

I Cor. 3:6-9

Joshua 4:17-24
Ps. 102:18

THE BAPTISTS BEGAN with John the Baptist - with the personal earthly ministry of Christ
Material prepared by John the Baptist - Acts 1:16-26; Matt. 4:17-21; John 1:29-49

1. Baptist in Asia, Africa, southern Europe in early centuries - Christians, Novations, Donatists, Petro Brusians, Arnoldites, Memnonites, Waldenses, Ana-Baptists, Landmarks, Baptists.

2. Baptist in America are direct descendants of Welsh Baptists.

3. The origin of the Welsh Baptist: In A.D. 63, while Paul was a prisoner in Rome, in his own hired house, a welsh lady and her husband whose name was Pudens, visited Paul in Rome, and were concerted under his preaching, before returning to England and Wales - Acts 28:30-31; II Tim. 4:21.

4. First Baptist church in America established by Dr. John Clarke at New Port, Rhode Island, 1638.

5. Philadelphia Baptist Association organized in Pennsylvania, July 27, 1707, with five churches. The Welsh Tract Church was organized in 1701 at Pembrokehire, south Wales. They came as a body to America. *association organized 274 years ago - 1981*

6. The Welsh Baptist of Pennsylvania and New Jersey migrated into North and South Carolina, Virginia and Georgia. The Welsh Neck church was organized in South Carolina.

7. From this general area of South Carolina came Richard Curtis, Jr., and a number of other Baptist families across Tennessee, down the Mississippi River to the Natchez country in the Mississippi Territory in 1779-'80.

8. Salem Baptist Church organized in 1791 in Pickering (Jefferson) County on the south fork of Cole's Creek about 18 miles from Natchez.

9. Mississippi Baptist Association organized at Salem church in 1806.

-. General Association organized in 1855.

-. General Association re-organized at Bay Springs in 1908.

-. Clarke College - 1907

-. Leading early ministers: Richard Curtis, Jr., William Hamberlin, Stephen DeAlvo, Moses Hadley, Zachariah Reeves, Moderator 24 times from 1843-1870
Nathan L. Clarke, Moderator 25 times, J. R. Graves, James Patten Johnson, W. H. Varnado, A. M. Slaydon, J. P. Martin, John Moffett, M. Walters, D. N. Jack

343 yrs
ago

L. F. Simmons

JAMES PATTEN JOHNSON was born at Winchester, Wayne County, Miss., April 4, 1817. The son of Shade Johnston, and grandson of Jacob Johnston

Jacob Johnston, ~~one~~ of three preacher sons of Shade Johnston moved to Butler County, Alabama.

James P. Johnston was one of five sons of Jacob Johnston.

James P. Johnston returned to Mississippi in April (16th), 1839, to Covington County on Leaf River.

Went back to Lauderdale County, Miss. and drove cattle to Mobile.

The money he saved was lost in the Brandon Bank later.

He returned to Covington County where he married Miss Charity Duckworth in 1843. *Father of 12 children.*

They soon afterward moved to Smith County where he was converted, later surrendering to preach, preaching his first sermon in Smith County. He was licensed to preach by Mount Nebo (First) Baptist church now in Bay Springs, in 1850. He was ordained by the same church in 1853. He pastored the church there for some time. He also pastored at Union Baptist Church.

He moved from Smith County to Stonewall, Miss. (Harrison County), in 1879.

Served as missionary for state (General) Association for many years. Worked in Hobolochitto Association. Led in organizing Red Creek Association in 1880. *Moved to Marion County Dec. 5, 1885.*

Organized many churches - including Midway in ~~1870~~ *Dec. 20, 1886.*
Died March 9, 1902. Buried in Union Church cemetery.

I HAVE SEEN MISSISSIPPI BAPTISTS GROW over the past 36 years.

I saw the time when only two churches had a pastor's home. Most were only part time.

I saw the establishment of a strong and stable state missions program - Mississippi Baptist Children's Home - Southeastern College - Youth work - History Commission - several new Associations. many churches organized - over

B.M.A. OF AMERICA:

Until 1950 were seldom ever paid our interstate and foreign missionaries what we owed them.

Total given to all missions causes in 1978 -
~~\$3,213,210.00~~ 5,271,520.00
Total to all causes in 1978 - ~~\$23,547,838.00~~ 34,628,874.00
Total Baptisms reported in 1978 - ~~41,374~~ 9,300
Per Capita giving in 1978 - ~~\$155.89~~ 218.61

We do not have to compromise Bible principles to grow and be blessed in the Lord's work.

1981 is 'Baptist Heritage' year
in Mississippi

Baptist in Miss. Territory before ~~1780~~
Presumably as early as 1765

First Baptist Migration of historic
record in 1780

First Church Constituted in 1791

Miss. Bapt. Association in 1806