the Elders, and was ordained as a deacon, and licensed to preach by the Ordway congregation in 1960.

I was ordained on the 5th Sunday July 1979; and took pastorship of the Ordway congregation the 3rd Sunday Sept. 1979.

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**ELDER PAUL B. COOK**

Elder Cook was born Jan. 22, 1907. He was united in marriage to Alma Williams Nov. 14, 1936. In Nov. 1945 they adopted a son. Elder Cook united with Elizabeth Church, Macon, Ga., Jan. 1945, and was baptized by Elder W. H. Hancock. He was a humble man, a deep thinker and was sound in doctrine and practice. He loved Salvation by Grace with all his heart.

Elder Cook and wife moved from Macon, Ga. to Olive Grove community. They united with Olive Grove Church by letter Jan. 1947. The members of that church felt that he was a man with a God-given gift and in June 1947, he was liberated to exercise his gift in public. In May 1950, he was ordained at Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He was called to serve Bethel Church of Early County, in May 1954. He and his wife united with Bethel Church by letter, in April 1954, where he remained a faithful member until his death, December 4, 1957

### **ELDER R. L. COOK**

WRITTEN BY ELDER C. A. KEATEN: Elder Cook was born Feb. 2, 1867 in Newton County, Georgia. He united with the Harris Springs Church in August of 1898 and was baptized by the pastor, Elder James T. Jordan. Soon after that time he began preaching.

He was united in marriage to Miss Mamie Tuck and a daughter and a son came to bless their home.

He departed this life June 18th, 1949. Bro. Cook was serving four churches when the end came, one of which (Jack's Creek) he had served since he was ordained to the ministry. He had served Bald Rock Church for forty years.

He was one of the most able and best loved Primitive Baptist ministers in this section of Georgia. He was respected by all for his Christian character, his noble deeds, and upright life. He walked before his fellow men as a true Southern gentleman in every respect.

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### **ELDER W.M. (WILL) COOK**

SUBMITTED BY ELDER COY BROTHERS, Elder Cook was born in Georgia on February 28, 1880. On August 10, 1907, he and his wife Emma joined Little Vine Church in Morgan County and were baptized by Elder Andy Whitworth.

Elder Cook was a member in the constitution of Mount Vernon Church when it was organized November 3, 1917. On November 4, 1917, he was ordained deacon.

In 1922, Elder Cook's name appears on the association's list of licensed ministers. He was ordained an Elder in July 1937.

During his tenure as a gospel minister, Elder Cook pastored, (besides Mount Vernon) Little Vine, Providence, and Mount Joy. Elder Cook spent most of his life within sight of Mount Vernon, his home church. We remember him most for his meekness and gentleness, especially toward young people.

Elder W.M. Cook died March 10, 1960. He was buried in the little churchyard at Mount Vernon.

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### **ELDER C. M. COOPER**

FROM "MESSENGER OF PEACE" DECEMBER 1923: I was born in Kanawha Co., West Virginia, June 1, 1840. My father died when I was seven years old and I was tossed about from post to pillar till I grew to manhood. When the Civil war broke out I enlisted in the 6th regiment Iowa volunteer infantry. On July 12, 1861 I was discharged for disability.

In 1862, I was married to Mary Harris, who is my present wife. We traveled together many years, came to Nebraska in 1870 and took a homestead in Butler County where we saw many hardships.

There I became concerned about my sinful condition, and my wife and I joined the Methodist church. Afterwards we became dissatisfied with them and in 1880 joined the Primitive Baptist church called Little Flock in Butler County, Nebraska. We were baptized by Elder Isaac Wagner. I soon afterward began to open services and in a short time was liberated, and myself and wife got a letter to move to Mount Pleasant Church, York, Neb. On September 26, 1891 I was ordained by James Ring, Pallas McCoy and Deacon McBride, and in the same year was called to the care of the church where I am still pastor. I also tried to serve Deer Creek Church at Dwight, Neb., but feel my efforts have been poor, and so much of the time my health has been so I couldn't travel.

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**ELDER JOHN COOPER**

Elder Cooper serves as pastor of Hopewell Church, near Heber Springs, Ark.; Elizabeth Church at Marvell; and Rector Church, which is in the Harmony Association. Elder Cooper is an able and faithful pastor, and his labors among the saints are greatly appreciated. He lives in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

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**ELDER JOHN COPELIN**



I was born in Wayne County, Illinois March 21, 1904. My first experience of a hope in Jesus was around 1915 when I made a public profession of faith and was baptized by a General Baptist. I first heard of the Primitive Baptist Church in 1929. I attended the Primitive Baptist Church with my wife, after hearing the pure gospel, with much study of the scriptures and heart searching I was converted to the truth, joined the Springfield, Illinois Primitive Baptist Church, and was baptized by Elder W. A. Chastain Dec. 1932. In June 1932 I was ordained by the church in Springfield, Illinois to the full work of the ministry.

At present I am pastor of Harriman Primitive Baptist Church Harriman Tenn. having services every Sunday.

In 1929 I met and married Margaret Kohl of Edinburg, Illinois. To this union eight children were born.



### ELDER H. P. COPELAND



FROM AN OBITUARY IN THE DECEMBER 1964 "PRIMITIVE MONITOR," WRITTEN BY ELDER EDGAR T. ALESHIRE: Elder Haden Paul Copeland was born February 23, 1906, at Summit in Blunt Co., Ala., the son of Virgil H. and Bell Murry Copeland. He was married to Jimmie Alice Bodine October 25, 1925. He was baptized at Rocky Mount Church, Arab, Ala., in 1932 by Elder Tom Flanning, was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry in 1934, and was called to Rocky Mount Church at that time as pastor. He was the beloved pastor of Rocky Mount, Bush Hill (of Birmingham, Ala.), New Hope and Salem Churches at the time of his death, and had traveled often among the Primitive Baptists in twenty-four states. He was a mail carrier in the Arab community for eighteen years, had taught school in his

earlier years, and had farmed throughout most of his life. For some years he preached over radio stations WGSV in Guntersville and WVOK in Birmingham. Elder Copeland was well known in his own community and among the Lord's people as being a minister who was unusually gifted in delivery and who was also very frequently called upon to conduct funerals, often as many as five in one week, for people of all religious persuasion.

Elder and Sister Copeland were killed on a rain-slick highway in Cullman County, Ala., September 18, 1964. Over two thousand people attended their double funeral held September 20, 1964, at Rocky Mount Church, and at which Elders C. M. Mills, A. B. Hall, W. O. Hunt, J. B. Watts and Lasserre Bradley, Jr., officiated. One of the many who wrote the *Monitor* office concerning Elder and Sister Copeland's deaths spoke of the fact that in his last discourse, preached within hours of his death, Elder Copeland used the words from II Corinthians, "Finally, brethren, farewell."

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### ELDER J. P. COPELAND

According to the family record I, J. P. Copeland, was born on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of November 1881 in Carroll County, Georgia. I was married to Miss Blanche Marlow, December the 24<sup>th</sup>, 1899. To us were born 5 children, one dying in infancy. Their mother was buried on our 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary, December 24, 1916. On May the 20<sup>th</sup>, 1917, I was married to Miss Ella Wilkinson. To us were born 6 children, 2 dying in infancy. On Sunday meeting day in September of 1911, I joined the church at Old Tallapoosa in Carroll, Georgia. I joined at the waters. I was at church on Saturday and there were others that joined, but I didn't get the consent of my mind, until the opportunity had passed. Somehow after meeting was over, my mind was fixed, and I began to make preparation to go to the river and meet with those to be baptized. Soon after I was baptized, the impression came to me that I should speak in the church in behalf of Blessed Jesus, who had done so much for me.

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**ELDER J. C. CORDER**

Elder Corder of Mt. Pleasant, Pa., was born at Grindstone, Pa., May 10, 1865, and died Dec. 25, 1936. In 1887, when he was twenty-two years old he united with Happy Creek Church at Front Royal, Va., and was baptized by the late Eld. C. H. Waters of Washington, D. C. Some years later when the Baptist Church of Donora, Pa., was organized he was in the constitution of said church, and was there later ordained to the full work of the ministry. He was called as pastor of Donora Church a few years later and served her continuously and faithfully till God called him home. He had also served the church at Cumberland as its pastor for the past several years. He fought a good fight, stood firm for the doctrine of Jesus and his apostles, was not willing to compromise with error but contended for the faith once delivered to the saints with all his powers. He was married Dec. 29, 1891, to Miss Minnie Arnold. He was a loving husband, a kind and indulgent father, a loyal brother, a true friend and a good neighbor.

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**ELDER TROY CORLEY**



Elder Corley was born near Greenwood, Arkansas, the second child in a family of eleven children. He grew up on a farm near Blue Mountain, Arkansas, became concerned about his eternal welfare at the age of twelve, was relieved of this feeling of condemnation in May, 1910, and in December of that year united with Little Vine Church and was baptized by the pastor, Elder M. J. Ryan. He began teaching school at the age of twenty and the following year was married to Miss Eva Ringgold of Nunnley, Arkansas.

During his early life Brother Corley taught school in Arkansas and moved to Purcell, Oklahoma and taught school for one year. In early 1918 he joined the U. S. Army to serve in World War I. He was wounded just five days before the war ended. Returning to his home in 1919, he then removed with his wife and baby daughter to Oklahoma City. Soon after moving to Oklahoma City he moved his membership to Bethlehem Church near Purcell, Oklahoma. In this church also, he made his first effort to speak (in Feb. 1922). He was soon liberated, but felt reluctant to come before the people since there were already two ordained and two liberated ministers in that same church. In May 1926, he and his wife moved their membership to Bethlehem Church in Oklahoma City.

In 1927 he lost his wife by death, leaving him with three small children. In 1929 he was married to Mrs. May Sliger of Roff, Oklahoma.

He was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry in November 1931, by the authority of Bethlehem Church. In 1934 he was elected assistant pastor of his home church, and in 1936 was chosen pastor and served for about fifteen years in that capacity. In the summer of 1949 the company for which he worked transferred him to Detroit, Michigan, where he served as pastor of Little Zion Church for two and one half years.

Moving back to Oklahoma City in 1953, he was called as pastor there again in 1955. In 1958, Mt. Olive Church at Maude, Texas, called him as pastor and he and his wife moved there soon after that.

Elder Corley became editor of the *Baptist Trumpet* in 1969 and served in that capacity for many years. He passed from this life on November 1, 1982 while visiting Mount Olive Church in Maud, Texas.

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#### **ELDER BRYANT WESLEY COUEY**

WRITTEN BY POLLY PITTMAN: Elder Couey of Orlando, Florida was born May 5, 1933 and passed from this life on January 20, 1998.

A faithful servant, Elder Couey was ordained to the ministry in 1972 and served as Pastor of Little Flock Church in Miami shortly after his ordination. He served as Pastor of Orange Church in Orlando for 20 years.

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#### **ELDER OTIS MYLES COWART**

WRITTEN BY BROTHER WILLIAM DONALDSON: Elder Otis Myles Cowart was born in Emanuel County, Georgia on April 22, 1911 and departed this life Sept 13, 1993.

Elder Cowart joined Bethel Church near Twin City, on May 4, 1933, and was ordained a deacon in May of 1948. He moved to Vero Beach, Fla., in 1953. He was ordained to the gospel ministry on March 1, 1959 by Antioch Church in Vero Beach, Fla., at which ordination Elder Dent Temples gave the charge. After he and Margarett retired they moved to Metter, Ga., in 1987, and moved their membership back to Bethel by letter.

Elder Cowart was a dedicated servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. He served several churches on the East Coast of Fla., Pilgrim Rest Church of Vero Beach being the last. He served Pilgrim Rest for 13 years. He and his wife were charter members of Pilgrim Rest.

He was a faithful student of the Bible. In the style of a genuine scholar, he would study a particular subject for years by extensive reading and detailed questioning of other ministers

on the subject. Because of his in depth understanding of the scriptures, other ministers enjoyed both his public and "fireside" preaching.

Elder Cowart preached in several states and traveled extensively among the Old Baptists.

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#### **ELDER H. J. COX**

Elder Cox was born April 22, 1858. It is believed that he was an ordained Primitive Baptist minister 35 years or more. Our Dear Lord called him from this life Oct. 5, 1952. He enjoyed helping those in need. He rode horseback often to be in good meetings in church except for when someone could take him by car, many miles from where him and his family lived. He enjoyed singing while riding in the car no matter how dangerous the roads seemed to be. He was a pastor in Little Vine Primitive Baptist Church at Beaver, W.Va. He rode horseback to get a collection for the meetinghouse at Bluestone View where good meetings are held since the log building has been gone.

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#### **ELDER JESSE COX**



WRITTEN BY ELDER MILTON LILLARD: Elder Cox, a native of Sullivan County, born July 19, 1793. He was somewhat of a scholar, writing the well-known "Exposition of the Revelation," circulated widely throughout the country. He fought under General Andrew Jackson, and when he was 23, he married Elizabeth Brown.

He first joined the church at Antioch, moving to Williamson County within two miles of Big Harpeth Church. Elder McConnico encouraged his ministry; one of his last endeavors was making the appointment for Jesse Cox to preach. He served the church as pastor for sixteen years, also serving other nearby congregations.

His daily journal is preserved in the Archives in Nashville, with a microfilm copy available at Williamson County Library. In this daily record, Elder Cox tells of weather and snow and rainfall and of his regular preaching services each weekend. He describes the death of many family members and close fiends and of the "Yankees" coming during the war and taking his meat from the smokehouse and his last horse. He recorded his personal feelings with the Biblical expression "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." He died on the fourth Saturday in August 1880, and was buried in the McConnico Church Cemetery, which remains. He left a very noted family, having several doctors among his descendants.

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**ELDER LLOYD RICHARD COX**



I was born October 17 1925 to Lloyd Thomas and Nora Beck Cox. As a child I attended both the Primitive Baptist and Methodist meetings, having a mother that was raised of the Methodist persuasion.

I graduated from high school in 1943 and joined the Navy at the age of 17 to fight in WWII. While on my ship at sea we had done all that was humanly possible to save ourselves from being crashed into by a Japanese plane. At this point I fell upon my knees and began to beg the Lord to spare my shipmates and myself. The plane miraculously missed our ship and plunged into the sea.

At the end of the war I was honorably discharged from the Navy. I finally returned home and started attending Abbott's Creek Primitive Baptist Church.

One night in September 1952 while attending an appointment for Elder Walter Evans, I felt compelled to join the church. The church received me as a candidate for baptism and I was baptized the next Sunday, September 7, 1952, by the pastor, Elder L.G.Cashion, and Elder C.E. Pickard my brother-in-law who had been ordained the day before.

Finally I went back to my schooling for a year and half. Then I stopped and worked for a while at different places. During this time I got reacquainted with a young woman from my youth. Beryl Hughes Blakely was now a widow with three small boys. We were married in 1960. We later had two daughters the first of which only lived a few hours after birth.

In August 1964 the church called for and ordained me as a deacon of Abbott's Creek Primitive Baptist Church.

Soon after I moved my membership to Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church near Amelia Va. as I was over 200 miles from my former home. They received me as a deacon and also had me lead the singing and offer prayer. In time I became so burdened to preach that the church gave me liberty for a year. At the end of that year I having been discouraged by one or two I ask that my liberty not be extended. I sat in silence for years still not satisfied. Finally I could bear it no longer and in 1985 ask that I might speak again. The church was permissive I felt to have more liberty this time.

My wife became very ill with cancer and suffered for some time. We did our best to make her last days comfortable. We had been together for over 25 years. She fought hard but finally gave up to be with our Lord and master.

In June 1986, I married Sarah Dallas, the daughter of Elder SJB Dallas who had passed away before I had an opportunity to meet him.

In February of 1989 I retired after 26 years with AT&T and in April of 1989, I was ordained to the full work of the ministry at Little Flock Church. Elder James Land and Elder Raymond Pressley preached my charge and there were eleven preachers present and numerous deacons.

I served as pastor to Mill Creek Primitive Baptist Church near Luray, VA for a little over a year.

In 1991 Sarah and I moved back to my home state of NC and after about a year we move our membership to Pleasant Hill Church near Asheboro.

At present I am not serving as pastor to any churches. I am trying to fill some appointments for our pastor whose health is not the best right now. I pray that all the rest of my days shall be to His praise, honor and glory and that I can always live in a manner that would afford me a home among the Primitive Baptists.

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**ELDER S. A. COX**

FROM AN OBITUARY IN THE "PRIMITIVE BAPTIST:" Elder Cox, of Columbiana, Ala., passed away Feb. 10, 1945 at the age of 69. He had been a Primitive Baptist minister for 45 years and was married to Rasana Evans 32 years ago. He had been pastor of Pilgrim's Rest Church, Shelby County, for a number of years.

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**ELDER SAM WRENO COX**

FROM "GOSPEL APPEAL:" Elder Cox was born Feb. 23, 1882 and died, July 20, 1944. He and his wife married Sept. 23, 1900 and had 10 children. He united with the Primitive Baptists at New Home Church, Cedartown, Ga., June 23, 1902. He was ordained to the ministry on Dec. 23, 1918. He moved to South Georgia and served many churches in this area and also in North Florida, including Lebanon, Mt. Pisgah, Bridge Creek and Valley Grove.

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**ELDER THOMAS COX**

FROM "PRIMITIVE MONITOR:" The subject of this sketch was born in Lawrence County, Kentucky, 1829. At about the age of eight weeks, with his parents he moved to Illinois, locating in Vermilion County. He was married to Susan Orr Nov. 28, 1850. She has been stood helpmeet to him. In 1854 he received a good hope in his Savior, as also did his

wife near the same time. They united with the Primitive Baptist church and were baptized May 1856, by Elder Vaughn. In the year 1885, he was liberated by the church to speak in public and in 1886 he was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry. He has been engaged in the work ever since being ordained, a part of this time serving four churches. Now he is old and his wife is an invalid, which deprives him of active service for the Master. His address is Bismark, Ill.

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**ELDER O. C. CRABTREE**

Elder Oscar C. Crabtree was born November 17, 1919. He was married December 14, 1941 to Geneva Cowart in Walker Co., Georgia. They were blessed with live children.

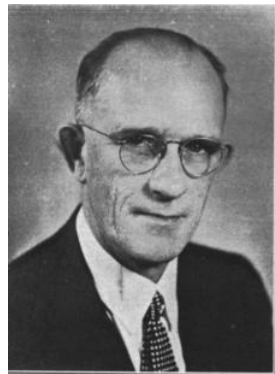
He came to Corinth Church at Dalton, Ga., by letter from Friendship Church in Ringgold, Georgia on August 4, 1950. He was ordained an Elder on May 3, 1958 Elders in the presbytery included Troy C. Hayes (Mod.), David L. Cowart (Clerk), A. B. Brock, C. J. Callaway, A. J. Sims and T. O. Cowart. Deacons participating were O. O. Burkhalter, Jr., David L. Cowart and Lawrence King.

He was elected pastor of Corinth Church on September 3, 1960 and served there 32 years until January 5, 1992. He was elected pastor at Friendship Church, Catoosa Co., on December 2, 1961.

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**ELDER MORTE H. CRAIG**

Elder Craig was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa, Feb. 22, 1880, but was reared from the age of three years in the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Enos Craig, in St. Joseph, Mo. Completed his study of law with Judge Thomas Ryan, and was admitted to the bar Feb. 23, 1901, in St. Joseph. He and Miss Calphurnia M. Reece were married Sept. 12, 1901.

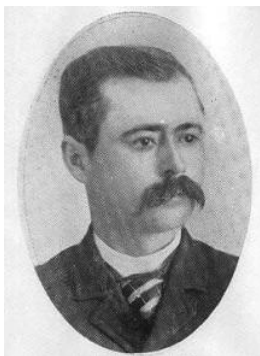


In 1906 he united with Little Flock Church in St. Joseph, and was ordained a minister of the gospel in that church in November 1928, and served churches in Missouri and Iowa. His ministry was characterized by zeal and earnestness. As an associate editor of the *Messenger of Peace* he contributed many valuable articles and poems.

He was stricken by cerebral apoplexy at the close of his sermon in the St. Joseph Church, Sunday morning, Dec. 20, 1936, and died at his home the same day. His was a short but effective ministry.

### ELDER W. S. CRAIG

FROM AN ARTICLE IN "THE PRIMITIVE MONITOR:" Primitive Baptists surely know



Elder Craig contributed much to our dear cause because his works are accepted as a high standard of religious literature. Primitive Baptists from all parts of the United States were acquainted with his writings. They do not know, however, that this fine literature passed into the hands of young ministers as a gift from Elder Craig.

He was certainly a sober man. When one visited the church at Cozad he was impressed by Elder Craig because he engaged in religious conversation, gospel singing and public worship. He was so completely divorced from the world and no other thought seemed to enter his mind than to glorify the Saviour of poor lost sinners. He would have considered it a grave offense to spend time set apart for services other than praising God to the highest here on earth.

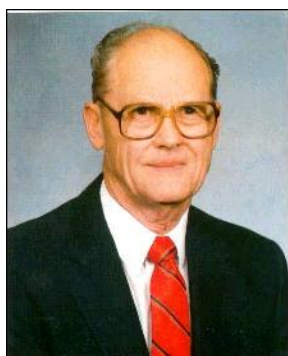
From the moment he emerged from the study, where one usually found Elder Craig, you were filled with the patient manner in which he dealt with all subjects. I never heard from his lips one unkind thing about any person about whom we conversed. Even for those who failed the cause he expressed regret and still affirmed his love for them.

The subject of this article was born in Coles County, Illinois, May 1, 1867. He united with New Hope Church, Hindsboro, Illinois, September 8, 1889 and was baptized by Elder F. M. Reeds. On August 26, 1896 he was united in marriage to Armenta L. Reeds of Hindsboro by Elder S. F. Moffett. This union was blessed with three wonderful daughters.

Elder Craig became a charter member of the church at Cozad, Nebraska, when it was constituted in 1908. He served as pastor until two years before his death when he was released by the church upon his request.

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### ELDER GEORGE HYLTON CRAIN



Hylton Crain, was born February 5, 1919 in Farmers Valley a few miles north west of Vernon, Texas; a son of Willie and Myrtle (Moore) Crain, the third child of a family of four.

Both maternal and paternal grandparents were members of the Primitive Baptist Church. His father, Willie Crain was baptized in his seventy first year, almost four years before his death, March 9, 1963. The Willie and Myrtle Crain family was





poor indeed as far as material things, but they were rich because of belief and faith in God. The Bible was read and prayer was offered up, occasionally a Primitive Baptist minister preached in their home. Poverty, though very real, was not a great stumbling block, because the family was united in love!

The following is a direct quote from brother Crain, "As a child I was often disobedient, and rebellious. At nine years of age it was made known to me, that my ways, words, and thoughts were contrary, to the Holy, and loving God; while out in the field, taking the name of God in vain, and speaking against the authority of my dear father and mother, if not deceived the power of God taught me and lovingly rebuked me. This experience not only convinced and convicted me of sin, it also gave me the realization, the Great I Am, knew my every thought. From that time until now, my sins have caused me to mourn."

Because of the great depression and Dust Bowl Days of the early and mid-thirties, a young seventeen year old left Colorado and moved to Headrick, Oklahoma, to live with his older brother and wife, Mr. & Mrs. E. U. Crain. There he finished high school, and met Miss Neva Jo Marsh, whom he married in Blair, Oklahoma on May 28, 1938.

On July 25, 1943, in the afternoon service, prayer was offered by brother Marvin Sims, (now Elder) preaching by Elders Tom Elliott, and D. A. Layne. Hylton Crain asked for membership and baptism, and to his joy was gladly received. Oh that wonderful day! There was an outpouring of the Holy Spirit; and divine love touched the hearts of a small congregation long to be remembered. Baptism was administered by Elder D. A. Layne on August 11, 1943.

His first Text was Deut. 32:9. Wanders Creek Church in Odell, Texas licensed him to preach wherever he felt the Lord was leading on June 1, 1946. A year later he was ordained to the full work of the ministry in June 30, 1947, in Tipton, Oklahoma.

Neva Jo and Hylton are the parents of three daughters, and two sons, the youngest forty-six, and the oldest fifty-nine. In the past years he has served churches in the following cities: in Oklahoma, Tipton, Marlow, and Mountain View. In Texas: Rule, and Arlington. They have membership in the First Primitive Baptist Church in Dallas. Brother Crain, age eighty-one, is presently pastor of Cornish Church in Wilson, Oklahoma.

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#### **ELDER BRUCE CRAWFORD**



Not being raised Primitive Baptist I had a very different idea of sin and God's salvation for his people. God showed me through the preaching of the gospel what a terrible sinner I was and without Christ I would have no hope. At this very time, when I felt there was no hope for me, God revealed to me his wonderful grace and mercy. The picture in my mind of our savior Jesus as he sacrificed

his life for his people on Calvary's cross, to this day brings sadness that it was necessary for him to die, and yet great joy that he was willing to lay down his life for his people. I remember no particular call to the ministry, only that the more I studied and learned of this sovereign God, I simply had a desire to share what I felt God was revealing to me with his people. My first effort to stand before so great a people is still vivid in my mind today. I don't believe I have ever been as scared as I was that day. I stood less than ten minutes, read from Matthew 20, made a few comments and sat down feeling like a dismal failure. I thought surely they would never call on me again after this terrible effort, but God's people were so very kind and I was asked to introduce services just two Sunday's later.

My most treasured memories have been watching my daughter Misty join the Church at the age of 8 and being blessed to baptize my son Randy in December of 1998. God has truly blessed me with a wonderful helpmate, and a third child, Ashley, and several kind and understanding fathers in the ministry. God's people have always been kind and encouraging to me and have given me much joy in trying to serve in God's true kingdom.

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### ELDER CROMER CRAWFORD



WRITTEN BY DAVID MONTGOMERY AS TOLD BY DAVID CRAWFORD: Elder Crawford was born May 8, 1938, in Reno, Georgia, the son of Elder Tom and Margie Crawford. He was the youngest of eleven children. He was ordained at the age of sixteen at the Orange Church in Miami, Florida. He immediately began serving Wayfare Church in Aubornville, Florida and eventually served 16 churches in the course of his ministry. He helped constitute two churches and baptized many people. In 1972, at Mt. Enon Church, he baptized eighteen people in one service. He died on March 8, 1996 at the age of 57 years

Elder Crawford suffered his first heart attack at the age of 39. At the age of 40, he was afflicted with a late onslaught of juvenile diabetes. Soon after, he suffered another heart attack. He suffered greatly yet he continued to preach and serve churches. He poured himself out as a drink offering to the Lord. In these years of great suffering, his was a ministry of encouragement. He often left his sick bed to go to meetings. Though he was almost physically unable, he strengthened the hearts of God's people. He was fruitful by a ministry of suffering.

His son, Elder David Crawford, spent much time with his father during these last years—the last five weeks David was with his father constantly. Brother David and his mother decided to take Brother Cromer off kidney dialysis as it was causing Brother Cromer to go into cardiac arrest. Three days later, Brother Cromer sat up in his bed and began to

talk to his wife, son and daughter-in-law. Brother David informed him that he had not been on the dialysis. Brother Cromer raised his hand and told him that his doctor had told him that five years ago the he had had only two years to live and he supposed that these last three years were “bonus years.” He then began to praise God and said, “My soul doth magnify the Lord.” He then turned to his wife and said, “Of all the things in this world, you are the only thing that I will miss.” He hugged and kissed them and went to sleep. The next day as his family was singing hymns around the bedside, Elder Cromer Crawford went to his heavenly home where there is no pain and suffering.

Elder Crawford had been told when he was in his forties, that if he would quit the ministry, he would live to an old age. He said that he “could never find in the Scriptures where it was ever told to let go of the plow.”

He was a strong doctrinal preacher. He loved the fundamentals and preached them with great power. Even when he was very sick, he would get up and proclaim the gospel of salvation by grace with all the power that the Lord would give him.

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#### **ELDER DAVID CRAWFORD**



WRITTEN BY DAVID MONTGOMERY  
AS TOLD BY DAVID CRAWFORD: Elder Crawford was born in 1960 at Ft. Pierce, Florida. His first memory was listening to the hymn “When We All Get To Heaven.” His father, Elder Cromer Crawford, baptized him at the age of six at the Orange Church in Miami Florida. Even at that early age, he knew full well that he was joining the church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

In July 1974 as he was driving a tractor, he first felt the call to preach the gospel. He was ordained in 1975 at the age of fifteen and immediately began to serve the Little Flock Church in Miami. Being too young to drive, he flew back and forth.

In December 1977, the MacClenney Church called him for an appointment. Shortly after, he was called as pastor. He moved to MacClenney when he was nineteen. He completed a degree in Education and is now Principal of the Baker County High School.

He met his wife, the former Sherry Bryant on the “greatest preaching trip of his life” at the Cool Springs Church when he was nineteen. He told Elder Cecil Darity that she was the most beautiful lady he had ever seen and the he was going to marry her. He asked her to

marry him the very next night and she accepted. Two years later, they were married. In 1997, David and Sherry were blessed to adopt a beautiful little boy, John Anthony.

Brother David credits a series of messages preached by Elder Lasserre Bradley as one of the difference-makers in his life. Through Elder Bradley's preaching, Brother David saw his own complacency and that he was a "sluggard." He decided to concentrate his efforts on MacClenney church and encouraged them to meet every Sunday. The Lord has blessed the church through these efforts.

FROM DAVID MONTGOMERY: The Lord has truly blessed Elder Crawford and the MacClenney church. I have had the pleasure of visiting this church and with Elder Crawford in his home. They are a lovely group of people and my heart remains with them.

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#### **ELDER JAMES CRAWFORD**

FROM "ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS OF MATTHEW A. B. HOWARD" BY NORA S. WOODWARD: Elder Crawford, a Primitive Baptist minister in Wiregrass Georgia, was born in Effingham County, Georgia about the year 1793. As a child he removed to McIntosh County with his parents where he grew to adulthood and married Miss Harriet Thomas.

Brother and Sister Crawford later moved to Lowndes County, Georgia where they joined Friendship Church. Brother Crawford died between 1860 and 1870.

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#### **ELDER REUBEN CRAWFORD**

FROM "ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS OF MATTHEW A. B. HOWARD" BY NORA S. WOODWARD: Elder Reuben Crawford, son of James, was born in Effingham County, Georgia on February 29, 1801 and drew land as an orphan in McIntosh County, Georgia in 1821. During his stay in McIntosh County he served as 2nd Lieutenant in the 24th Militia District in 1823.

He was ordained about 1835 and became the second pastor of Shiloh Church in Blackshear, Pierce County, Georgia. His pastorate lasted for over a half-century. He was a man of great character and a forceful personality. He farmed his own land until age 85.

Brother Reuben married Miss Anna Clark about 1828 and they remained married for almost 60 years.

Brother Crawford died on June 26, 1887 and his wife died on February 5, 1887. Both are buried in Shiloh Cemetery.

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**ELDER THOMAS R. CRAWFORD**

FROM "ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS OF MATTHEW A. B. HOWARD" BY NORA S. WOODWARD: Elder Crawford, brother to Elder Rueben Crawford and son of James Crawford, was born in Effingham County, Georgia in 1803.

After his marriage, Elder Crawford removed to Lowndes County, Georgia where he stayed until 1831. Later he removed to Ware County, Georgia. During his stay in this county he participated in the Indian Wars when he was appointed to the rank of 1st Lieutenant.

He served as Justice of Ware County Inferior County and held the same when he moved to Charleton County, Georgia. He also served as County Surveyor and Tax Collector in Charleton County. Elder Crawford was a member of Emmeus Primitive Baptist Church in Charlton County. During his later years he removed to Baker County, Florida.

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**ELDER THOMAS REUBEN CRAWFORD**



Thomas Reuben Crawford was born in Charleton County, Georgia on August 21, 1898, his parents moving to central Florida when he was a small child. He was married to Margie Cromer, of South Carolina, in June 1917. Tom and Margie became the parents of eight children.

Elder Crawford joined Lone Pilgrim Church in Largo, Florida in June 1926, and was baptized by Elder E. J. Devane. He was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry in November 1930 at Lone Pilgrim Church.

Most of Elder Crawford's ministry was among churches in central Florida, except for a period between 1935 - 1948 when he resided in south Georgia where he pastored primarily at Tired Creek and Trinity Churches. While living in south Georgia, he and Elder Rufus K. Blackshear collaborated in the publication of the church periodical *Good Will*.

Elder Crawford returned to central Florida within the bounds of the Mt. Enon Primitive Baptists and continued to pastor churches there until his untimely death by accidental drowning on October 21, 1964.

Elder Crawford traveled extensively among the Primitive Baptists in the United States, especially in the southeastern states. He will be long remembered for his pleasant, jovial

personality, and for his untiring efforts in promoting peace and goodwill among the churches.

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**ELDER WILLIAM A. CRAWFORD**

FROM "ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS OF MATTHEW A. B. HOWARD" BY NORA S. WOODWARD: Elder Crawford was born in March 1835 in southern Georgia. He was married in 1853 to his first cousin, Sarah Crawford. During their lifetime they lived in Charleton County, Georgia and Baker County, Florida. They had 13 children.

Elder Crawford was pastor of Emmeus Church in Charlton County, Georgia from 1868 to 1879 and in 1881 and 1882.

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**ELDER S. B. CREECH**

FROM AN OBITUARY IN THE "PRIMITIVE BAPTIST," WRITTEN BY ELDER AND MRS. H. C. JENKINS: Elder Creech was born July 14, 1897 and passed from this world of sorrow on Oct. 19, 1948 as the result of a car accident. His wife was also killed in the accident. They had ten children.

Elder Creech and his wife joined the Primitive Baptist Church in Wolfe County, Ky., in 1920. He was ordained to the work of the ministry three or four years later, and moved to Hamilton Co., Ohio in July of 1943. In 1946 they moved their letters to Twin Creek Church in Harrison County, Ky.

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**ELDER THOMAS J. CRIST**

FROM "THE PRIMITIVE MONITOR:" Elder Crist was born September 6, 1865, in Clay County, Ind., and was baptized at Little Rock Church in that county in February 1883. He was ordained to the ministry at Providence Church, Hamilton County, Kan., in September 1929. He served several churches in Arkansas and was a resident of Benton County in that state from 1929 until his death, December 1, 1962.



**ELDER G. WAYNE CROCKER**

TAKEN FROM ELDER CROCKER'S BOOK, HOPE FOR THE BESIEGED CITY, PUBLISHED IN 1991: I was born on November 15, 1939, on a small farm adjacent to Mount Olive

Church about nine miles west of Lawley, Alabama. I was the fifth of six children. As a young boy, I feared that I would go to hell should I die in my sinful condition. The Lord blessed me to have a precious hope in Christ at the age of 12. The Gospel message of salvation by grace alone was good news to me, and I rejoiced greatly to hear it proclaimed and to feel the Spirit of the Lord in the preaching and singing.

My brother, Coleman, and I were baptized on the second Sunday in August 1956 by Elder M. C. Warren, our pastor at Mount Olive. Brenda Joyce Hyde and I were married on May 29, 1964. Brenda has been a great encouragement and help to me in life, especially in my efforts in the ministry. We have been blessed to adopt three children as infants: Imandra, Travis and Jonathan.

I felt some impressions regarding preaching before I finished high school, but did not become fully persuaded until almost 20 years later. Hopewell Church near West Blocton, Alabama licensed me to preach on October 31, 1981, and I was ordained there on October 3, 1982. Elders Herman Hyde, Charlie Tucker, H. L. Blackmon, Glenn Payne, Thomas Blair, Armond Ritch, Frank Toone, Ernie Stump, Mac Law, James Thrasher, Carver Deason and J. L. Hopper, along with 25 deacons, were in the presbytery.

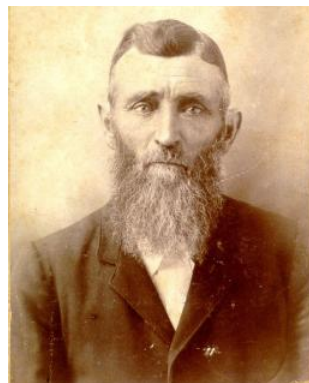
I served New Home Church near Billingsley as pastor from 1982 to 1986. Since 1986, I have been serving Mount Olive Church.

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**ELDER HOLLAND L. CRUMBLY**

Elder Crumbly was born December 24, 1903 and died February 14, 1978. He joined Union Church, Woodville, AL, in September 1935 with his wife, Ivella O'Neal Crumbly, daughter of S. H. and Omie Carbon O'Neal. Elder Crumbly was liberated to preach by Union Church in September 1952 and was ordained to the ministry on December 7, 1952. He and his wife entertained Primitive Baptists in their home known as "Spout Spring", near Woodville, for over 30 years. They also traveled to all the surrounding area association and church meetings. He was called as pastor at Union, Mud Creek, Bethlehem and Pilgrim's Rest Churches. Elder Crumbly and his wife were blessed with wonderful personalities, very friendly, kind and generous, and they were loved by all, young and old. They always had time to visit in the homes wherever he pastored or where they visited. Young children attending the association always wanted to spend the night at Brother Holland's. His countenance, whether preaching or listening, visiting or working, was always inspiring.

The Crumblys had two children, Thomas H. Crumbly and Georgia Ruth Crumbly, who married Thomas "Buddy" Berry, both members of Union Church.



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**ELDER ALLISON AMOS CULPEPPER**

FROM SOUTHWEST TEXAS ASSOCIATION MINUTES - 1921: Elder A. A. Culpepper has served this Association as Moderator almost continually since its constitution, and done his duty as such and having worn himself out of serving most of the churches as pastor. We the brethren and sisters composing of the churches of this Association, wish to express to him our loving memory of him as a sound and safe Minister of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and as a faithful Pastor and tender Shepherd.

Elder Culpepper was born September 1, 1847; he married Elizabeth Dail November 26, 1868 in Terrell County, Georgia. He joined Bethel Church, Caldwell County, Texas, by letter May 1887. He was ordained to the full work of the ministry October 1898 at Bethel Church by Elders J.W. Shook, J.M. Baker, G.W. White, and J.W. Baker, and deacons S.B.Owen, Stephen Hahn, E.W. Satterwhite, and R. Cole.

In 1899, A. A. Culpepper took part in the constitution of Tinney's Creek Church in Caldwell County, and moved his membership there at her first conference meeting; he was called to serve as joint pastor with Elder G.W. White. Later that year, he took an active role in the constitution of the Southwest Texas Association. He pastored churches in Gonzales, Caldwell, Travis, and Hays County. He died April 15, 1923.

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#### **ELDER J. N. CULTON**

FROM "PRIMITIVE MONITOR:" I was born November 6, 1842, in Knox County, Kentucky. My father and mother, William S. and Martha Colyet Culton, were Primitive Baptists. They were in the division between the Primitive and Missionary Baptists. They stood firm with our dear people, with whom they lived in sweet fellowship until their death. At the age of about thirty, I was made to see my lost and helpless condition, a beggar for mercy. I could not see how a vile worm like me could be saved. In sadness of heart I was made to confess that if my soul were sent to hell, God's righteous law approved it well. One night, while in this sad condition, the family were all asleep so far as I knew, when no human eye could behold or know, and none but God knew the anguish of my soul, peace was spoken to my troubled heart, my burden was gone and I, a poor sinner, was rejoicing in a Savior's love, with joy and peace that passeth understanding. I felt that Christ was my Savior.

I was married to Miss Margaret Clark in the year 1870. I selected as a profession the practice of law. I worked hard and enjoyed my profession. Finally in June 1883, I offered myself and was warmly received into the dear old church at Flat Lick, my wife joining at the same time. About the time I united with the church, I became burdened about preaching. Many were the excuses I pled, but could not rid myself of the burden. I could find no rest until some power not within my control constrained me to quit money-making, turn my back upon the practice of the law and the world and in much weakness try to proclaim the riches of a Savior's love to his poor and afflicted people. My first effort was the first Saturday of April 1885, at Flat Lick Church, for which I have been trying to preach ever since, until I resigned April 11, 1911, because of long distance and bad roads.



I was ordained at the same church July 1886.

I now have the pastoral care of Goshen and Log Lick churches, in Clark County; Richmond, in Madison County, and Brush Creek, in Rock Castle County.

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**ELDER LOUIS CULVER**

I was born the first child of Paul and Frances Culver on October 17, 1938, at home, Deatsville, Alabama.

I was taken to Coosa River Church through all my childhood. I have always had a great respect for God's church in this world. Even when I was away at college and later when I was in the Army I made every effort to be at Coosa River Church as often as possible for the worship services. I joined Coosa River on March 1, 1959 and was baptized by Elder A. T. Davis on April 4, 1959.



I served as clerk of Coosa River Church for many years. On January 8, 1972, I was ordained as a deacon, an office which I held until I was ordained to the ministry on October 29, 1988.

I am pastor of Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church at Opelika, Lee County, Alabama. I attended Hopewell while I was in college at Auburn and while I was in the Army at Fort Benning, Georgia.

I have edited and published IN THE MASTER'S SERVICE since January 1992. This publication has been sent to 30 states. Since April 3, 1998 I have been sending by e-mail a Daily Devotion, which goes to several countries.

I am married to the former Betty Nelson. We have three daughters and one son. Each daughter is married to a Primitive Baptist, two of whom are deacons.

My wife is from a Primitive Baptist family. Shortly after I was married, a lady in the community asked if Betty was a Primitive Baptist. When I told her that she was, the lady said, "Aren't you lucky?" My reply was "No." She looked puzzled until I told her, "I never looked anywhere else!" This is an indication of my love for and interaction with the church, even from my youth.

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**ELDER GEORGE W. CULY**



WRITTEN BY HIS SON, ELDER RALPH K. CULY: In the early morning hours of November 13, 1972, it pleased the good Lord to call to his eternal home our father in the flesh, Elder George W. Culy, at the age of 86 years, 8 months and 5 days.

Since mother's death on April 29, 1971, father has been able to live alone and care for himself until about the first of August 1972.

It soon became necessary to place him in the Richmond Nursing Home for care since he lost the use of his arms and legs. Father was a member of Salem Primitive Church near Hagerstown, Indiana for over half a century, serving first as an ordained deacon and later as an ordained Elder. He proved his devotion to the Lord and the church by his faithful attendance to the duties and responsibilities, which he felt the Lord had called upon him to do. In his earlier ministry, he pastored Mt. Carmel Church near Fortville, Indiana and Bethel Church near Franklin, Indiana, besides filling many appointments in the churches in this general area.

Father left a rich heritage of devotion to the cause of Christ to his four sons, Elder Ralph and Eugene of Hagerstown, Roy of Richmond and Robert of Sherman, Texas.

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**ELDER CHARLES J. CUMBIE**

WRITTEN BY WILLARD DUNN: Elder Charles J. Cumbie was born 15 October 1931 to his parents, Charlie D. Cumbie and Mary Ella Harrison Cumbie. He was called to go to be in spirit with the God he loved more than life on 20 November 1992.

Elder Cumbie married his wife, Eleanor Jean Murph, in Atmore, Alabama on 5 June 1953. God blessed this union in marriage with three children --Pamela, Stanley, and Lisa.

While living in Atmore, Brother Cumbie began attending Pine Level Church and on 11 June 1966, he came asking for a home in the church. He was unanimously accepted by the church and was baptized 9 July 1966. Pine Level Church recognized his gift and calling and unanimously approved that he be licensed to the work of the ministry on 8 March 1975. Our beloved brother was ordained to the full gospel ministry on 12 December 1975.

Over the span of time of his ministry, he was called to serve as pastor of churches in the Antioch Association. At the time of his death, he was serving five Old Baptist Churches -- Salem, Concord, New Home, Pine Level and Gravel Hill.

### **ELDER OBA M. CUMMINGS**

Elder Cummings was born October 29, 1898 in Indian Territory, which later became Gotebo, Oklahoma. He was one of eight children born to Benjamin and Laura Cummings. He passed from this life on November 10, 1994 at Oklahoma City.

He was ordained to the ministry April 20, 1930 at Elk Creek Church, Elk City, Oklahoma. He moved to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and began pastoring Bethlehem Church in 1935 and continued to serve the remainder of his life.



Elder Cummings pastored churches at Shamrock, TX, and Mt View, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Crescent, Purcell, and Tecumseh, Oklahoma.

Elder Cummings married Mary Colwell, daughter of Elder James Iverson (Ivy) and Lily Roseanna Penny Colwell on January 4, 1921, at Mountain View, Oklahoma. They had two children: Lyndell Cummings and Mary Frances Cummings Mendoza

Elder Cummings was a veteran of WWI and was one of the American soldiers stationed in Siberia at the time of the Russian Revolution. Elder Cummings was a government meat inspector, having worked for Wilson's Packing Plant for more than 30 years.

Elder Cummings was known throughout the churches and elsewhere as "Uncle Oba," a term of deep endearment from multitudes of children (and adults who had been children under his influence). A man of impeccable integrity, he exemplified all that adults and children alike expect of a gentle man of God.

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### **ELDER TIM CUNNINGHAM**

My pilgrimage to the Primitive Baptist church began in the spring of 1987, while serving as pastor of a Missionary Baptist church in Tennessee. During 1986, I experienced my first exposure to the doctrines of grace under the influence of the Sovereign Grace Landmark Missionary Baptist. I became convinced of the truthfulness of these precious doctrines, but remained unwilling to give up my association with the Arminian Missionary Baptist with whom I was affiliated.

During that time, I was employed on a part time basis at a local "Christian" radio station, where I was introduced to Elder Bobby Collins, who was at that time pastor of the Elgin Crossroads Primitive Baptist Church near Rogersville Alabama. I knew very little about Primitive Baptist, but I was aware that they believed the doctrines of grace. My soul was starving to learn more about the truths that I had silently embraced and I therefore initiated a conversation with Elder Collins.

After much prayerful study and deliberation with Brother Collins and others, I became persuaded that the Primitive Baptist possessed the apostolic identity both in doctrine and in practice of the true church of our Lord Jesus Christ. I resigned as pastor of the Missionary Baptist Church and was blessed to unite by baptism with Elgin Crossroads Primitive Baptist Church on the night of my twenty-first birthday.

The Church saw fit to call for my ordination to the gospel ministry and I was ordained on October 8, 1988 at which time I was called to serve as co-pastor with Elder Bobby Collins.

Brother Collins and I served together until May of 1989 when he resigned the pastoral care of the church. Shortly after my ordination, I was also called to pastor second Creek Church in Five Points, Tennessee. Here I attempted to serve until Elgin Crossroads Church called for my full-time services in the Spring of 1992. I was blessed to serve Elgin Crossroads Church until April of 1998 when I accepted the call to pastor New Hope Church in Hatley Mississippi where I am endeavoring to serve at the present time.

God has been very gracious to this poor, hell-deserving wretch. In addition to the abundance of undeserved spiritual blessings, he has given me a beautiful family. My wife, Cathy and I were married on May 22, 1987. God gave me the privilege of baptizing her into the church on the day of my ordination. She and I have been blessed with five precious children... Sarah, Benjamin, Grace, Nathanael and Daniel. I was honored to baptize my two oldest children into the membership of New Hope Church. To God belongs all the glory and praise forever.

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#### **ELDER MAHLON OBERT CURP**



Mahlon Obert Curp, 66, of Newark Ohio, died at Newark City Hospital on December 5, 1947. He had been in failing health for several months, but had been able to go among the churches until about a month before his death.

He was born August 27, 1881 in Fayette County, Ohio. He was the son of the late Plina and Frances Brubaker Curp. His wife, Cora V. Curp died June 8, 1937. He and Cora had one daughter, Mildred Moran and three sons, Warren, Charles and Marion.

Brother Curp was a member of Harmony Church, Washington Court House, Ohio. He had been received into the fellowship of Old Paint Creek Church and was baptized by the late Elder W. N. Cory, later joining at Harmony by letter where he remained a member until his death.

He was ordained to the work of the ministry by a presbytery called by this church on July 17, 1911. He was soon called to the care of churches and served very faithfully the churches of his care. He was a very able doctrinal preacher, a wise counselor and an unusually good “fireside” preacher.

He served Scotts Creek Church near Logan Ohio the longest period of time. Other churches served were; Harmont, Laurelville, Clinton, Falls, Bethel and others.

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**ELDER ALAN CURTIS**



Elder Curtis was born in New Hancock County, Illinois on February 18, 1955. He united with the Smyrna Church in Bentley, Illinois, in July 1968. He was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry in January 1993.

At the present time he is co-pastor of Smyrna Church with Elder James Harris. He also pastors the Mt. Tabor Church in Hurdland, Missouri, and the Mt. Gilead Church in Hersman, Illinois.

Elder Curtis married Donna Coussens of Moline, Illinois, in August 1977. They are both members of the Smyrna Church. They have been blessed with two children, Timothy and Kimberly.