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ELDER WILLIAM THOMAS JACKS

SUBMITTED BY GAYLON POWELL: Elder Jacks was born January 1, 1871, in Montgomery County, Mississippi, near Stewart, to Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Jacks. His mother died when he was two months old and he lived with his mother's family until he was nine years old. When they died, he then lived with his father, who had remarried, until the time of his father's death at which time he was 13 years old. In October 1893, he moved to Texas.

He was married November 11, 1900 to Miss Ollie Crowe in Hillsboro, Texas, and they moved to Travis County in 1904 where they engaged in truck farming for many years. To this union nine children were born, six of which lived to adulthood: two boys and four girls.

He joined Little Vine Church near Austin, July 15, 1909 and was baptized by Elder P. T. Watson. He was ordained January 5, 1919 by a Presbytery composed of Elders S. N. Redford, and T. L. Webb, and Deacons J. D. Smith and S. B. Owen. He served Little Vine Church as joint pastor with Elder T. L. Webb in 1919 and with Elder S. N. Redford from 1919 to 1922; he then served Little Vine Church as pastor from 1922 until 1959.

He died July 2, 1961, in Austin, Texas. He was buried at Greenwood Cemetery in Austin.

ELDER J. LEE JACKSON

Son of William Major and Lucy Ann Jackson, was born Apr. 27, 1865, died suddenly of heart failure Sunday, Jan. 9, 1938. He received a hope in Christ in 1905, joined the Primitive Baptist Church at New Hope Oct. 10, 1920; liberated to speak in public Mar. 10, 1923; licensed May 12, 1923; ordained Oct. 11, 1924, and spent the remainder of his life in the service of His Master.

He was first married to Miss Laura B. Scott Dec. 25, 1890, to which union were born three children, one dying at birth. She preceded him to the grave nearly 37 years. Mar. 20, 1902, he was married to Lillie E. Harris.

ELDER J. P. JACKSON

WRITTEN BY HIS WIFE, RUTH JACKSON: Elder Jackson was born on October 13, 1913 and passed from this life in February 1992. He was baptized on October 9, 1949 by Elder Gassaway at the Antioch Church. He was ordained on March 30, 1955 at the Antioch Church, and he ministered a total of 37 years.

Elder Jackson was married to the former Helen Ruth Dillon on March 30, 1939. To this union four sons and four daughters were born: J. P. Jackson, Jr., Helen Loucille, Billy Wayne, Martha Evelyn, Edgar Franklin, James Robert, Olivia Ann, and Nancy May.

He spent his entire ministry in Falkner, Miss. He is buried in the Falkner Cemetery in Tippas County, Miss.

ELDER J. P. JACKSON

FROM AN OBITUARY IN "BANNER OF LOVE:" Elder Jackson, aged 70, passed on to the great reward at his home in Anton, Texas, on July 12, 1953. He had lived at Anton for more than 25 years. He had been in ill health for many years. Burial was in the Anton Cemetery.

He had been an ordained minister for 39 years. He was a man of quiet, peaceful disposition and well read in the Bible, and was joint pastor there with the late Elder H. G. Richards, who said of him, "If there is no trouble until Brother Jackson caused it, things would always be peaceful."

ELDER MOSES R. JACKSON

Date of birth: Sept 10, 1817, Gallatin Co., Kentucky. Deceased April 23, 1898, Coleman Co., Texas. Married to Frances Simpson on June 7, 1842 near Omaha, Douglas Co., Nebraska

He was the Father-in-law of Elder William Newton Phariss, and the great-grandfather of Elder Sylvester B. Gowens. He preached in Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.

ELDER STEVEN A. JACKSON



Elder Jackson was born March 9, 1962 in Torrance, California. His loving mother Lela Judith Jackson of Leflore County, Oklahoma and father, Billy Dean Jackson, of Conway County, Arkansas, sought a religious upbringing for their son and three other children.

In 1983, he met the love of his life, Lisa Catherine Colley, a Primitive Baptist from her youth. After their marriage in 1984, Lisa continued strong in the faith, insisting that their children, Jillia Catherine and Jeffrey Steven, attend services. Steven continued to stray from God. Elder Jackson confesses that God used Lisa and their children to lead him to the truth, while his felt need of a Savior was magnified.

Elder Jackson was baptized in January 1991. Upon request of the Fort Smith Primitive Baptist Church, in Fort Smith, Arkansas, he began exercising in 1993. The Lord sent Elder Thomas Humble, a gentle and meek servant to temper and instruct the young gift as a father in the ministry. Elder Humble was a very fitting instructor.

After trying the spirits, the said congregation called for his ordination and thus Brother Jackson came under the hands of the presbytery on November 11, 1995. Elder Jackson currently serves the Fort Smith Church as pastor.

ELDER THOMAS JACKSON

Elder Jackson was ordained to preach the Gospel in the year of 1910 in November, at Bethel Primitive Baptist Church. He had been exercising for some time at Goshen Church near Osceola, Mo., before moving to Bates County. He passed away on April 22, 1911. He married Elizabeth Orr on Sept. 7, 1861. They raised four sons and one daughter.

ELDER WILLIAM MURRY JACKSON

Elder Jackson was born Aug. 3, 1887, and died Jan. 13, 1962. He first united with a Primitive Baptist Church in the state of Oklahoma, but moved to Missouri, and became a member of Big Rock Church. After the pastor of this church, Eld. W. J. Hardesty, died, Bro. Jackson preached for the church until in 1941. Becoming unhappy with the church, due to some of the members joining the Masonic Lodge, he left and went to Old Cedar Church in Callaway County, Mo. In 1959, he returned to Big Rock Church, by letter from Old Cedar. He was ordained Dec. 5, 1922 at Sycamore, Oklahoma, before coming to Missouri.

At one time he was pastor of Old Cedar Church, Callaway County, Mo. He was married to Miss Alma Ethel Hollenbeck. They had five children, one daughter, and four sons. After his wife died he married Leona McCasland.

ELDER JESSE JAMES

Elder Jesse James of Alabama was born December 5, 1840. Brother James was a member of Hurricane Springs Church at Anderson, Alabama, located in Lauderdale County. He was in the organization and constitution of the Second Creek Association, which Hurricane Springs became a member after taking leave from the Flint River Association of Madison County, Alabama on October 11, 1884 and Elder James preached the introductory and constitution sermon. Elder James was elected to serve as moderator to the Second Creek Association in 1888. He was once again appointed to preach the introductory sermon at the association September 1891, but due to illness he was unable to attend. His severe illness caused him to be carried to be with his Lord on December 6, 1891.

ELDER EUGENE JANES



Elder O. Eugene Janes was born on January 16, 1924, in Coles County, Ill., the son of Elder Harold and Flo Brown Janes. He united with the Zoar Church near Mattoon, Ill., where his father was pastor, at 22 years of age.

At 37 years of age he was ordained to the full work of the ministry and followed in his father's footsteps to pastor the same churches, i.e., Zoar Church near Mattoon and Deer Creek Church near Greencastle, Ind. He also pastored Springfield Church, Springfield, Ill., for a few years. At age 76 he is still pastor of Zoar

Church.

ELDER HAROLD A JANES

Harold A Janes was born in Arcola Illinois on March 22, 1918. He is the son of Harold T. Janes and Cleta Flo Janes and one of 11 children, 7 sons and 4 daughters. His parents were farmers, so he worked at home and for neighbors during his teen years. He joined Zoar Church of Mattoon where his father was pastor.

In 1951 he moved to Tucson Arizona and asked for a home in the Tucson Church. Then in 1977 he moved to Hemet California and moved his membership to Liberty Church in Bell Garden, California. Two of his brothers and one sister were members here.

In 1982 the church there requested that he be ordained to the ministry. He requested that his brother Elder Eugene Janes who is pastor at Zoar Church in Mattoon, Illinois, perform the ceremony.

He served Liberty Church until 1986 at which time he resigned and moved his membership to the Beaumont Church where his daughter's husband, Elder Robert Wortman, was pastor.

ELDER HAROLD T. JANES



Elder Harold Thomas Janes was born on the 17th day of April 1896 in Coles County, Illinois, the son of Thomas and Ada Bell Elder Janes.

Being a member of Zoar Church, and the church recognizing his gift to preach, he was ordained to the full work of the ministry at age 26 and was known as the "kid preacher," as it was unusual back then to be ordained so young. He was pastor of Zoar Church for about 34 years, during which time he baptized seven of his children and one daughter-in-law.

He also pastored Deer Creek Church, Greencastle, Ind., for nine years. He passed away in 1957 at the early age of 60.

ELDER TIM L. JANES

Tim L. Janes was born March 6, 1951 in Mattoon, Illinois to Elder Harold A. Janes and Georgia Irene (Mosbarger) Janes. They were both at the time, members of Zoar Church in Mattoon where Elder Harold T. Janes was Pastor. Harold T. is the father of Harold A.

His mother's sickness with tuberculosis brought the family to Tucson Arizona in August of 1951. The Lord called her home in August of 1959.

Elder Tim Janes married the love of his life, Janet Gaye (Thacker) on December 19, 1970. To this blessed union were added four children: Lisa Caroline, Harold Lee, Clifford Allan and Hannah Gaye. All these children attend Tucson Church except for Lisa who now resides in Germany.

Elder Janes and his wife united with the Tucson Church and were baptized together on February 6, 1972. The church called for the ordination of Elder Janes on January 23, 1983 and called him as pastor the following year. The Lord has been abundantly good to the Tucson Church adding and taking away according to his will but always blessing with his holy presence.

ELDER FRED JANEWAY



Elder Fred Janeway was ordained into the ministry on October 16, 1932. He died October 17, 1951 at the age of 80. He and his wife had one son.

Elder Janeway served the church in Waco, Texas for many years. His ministry was mainly in the central Texas area. He is remembered as a kind and friendly man who was faithful to his calling. He was well received wherever he went.

ELDER CHARLIE LAWRENCE JARRETT

SUBMITTED BY HIS SON, LONNIE J. JARRETT: Charlie Lawrence Jarrett was born in Sheridan, Indiana, May 6, 1892. On December 28, 1912, he married Grace Pearson; ten children were born to this union.

Charlie was ordained as a minister of the gospel August 16, 1930, at Floydada, Texas, and served churches in Floydada, Vera, Croton, and Tulia, Texas. He was co-pastor with Elder Laban Handley at the Primitive Baptist Church in Floydada for several years in the 40's and 50's and was a leader in the Peace Baptist movement in the 1950's.

After the death of his first wife, he married Viola Fox in 1963, and he and Viola enjoyed traveling and attending churches throughout the West Texas area, New Mexico, and on occasion, in Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Missouri.

Elder Jarrett served the church in Tulia, Texas for over twenty years and was active in the church there until about a year before his death, March 1, 1982.

ELDER JOSEPH LEE JEFFERS

FROM "GOODWILL" JULY 1963: Elder Jeffers was born on 8 December 1901 at Johns Island, Florida.

Brother Joe united with Hopewell Church and was baptized on 23 April 1933 by their pastor, Elder O. K. Sheffield. On 15 May 1949 he was ordained to the ministry and served

as pastor of Hopewell Church for several years. Later in life he moved his church membership to Antioch Church in Vero Beach, Florida.

Brother Joe died at Ft. Pierce, Florida on 11 March 1963. Brother Joe's friendly and hospitable manner caused him to be much loved and esteemed by all who knew him.

ELDER J. N. JEFFERSON

WRITTEN BY ELDER J.T. POWER: Elder Jefferson was born March 4, 1849, died February 18, 1929, at his home in Clarksburg, West Virginia. Elder Jefferson was a man of unusual ability, became a schoolteacher at an early age and held many civil offices in which he served faithfully and satisfactorily his constituents. He was married to Mary Bell Cordon November 29, 1877, to which union there were born six children.

Elder Jefferson united with Rock Hill Church in October 1889, and was baptized by Elder T. N. Alderton. He began preaching in 1890, and was ordained in 1893 by Elders T. N. Alderton, C. H. Waters and D. T. Poynter and served his Lord with great zeal until his health gave way. His preaching was with much power, and many hungry souls were filled and made to rejoice in the finished, and certain salvation wrought out by Jesus, which he proclaimed. He was a loyal friend, a congenial companion and stood on the walls of Zion with undaunted courage.

ELDER BETHEL JEFFREY

WRITTEN BY HIS DAUGHTER, FRANKIE SCHRIER IN THE "BAPTIST TRUMPET" 1980: Bethel Young Jeffrey was born August 31, 1904 in Llano, Texas. He passed from this life on December 24, 1980 in Eldorado, Texas.

Elder Jeffrey joined the Primitive Baptist Church in 1922. He came to Eldorado in 1925. He was pastor of the Eldorado Church for 25 years, pastor of New Hope Church of Floydada, Texas for 20 years, and pastor of Little Vine Church of Fort Worth, Texas for 4 years. He served his duty to this call. Driving many miles, never complaining; he bore his burden well. He married Eleanor Maddox June 24, 1933, in Eldorado, Texas.

ELDER BENSON THOMAS JENKINS

I was born February 14th 1882, son of Samuel and Cynthia Osborne Jenkins, near Marion, Smyth County, Virginia. My parents were very poor people and I didn't have an opportunity to get an education.

In 1895, we moved to Welch, West Virginia, and my father went to work on the coke yards at Elkridge. I began "trapping" in the coal mines in my early teens.

In 1900, I married Miss Nannie Christian, daughter of Robert and Comfort Christian, of Ashland, West Virginia. There were eight boys and four girls born into our home.

In 1902, I became troubled about the way I had been living so I set about to find some relief of mind. I had a deep impression to get myself a Bible although, at that time, I had never learned to read. I felt that just to have a Testament to hold would give me some relief.



One of my friends led me to the Old (Primitive) Baptist Church. I knew that these were the people God had showed me. I immediately asked for a home with them and was gladly received.

Not knowing how to join them, I verily thought it would be an abomination to tell them of my ups and downs and what a sinner I felt to be. Elder S. L. Wood, who was to baptize me, asked that we go a near way to the baptizing place because he wanted to talk to me. On our way, he began to tell me his experiences and I told him mine. I glanced over at him and saw tears running down his cheeks and I thought to myself, "I have hurt his feelings and now he won't baptize me," but we went on to the water and he baptized me. This took place in September 1910, just below Clark's Gap in West Virginia.

I was liberated to preach the third Sunday in April, 1924, and ordained to the full functions of the gospel ministry in August, the third Sunday, 1925, by the Rich Creek Church (Lashmeet, WV) where my membership is at the present time. The Presbytery consisted of Elders Rose, Hurst, Wood, Wilson and Lilly. In the month following, I was chosen as pastor of the following churches: Cabin Creek, at Pierpoint, WV, Pipestem, in Mercer County, and Dry Pond at Ballard, WV.

A while later, I was called to Montcalm, also in Mercer County. I served Pipestem and Dry Pond until 1955. After several years, I resigned at Montcalm also. I am still serving Cabin Creek and also Egeria. I have served these churches with all the love and ability that God has seen fit to grant me amidst all my weaknesses.

THIS AUTOBIOGRAPHY IS PRIMARILY IN ELDER JENKINS' OWN WORDS, AS DICTATED TO ELDER I. W. KILBY IN THE YEAR 1958.

ELDER DANIEL AARON JENKINS

FROM MINUTES OF MT. ENON ASSOCIATION, NOV. 13, 14, 1982: The home of Elder Green Berry Jenkins and his wife, Senny Ann was blessed with the birth of a son on October 26, 1906 by the name of Daniel Aaron Jenkins. He was born at Chipley Florida in Washington County.

Brother Jenkins married the former Zola Parrish on May 20, 1926 and to this union born four daughters were born: Lorrain, Noami, Dean and Reith; two sons Harvey and Daniel. His loving and faithful wife preceded him in death on July 17, 1974.

Bethlehem Church in Hillsborough County became the spiritual home of Brother Jenkins on November 24, 1934 and it was there that he was set apart the full function of the gospel ministry on January 26, 1946. The presbytery which performed his ordination was Elders T. M. Hughes, T. P. Webb, and his father Green Berry Jenkins. Brother Jenkins faithfully served churches throughout Central Florida.

It pleased our Lord and Master to call home Elder Daniel Aaron Jenkins on October 3, 1982.

ELDER H. D. JENKINS

WRITTEN BY GARY COREY: Brother Jenkins was the son of William Jenkins and Susan Roebuck Jenkins. He was born on March 9, 1848, and died April 4, 1919.

He was married to Miss Susan Davis in his early manhood and to this union four children were born: 3 boys and 1 girl.

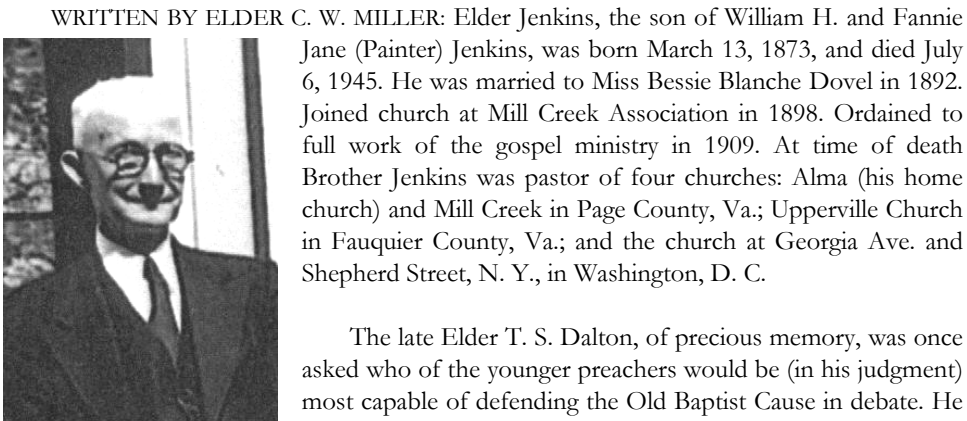
Brother Jenkins united with the Church at Flat Swamp Saturday before the first Sunday in September 1871, and was baptized the following day by Elder John Ross. He was chosen as Deacon on Saturday before the first Sunday in December 1878, and was liberated to exercise his gift on Friday before the first Sunday in September 1910. He was ordained to the ministry the first Sunday in June 1912, by Elders John N. Rogerson and Ben S. Cowin.

He always filled his place at church both before and after his ordination. He was a real Gospel Minister, preaching as long as he had strength to do so, but was confined to his bed three or four months before his death, suffering untold agony with a cancer on his arm and shoulder.

ELDER JAMES MADISON JENNINGS

WRITTEN BY ELDER A. L. HARRISON: Elder Jennings died at his home in Stephens City, Virginia, April 13, 1929. Elder Jennings was a Confederate Veteran and was born and reared in Carroll County, Virginia. He was a beloved minister, and also served twelve years as Commissioner of Revenue. He was born November 23, 1844, had been an Elder in the Primitive Baptist Church for over fifty years. Sister Jennings, who was formerly Miss Caroline Banks, died April 15, 1925.

ELDER JOHN BENTON JENKINS



WRITTEN BY ELDER C. W. MILLER: Elder Jenkins, the son of William H. and Fannie Jane (Painter) Jenkins, was born March 13, 1873, and died July 6, 1945. He was married to Miss Bessie Blanche Dovel in 1892. Joined church at Mill Creek Association in 1898. Ordained to full work of the gospel ministry in 1909. At time of death Brother Jenkins was pastor of four churches: Alma (his home church) and Mill Creek in Page County, Va.; Upperville Church in Fauquier County, Va.; and the church at Georgia Ave. and Shepherd Street, N. Y., in Washington, D. C.

The late Elder T. S. Dalton, of precious memory, was once asked who of the younger preachers would be (in his judgment) most capable of defending the Old Baptist Cause in debate. He promptly answered, "Elder Jenkins."

Brother Jenkins was active in all the work of a pastor: marrying, baptizing, visiting the sick, aged and infirm; and last but by no means least, and preaching funerals. He conducted more funerals than most of us. He was also moderator of Ebenezer Association for many years.

He was born, lived and died a resident of Page County, Va. Brother Jenkins was not a great traveler as some of us are, but he had books and read them; and was expert in scriptural interpretation. Though not a scholar if measured by the world's standard, he had Bible wisdom, which many preachers of Baptist and other denominations do not have. His sympathy was deep and broad; he understood the workings of the human heart, especially when touched by Christian experience.

He had been a successful farmer in early life, but gave it up in later years to tend the Lord's vineyard and shepherd his sheep.

Brother Jenkins held with another denomination before becoming a Baptist, and put in his best licks and efforts to prove Primitive Baptist doctrine wrong. He was entirely sincere in his futile efforts, and when he realized his mistaken position--that he was wrong and the Old Baptists right in Bible teaching, he gave up, and came over to the Old Baptist ranks like the true soldier of the cross that he was.

ELDER LEGGETT JENKINS

WRITTEN IN "THE GOSPEL MESSENGER" BY W. J. COVINGTON: The subject of this notice was born April 27, 1825, joined the Primitive Baptist Church in May 1853, and soon thereafter began to preach. He was ordained to the full work of the ministry May, 1858, which position he filled with honor to the day of his death, which occurred at his home in Lauderdale County, Alabama, Nov. 15, 1896, being 71 years old. As far as my acquaintance with him extended, he was an earnest advocate of the truth, sound in the faith of God's

elect, and boldly declared that eternal life is the gift of God, using as his first text the words of our Saviour "My sheep hear my voice," etc.

He dearly loved the Baptist cause, and spent about forty years of his life in the ministry, during which time he preached a great deal, traveling principally on horseback. He was a plain, humble herald of the Cross, ever ready to go where duty called; lived an exemplary life, both in the church and in his daily walk, fulfilling the scriptural injunction to "Provide things honest in the sight of all men." He was a faithful, worthy member and wise counselor, a kind loving husband, an indulgent father; and a useful, honored citizen.

ELDER WILLIAM HOWARD JERNIGAN

Elder Jernigan was born on July 25, 1929. He was baptized in May 1957 at the Sardis PB Church in Huxford, Alabama by Elder J. P. Saderfer. He was married on December 23, 1950 to the former Virginia Adams. To this union four sons and one daughter were born. He was ordained in March 1962 at the Sardis PB Church.



ELDER JERNIGAN WRITES: In the year 1957, God did something that no one else was able to do: He showed me I was a sinner. I felt that I was damned for eternal hell. On the 4th Sunday in May 1957, I was led to Sardis Church in Huxford, Alabama. That day I heard the gospel of my salvation; that Jesus loved me enough to die for me and did for me what no one else could, that is, atone for my sins. This was so wonderful and the best news that I ever heard. This humbled me and gave me a heart full of gratitude for God's goodness and mercy and I felt a great burden to proclaim this good news to others.

On the fourth Sunday in March 1962, I was ordained to the ministry. I served as pastor of churches in Alabama until 1973. We then moved to Luling, Texas, 40 miles south of Austin. I have continued to serve as pastor of churches at Gorman, Odessa, and Colorado City, Texas. I am current pastor of the church in San Angelo and Lampasas.

ELDER EVERETT JOHNS

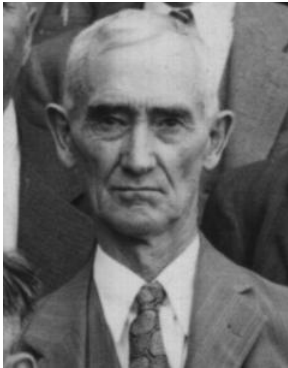
FROM "GOSPEL APPEAL:" Macclenny Primitive Baptist Church, the surrounding churches and communities were grieved to learn of the sudden death of Elder Everett Johns in a Jacksonville hospital on April 13, 1983.

He was born September 15, 1900 and was a lifelong resident of Baker County, Fla. He was married to Ethel Rhoden on June 10, 1920, who preceded him in death March 1980. To this union six children were born.

Brother Everett united with Pleasant Grove Church early in life and was ordained to the ministry in March 1943. He and his dear companion, Sister Ethel, joined Macclenny Primitive Baptist Church by letter on February 22, 1964. He served as pastor of several churches in this area and was always blessed to preach the grand old doctrine of salvation by grace.

ELDER A. G. JOHNSON

WRITTEN BY ELDER IRA FRY: With the dawn of a new day, May 8, 1866, a little son came to the home of the parents in Canada. They called him A. G. Johnson. Ninety five years and seven months later another day closed and with it our beloved Elder closed his eyes.



Elder Johnson moved his large family to Colorado in 1962, locating at Fort Lupron, where he served as a public servant, being postmaster 12 years, mayor two terms, and in many other public activities. He lived a devoted life in the Primitive Baptist Church over 75 years; a large number of these years as a minister for our beloved church He served the Denver Church since it was organized. Since his age limited him the last few years, he and I served together.

We have traveled thousands of miles together. I have said he came the nearest of being a pastor as I think a pastor ought to be as any minister I have ever known.

ELDER CLIFTON JOHNSON

SUBMITTED BY HIS SISTER, ROSA LEE JOHNSON STEPHENS: Elder Felix Clifton Johnson was born October 28, 1935 in Williamson Co., Tenn., the son of Clayton Hayward and Mary Delana Vandiver Johnson. He married Lula May Russell Moore on July 31, 1966. He joined Leipers Fork Church on Nov. 20, 1976 and was baptized the following day by Elder S. E. Scott, Jr. He exercised his preaching gift for the first time in December 1976, and was ordained Nov. 19, 1978 at Leipers Fork, where he was called as pastor in November 1990. He has also served as pastor Linden and Oak Grove Churches and presently serves Leipers Fork and Salem.

ELDER CLIFTON (JOHNNY) JOHNSON



Elder Johnson, 62, passed away on March 24, 1976 in the Jackson County Hospital.

He united with Union Church in June 1952 and was baptized by Elder Gene Thomas. In November 1953 he was ordained to the full work of the ministry. He served as joint pastor to Union, Pisgah, Bethlehem, Pilgrims Rest and Mud Creek Churches, all in the Mud Creek Association.

ELDER CLYDE O. JOHNSON

FROM HIS EXPERIENCE IN "MESSENGER OF PEACE:" I was born April 15, 1892, and except for a few months of my life Stahl, Mo., has been my post office.

On March 3, 1915, I was married to Nola F. Rosebery, who has been a loving companion and so much encouragement to me in my short labors among the dear Baptists. When we were married, I was a member of a Missionary Baptist Church.

I never heard the Primitive Baptists preach until after we were married, but I cannot remember the time when I did not have serious thoughts about God. I went to bed one night feeling again that I was failing, and oh! such a heavy heart. I felt that if I failed this time surely hell would be my doom. At 2 o'clock in the morning, I saw myself a poor sinner in the sight of God, and I was begging Him for mercy. For ninety days, I enjoyed the sweetest peace; only those who have gone through the same experience can understand.



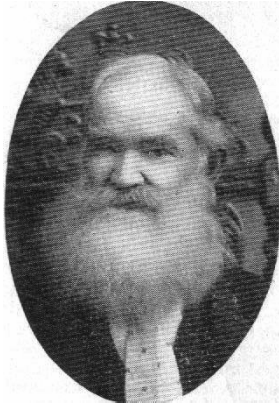
How I then longed to hear the Primitive Baptists preach, and how I longed to hear the dear brethren talk of their experiences of grace! For now, I knew it was all by grace. During an association at Worthington, MO, I felt so drawn and impressed that I felt I had to ask for a home. My companion went with me, and we were received into the haven of Hazel Creek Church and were baptized in the Chariton River August 27, 1931, by Elder J. Bryan Adair.

In the year of 1935, the church called for my ordination, and I was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry at the association in August of that year. I had been attending the Mt. Tabor Church for two years before my ordination and am still pastoring there. I also

have the care of Looney's Creek Church, and am assistant pastor with Elder George Jones at our home church, which meets twice a month.

NOTE: Elder Johnson served Mt. Tabor Church for 44 years, Looney's Creek Church for 13 years, and Hazel Creek Church for nearly 50 years. During his ministry, he baptized 75 people, married 268 couples, and preached 1,105 funerals. He passed away on September 12, 1986.

ELDER ELKANAH JOHNSON



Elder Johnson, a native of North Carolina, was born in 1838 and died on December 3, 1915. He attended college in Macon, Georgia and graduated with honors. He lived in San Antonio, Texas the last thirty years of his life. He and his wife had four daughters.

He was the pastor of the first Primitive Baptist church in San Antonio, Texas and served there many years. He was a pioneer minister in south Texas.

He served as colonel in the Confederate army having enlisted in Georgia and had a record for distinguished service.

FROM DAVID MONTGOMERY: Elder Johnson was one of the first Primitive Baptist ministers in south Texas. In Elder Pittman's book, it was noted that his desire was to go into destitute places to preach the gospel. In a letter he sent to *The Gospel Messenger* in 1903, he wrote: "I recently returned from attending the Southwest Texas Association held with Good Hope Church in Gonzales County, Texas. Peace, love and harmony pervaded all their deliberations. There were fourteen sermons preached at the meeting-house, and about the same number of nights at residences too remote to attend the night meetings at church. Ten ministers were in attendance at the Association. All of the preaching seemed to be in love and was pronounced by the Moderator to be of one accord giving all glory to the Son of God whose blood cleanseth from all sin, and to the upbuilding of the church of Christ and establishing of the saints in the most holy faith."

ELDER FRANK JOHNSON



Elder William Frank Johnson was born January 21, 1947 in Franklin, Tennessee, the son of Malachi and Evie Still Johnson. He served in the infantry in Vietnam 1968-1969. On July 17, 1970, he married his wife, Betty, who was from Eagleville, Tennessee. They were blessed with one daughter, Lori Janel.

He joined Big Harpeth Church on June 23, 1985 and was baptized by Elders Sonny Pyles and Milton Lillard in the Harpeth River. He was ordained as a deacon on March 25, 1990, and as a gospel minister on October 27, 1996. He has served Big Harpeth, Eagleville, Brush Creek, and Wilson Creek Churches.

ELDER GEORGE JOHNSON



SUBMITTED IN LOVE BY HIS SISTER, LINDA DENTON:
Elder George Holton Johnson was born January 27, 1945 in Lubbock, Texas. His parents were Fay Isom and Ollie Faye Holton Johnson. He was the youngest of four children. At age nine, George joined the Lubbock Church and was baptized by Elder Willie Fox.

He was married to Jamie Jones on Aug. 30, 1963 in Idalou, Texas by Elder E.J. Norman. He and Jamie had four children: two sons-Wade and Rex, and two daughters-Shelley and Amy.

George was a farmer. He served his Idalou Community as a Board Member and President of the Coop Gin; the School Board; and the Stock Show. George was ordained as a Deacon in 1972 and as a Minister on May 19, 1979 in the Lubbock Church. He has served as Pastor of the Lubbock, Crosbyton, and Muleshoe Churches.

One of the greatest influences in his life was his maternal Grandfather, Homer Holton, a deacon in the Wellington Church. George has a special gift to minister to young people and to those who have problems, especially those who have lost loved ones.

ELDER J. EZRA JOHNSON

Elder J. Ezra John of Boaz Alabama was born 1908 and passed away March 1, 1999 at the age of 92 years. Elder Johnson was ordained October 12, 1952, and was a member of the Little Branch Church Albertville, Alabama. Elder Johnson served Bethlehem Church at Gallant Alabama for many years together with Little Branch of the Mt. Zion Association of Alabama. Elder Johnson was a great Bible scholar and teacher and truly, an individual like him is rare. He was a merchant in the Sardis community near Boaz, Alabama for many years before his retirement.

ELDER LAWRENCE JOHNSON

WRITTEN BY MARY JOHNSON THIGPEN: On the 20th of February 1910, God in His infinite wisdom saw fit to remove from among us my beloved uncle, Lawrence Johnson, in

his seventy-fourth year. Always delicate, he suffered until about sixteen years old, with some kind of neuralgia, and in later years he had pneumonia and grippe several times, each time growing weaker and less able to stand the next attack. Finally last October he was taken ill again, the doctors pronouncing his malady pleurisy. About Christmas he grew worse, so ill, in fact, they thought the end was near; however he lingered on, sometimes better, sometimes worse, bearing his sufferings with fortitude to be found only in such good men as he, until the 11th of February, when he received a severe stroke of paralysis. After that he remained speechless and in a semi-conscious state until the 20th, when death, which seemed a mercy, snapped the cord which bound his soul to this earthly realm. On that Sunday night, just as the clock ceased striking nine, his gentle spirit was wafted away to worlds unknown, to be with Christ who claimed His own.

Near the age of twenty-seven, in 1864, he, together with his brother, my father, joined the army in Co. H, 3d 3rd Cavalry, Barringer's Brigade, where they fought side by side until the close of the war, when he settled down at his old home in Edgecombe County as a farmer and faithful member of the Primitive Baptist Church. For many years he preached about at different places, always, speaking words of kindness and comfort to those with whom he came in contact. Right truly may it be said of him: "None knew him but to love him, none named him but to praise."

ELDER LUTHER OAKLEY JOHNSON



SUBMITTED BY HIS NIECE, ROSA LEE JOHNSON STEPHENS: Elder Johnson was born February 18, 1907 and died November 1, 1963, both events being in Williamson Co., Tenn. He was the son of Elder Malachi and Amelia Ann Polk Johnson. He married Elnora Lewis on December 24, 1937, and they were the parents of two boys.

He joined Leipers Fork Church in June 1932; was ordained a deacon on July 29, 1945; and was ordained as a minister October 15, 1950. In November 1950, he was called as pastor of Leipers Fork. He also served Oak Grove Church in Dickson.

ELDER MALACHI JOHNSON, SR.

SUBMITTED BY HIS GRANDDAUGHTER, ROSA LEE JOHNSON STEPHENS: Elder Johnson was born Jan. 7, 1875 and died March 10, 1950, both events taking place in Williamson Co., Tenn. His parents were Hiram J. and Martha E. Robinson Johnson. On Jan. 17, 1897, he married Amelia Ann Polk, and they were the parents of eleven children - nine boys and two girls. He joined Leipers Fork Church and was baptized by Elder H. E. Pettus on March 22, 1902.



Elder Johnson first spoke publicly in 1910 at Cool Springs Church of the Cumberland Association. He was ordained Nov. 3, 1914 at Leipers Fork and was called as pastor in November of the following year. He served that church for 35 years. He served as Moderator of the Cumberland Association for 15 years. Other churches he served include Triune, Cool Springs, Big Harpeth, Eagleville, Oak Grove, Turnbull and Barton's Creek.

ELDER PHILIP JOHNSON

FROM "ADVOCATE & MESSENGER:" Elder Johnson was ordained on November 25, 1956 in answer to a call of Happy Creek Church, Front Royal, Virginia. Elders present were T. E. Majors, J. H. Daily, C. W. Alderton, J. E. Alderton and Hollie Redmon. The deacons were Potter Payne, Clark Brumback, Lester Yates, V. S. Shaffer, Harry Brubaker, Bergie Frazier, L. P. Brown, Claude Pepper, Douglas Heare, O. F. Carpenter, L. T. Utz, John Moore, A. M. Compton, W. J. Hartley, J. M. Coverstone, Willard Maddox, Charles Stevens, Lewis Rudacille and William Priest.

After the presbytery was assembled, Elder C. W. Alderton was chosen Moderator; J. E. Alderton, Clerk; Elder J. H. Daily to offer prayer; Elder T. E. Majors to deliver the charge; Elder Hollie Redmon as spokesman for the church; and Elder J. H. Daily to question the candidate on the articles of faith and doctrine.

ELDER R. B. JOHNSON

Robert Barnett Johnson was born May 5, 1920, in Tylertown, Mississippi. One of thirteen children, his mother died when he was seven years old. His father later remarried. Since his parents were Primitive Baptists, he grew up believing the Doctrines of Sovereign Grace. He often said that he did not remember a time when he did not love the Lord.

While an honor student at Hinds Junior College, in Raymond, Mississippi, he met and fell in love with his future wife, Miss Ruby Conlee, of Terry, Mississippi. Upon his graduation, in 1940, they married and thus began a very happy union, lasting some fifty-seven years. R.B. was offered a job with another wholesale company in Jackson, Mississippi, so the young couple moved to the capital city where they continued to live for the remainder of his life.

There was not a Primitive Baptist Church in Jackson at the time. Elder Fred Satterfield drove over from Lake, Mississippi to conduct services, and a short time later the group decided to constitute a church.

This is an excerpt from some of Elder Johnson's writings. "The presbytery met and seven were constituted into a regular church. This was one of the happiest days of my life. I had not been here long before Elder Satterfield came to me and asked me if I was not impressed to speak in public and insisted on me taking a part in the services. Time went by and the brethren liberated me. I had been going regularly into the Bethany Association and



preaching with Brother W.J. Sanders and especially at Antioch Church and there was some talk of them calling for my ordination. But just before that happened, I was down at Good Hope Church during an association, and twenty joined. Ten of who requested me to baptize them. Not being ordained, the brethren got together and discussed the matter. Not only with the members of my home church, but also with members other churches. They were unanimous in the decision to ordain me. I then performed my first official work. The ordination took place on August 13, 1944."

The first two years after his ordination, Elder Johnson baptized seventy-six members into the Primitive Baptist faith. He saw one hundred and fifty-six souls unite with the churches he was serving during his first four years as a minister. Jackson Church grew from seven members to forty-four in four years.

Brother Johnson served several churches in Mississippi over the years. These included Antioch, new Bethel, and Damascus, in the Bethany Association, and New Hope and New Chapel, in the Good Hope Association. He pastored Damascus Church for nearly twenty years.

Stricken with polio during his childhood, Elder Johnson never allowed his physical disability to hinder him from accomplishing his goals in life. He accepted the extra challenges brought on by his handicap, and he cleverly disguised the paralysis. Friends and acquaintances were often unaware that he had very little use of his left arm.

Elder Johnson served twelve years as President of the Tobacco Dealers Association, and he was on the Board of the Southeastern Candy and Tobacco Dealers Association for five years. He served as an honorary Colonel during the administration of Governor Paul Johnson Jr. and William Waller. And for many years he was the Clerk of the Good Hope Association of Primitive Baptist Churches in Mississippi. Elder Johnson departed this life on January 3, 1997, following several years of failing health.

ELDER THEODORE J. JOHNSON

FROM AN OBITUARY IN "PRIMITIVE MONITOR:" Elder Johnson, the son of James and Martha Phillips Johnson, was born at Tunnel Hill, Ill., in Johnson County, Feb. 7, 1876.

On July 22, 1896 he was married to Rosa M. Vickers and to this union eleven children were born. About that time he joined the North Fork Church in Hamilton County, Ill., and while his membership had been placed in other churches of the same denomination as the family place of residence changed, his membership at the time of his death was again in North Fork Church, which he loved so much.

The Primitive Baptist Church at Wolf Creek ordained him to the full work of the gospel ministry in 1931 and in that capacity he served as pastor of several local churches. For a number of years he was infirm, but continued to be strong in the faith. He passed away Sunday evening, Sept. 14, 1958.

ELDER WILLIAM LESTER JOHNSON

Elder Johnson, the beloved pastor of Pine Ridge Church and a leading businessman in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, was born on 17 November 1902 in Carroll County, Virginia. He is the son of James and Irene (Lowe) Johnson. At the age of 10, his parents moved to Winston-Salem and with the exception of two years in Salisbury, he lived his entire life in the area. Brother Johnson married the former Miss Mae Edwards.

Elder Johnson joined Walnut Cove Church in 1944 and was later ordained to the office of deacon where he served well and faithful. He later moved his church letter and membership to Pine Ridge Church where he was ordained to the ministry. He was called to serve as their pastor in 1952 and served in that capacity until his untimely death in March of 1959. His death came very suddenly while on vacation in Jacksonville, Florida. While visiting a Primitive Church in Jacksonville he passed away just after finishing his sermon.

ELDER E. J. JOLLY

Elder Jolly was born on February 2, 1870 and passed from this life on July 11, 1972. He was baptized in August 1892 at the Ebenezer Church in Carthage, Mississippi by Elder J. R. Willis. He was ordained in August 1913 at the Ebenezer Church. On January 13, 1891, he married the former Anna Wilkinson. To this union eight children were born: Mary Susan, Leslie, Elbert Grady, Bettie, Loca Pearl, Maggie Lee, Willis Hanks, and Oden M. Jolly.

Elder Jolly preached in and around Carthage, Mississippi. His home church was Ebenezer Primitive Baptist Church and he is buried in the cemetery there. His son, Oden M. Jolly also became a Primitive Baptist preacher.

ELDER JOLLY'S EXPERIENCE FROM "THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST," DEC. 23, 1919: On Saturday before the third Sunday in August 1892, I went to Ebenezer Church and asked for a home with them. After having related what I hope the dear Lord had done for me, a poor sinner, they received me into their sweet fellowship, which has indeed been a sweet home to me.

On Sunday following, I was baptized by our beloved brother and father in Israel, Elder J. R. Willis, and found sweet rest to my weary soul, and went on my way rejoicing, thinking my troubles were then over.

But in this I soon found I was mistaken, for the impression came that I must preach the unsearchable riches of Christ. Not one single qualification could I see in myself. My unworthiness and ignorance came up before me so much until my cry was, "Lord, I cannot preach." I went on for some time, my mind continually on the Bible and its teaching. I read all my spare time and desired that all could find the sweet rest I had found. In this I found that the Lord alone could teach this to His people. I tried to keep my impression of speaking in the name of my Master to myself.

If I am not mistaken, it was in the year 1896, at Concord (now extinct), Brother J. S. McCauley first asked me to take a part in the services, which I did by singing a hymn and offering prayer.

I will say here that if the Lord has ever taught me anything, He taught me I couldn't preach, and at the same time taught me I had to preach. Finally the brethren quit calling on me to take part, and I quit going to meeting anywhere except at my home church, and felt



sure my impression was only a delusion of mind, and I would never preach. My mind was more on worldly things than ever before. I served five years as justice of the peace, and was elected for another term in 1911, but I became so troubled I could not rest day or night. The impression came with double weight that I had to preach. Again I cried, "Lord, I cannot preach." The answer echoed back, "You have it to do." I would beg the Lord to give me the gift I would see in other preachers, especially that of Brother Willis. The trouble was so great with me that I was made willing to forsake everything of this world for a peace of mind. I begged the Lord to make the way and give me grace to do His biddings. I resigned my office and in much weakness began to speak in the name of the Master in the fall of 1911. In April of 1912, the church

liberated me to speak in a public way, and in July 1913, the church called for my ordination, which was attended to on Saturday before the third Sunday in August 1913.

ELDER JAMES W. JOLLY

Elder James W. Jolly passed away peacefully at his home at 102 Skyline Dr., in Richland, Washington, December 25, 1991. He was born in Rankin County, Oklahoma, October 15, 1913 to Elder Walter F. and Fannie E. Jolly. He married Ruby B. Eaton on November 19, 1945 at Pendleton, Oregon.

Elder Jolly was the pastor of the Yakima River Church at Presser, Wa., for 26 years. He faithfully traveled some 300 miles from his home in Everett, Wa., to Presser each meeting day, only missing a few times due to bad roads or illness. In his later years, he moved nearer to the church, and was so happy to drive only 25 miles to meeting.

He was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church for some 54 years and was a great believer in her doctrine of election and grace, and enjoyed discussing the Scriptures with the brethren.

ELDER O. M. JOLLY



Elder Oden McCauley Jolly was born September 6, 1915 and passed from this life on August 17, 1984. He was baptized at the Jackson Primitive Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi by Elder G. W. Lewis. He was ordained on May 15, 1960 at the Jackson Church.

LIFE SKETCH OF ELDER JOLLY WRITTEN BY HIS DAUGHTER, PAULA J. ANTULLIS: O. M. Jolly was considered the "Black Sheep" of his family. His father, E. J. Jolly, was a respected Primitive Baptist minister in Carthage, MS, and he grew up around the Primitive Baptist Church; however, he always preferred to "have a good time." He liked to drink, gamble, and travel. During his younger years, he made it to the horse races at almost every racetrack in the continental United States. O. M. married Merle

Mitchell and had a son, Pat.

After the passing of his first wife, he married Pauline Clark Johnson on May 25, 1947, and lived in Jackson, MS. A daughter, Paula, was born April 18, 1948. Sometime after this, his sister, Maggie, came to Jackson to visit. She wanted to go to the new Primitive Baptist Church that was meeting at the Courthouse, so he agreed to take her. He said later that he remembered sitting on a Coke crate in the back crying during the sermon he heard that night by Elder R. B. Johnson, Jr. From that time on, he quit most of his bad habits and started attending church regularly.

Although, he fought it for a while, he was impressed to preach the gospel and was ordained May 15, 1960, at Jackson Church, with Elder G. W. Lewis officiating. He preached mostly in Mississippi, but traveled all over the South visiting other churches.

His wife, Pauline, died October 21, 1967. He married Gladys Agard on May 5, 1968. They lived in Jackson, MS, and then moved to McComb, MS. When he died in 1984, he was serving the New Bethel Primitive Baptist Church, in Tylertown, MS.

ELDER CHARLES A. JONES

Elder Jones was born January 23, 1874 near Carthage, Ill. He moved with his parents to Nebraska, but lived there less than a year, moving back to near Carthage.

In the fall of 1890 while attending a protracted meeting held by the Congregationalists, he saw himself as a sinner without hope. So he joined the church and began to talk in public. Soon he became spiritually hungry and while visiting neighbors in the fall of 1909 and giving some little comments upon a verse of scripture a light came into his soul. In 1912, he and his wife asked for a home in Middle Creek Church near Hancock Co. Ill. where they were living.

In the spring of 1920, they moved to Lewis Co. Mo. and in the fall of 1921 he was ordained.

On December 22, 1896, he was married to Miss Mima E. Harrison. They were blessed with two sons.

ELDER DAVIE J. JONES



I was born February 22, 1944 at Adamson, Oklahoma in Pittsburg County, to M.B. and Ida Lee, "Lout" Jones. I was the youngest of five children.

I was married to Dorothy Dukes on Sept. 28, 1968 at McAlester, Oklahoma, by Elder Alvin Brock, Primitive Baptist minister. We were blessed to have four children.

I joined the church in July 1955, at an association in California; I was baptized by Elder Lane in the American River near Sacramento, California.

I was ordained to the ministry on April 29, 1995. Elder Howard Storey preached the charge, and Elder Joe Lovett prayed the ordination prayer.

I have had the privilege of serving churches by appointment and now pastoring Zion's Rest Church of McAlester, Oklahoma, on 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Sundays.

The single most amazing event of my life is that the God of glory would bestow such great and glorious blessing on such a weak undone sinner such as I. His grace, mercy and peace are beyond my comprehension. Thus, to say 'thank you dear Lord for all thy blessings' seems to come so short of what needs to be said.

ELDER DENNIS H. JONES



Elder Dennis H. Jones was born in Martin County, Kentucky on March 20 1927.

His parents Robert and Bertha Jones were poor in this world's goods. He had a fear of God from early childhood but did not unite with any religious organization.

He served seven years in the military service of our country with the preponderance of his time being spent in the U.S. Air Force. Following his discharge from active military, service he began a civil service career with the U.S. Air Force in Yuma, Arizona. While at Yuma, and prior to discharge from active military service, he returned to eastern Kentucky and married one of his former schoolmates, Minerva Gauze. They began married life together in Arizona but subsequently moved to Ohio and later to Warner Robins, Georgia. During their stay in Ohio, they were blessed with two daughters, Victoria Elaine and LaDonna Lynn.

Their move to Georgia, in 1958, proved to be one of the greatest blessings of their lives. Because it was in the state of Georgia where they first learned about a people known as Primitive Baptists; the Lord miraculously lead them to the house of their Master's brethren.

His wife was baptized into the fellowship of Pleasant Hill Primitive Baptist Church in March 1959. He united with the same church almost a year later being baptized in February 1960.

He was ordained a deacon in July 1964. Prior to, and during his tenure as a deacon, he also had a burning desire to preach the same glorious gospel that had enlightened his poor soul to other wayfaring strangers. He did not voice this desire to the church.

Nevertheless, the church observed his efforts in the public worship services, with the belief that he had a ministerial gift and liberated him in April 1969.

Bethany Church, Fort Valley, Georgia called him as pastor in May 1969 and asked for his ordination to the ministry. He was ordained at Pleasant Hill Church, Warner Robins, Georgia in July 1969.

On the day of his ordination he received word from Poplar Springs Church, Preston, Georgia that they had also called him as pastor: he served Poplar Springs till October 1971 and Bethany till October 1975. In the meantime, he accepted a pastoral call to his home church, which he served for over twenty years. After his resignation from the pastoral care there he served Mount Moriah Church, Columbus, Georgia for a year and later pastored Lebanon Church, Cordele, Georgia for almost four years and subsequently served Bethlehem Church, Taylor County, Georgia.

He served as associate editor of the *Advocate and Messenger*, a Primitive Baptist periodical publication. The church of his membership is in the Echeconnee Primitive Baptist Association

ELDER EARNEST F. JONES

Brother Ernest was born in Boone County, Indiana, December 21, 1904 and died September 29, 1980. His parents were John F. and Susan (Rees) Jones. He married Alma R. Smith (deceased April 6, 1979).

Brother Ernest and wife were received into Antioch Church, December 3, 1972. He was ordained to the gospel ministry by a presbytery, with prayer and laying on of hands, November 6, 1976. He was called May, 1977 by his home church to serve alternate third Sundays and served as long as able. He was an able defender of God's grace in eternal salvation as opposed to the works of men.

ELDER GEORGE J. JONES



FROM AN OBITUARY IN "THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST" BY ELDER W. A. HOLMES: Elder Jones, the son of Isaac and Mary Booth Jones, was born September 10, 1860, in Marion County, Iowa, where his entire life, except for short intervals, was spent. He was one of twelve children, and he was brought up under the Primitive Baptist influence.

In May 1884, he was suddenly arrested by some influence that convicted him of sin. He felt that he was ruined and could see nothing but despair. After much thought and heart searching he joined the North Cedar Church in Marion County and was baptized the second Sunday in June 1887.

Soon he was impressed to speak in a public way, but fought this impression for many years. After much sorrow and heartaches he consented to be ordained. He served Sharon Church, Guthrie Co. Iowa and at Battle Creek, Neb.

He passed away October 3, 1943, after a week's illness.

He was married to Mary Elizabeth Ruckman on November 11, 1886. To them were born seven children. He was engaged in farming during his early life. His work as a minister was done among the churches in Iowa, Missouri and Nebraska.

ELDER JAMES HOUSTON JONES

Elder J. H. Jones departed this life Nov. 8, 1972. He was born Dec. 2, 1878 to Elder and Sister James Wiley Jones in Butler County, Alabama. He married Miss Idonia Sawyer, the daughter of Elder and Sister Burney Sawyer, Dec. 30, 1897 and joined Shiloh Church of Monroe County, Ala., July 4, 1909. When the division came among the churches about a year later he moved his membership to Pine Level Church, Atmore, Ala.

He went into the constitution of Spring Hill Church of Flomaton, Ala., and served the office of deacon many years. He was ordained to the full work of the ministry Oct. 29, 1933. He also helped in the constitution of Pleasant Home Church of Pensacola, Fla., moved his membership there in 1947 and remained a faithful and devoted member and servant until he fell asleep in the arms of Jesus on the above date. Elder Jones served as clerk of the association a number of years resigning that position in 1944 because of ill health.

ELDER JAMES LAWSON JONES

WRITTEN BY LEM JOINER IN "THE GOSPEL MESSENGER" 1890: Elder James Lawson Jones, son of John Stanson Jones and Martha Jones, was born in Dale County Alabama, July 15, 1848. On January 27, 1869, he was married to Miss Amanda C. Allums of Barbour County, Alabama, by whom he had six children. In 1872, he left Dale County, Alabama for Texas, and finally coming into Mason County, where he obtained himself a good home by his honest toil. In 1879, he joined the Missionary Baptist Church.

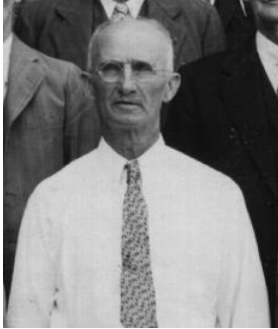
His steps were finally directed to hear a people preach calling themselves Primitive Baptists and he found a people that could and did believe with him; and in August (1884) on Saturday before third Sunday he related his experience to Valley Spring Church, Llano County, Texas, and was gladly received into its fellowship, and on Sunday was baptized by Elder Sammie R. Woods and licensed to preach the doctrine he had so earnestly contended for. The church, seeing the profitableness of his gift, his ordination was called for and on November 14, 1885, a presbytery was called, consisting of Elder Sammie R. Woods, Elder John F. Richardson and Deacon N. R. Jeffrey, who ordained him to the full work of the ministry.

He was faithful to Him who had called him to be a soldier in setting forth the doctrine of God, our Saviour, to the comfort and consolation of his brethren who appreciated him, very highly for the work's sake whereunto he was called. It seemed that his whole mind was given over to the things whereunto he was called. He desired to be so situated that he might give his whole time to preaching the gospel.

On the third Sunday in November 1887, he preached his last sermon at Pleasant Hill Schoolhouse, using for his text Hebrews 10:1. He preached for two and a half hours, showing the difference between the service under the law and that under the gospel, and every one there that knew could testify that he preached the truth on that occasion.

Finally on the night of December 1, 1887, after singing Hymn 681 (Lloyd's Edition), he quietly passed away.

ELDER J. C. JONES

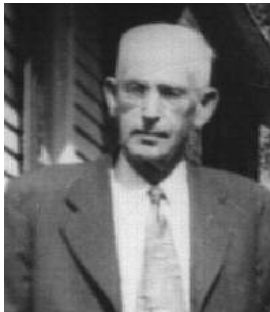


Elder Jones of Missouri was born in Prairie County, November 26, 1864. He passed away on January 30, 1949.

Early in life he thought that he was a sinner in the sight of God and after many years of gloom and anguish of soul, this feeling of condemnation and guilt passed away. He united with Rock Creek Church in 1894 and two years later he was ordained to the full work of the ministry.

He served the Pleasant Hill Church near Trimble, MO; Little Flock Church at St. Joseph, MO; and First Nordaway Church at Savannah, MO. He served as Moderator of the Nordaway Association for several years.

ELDER J. Q. JONES



Elder Jones was born December 31, 1871 in Marion County Iowa. He united with the Little Flock Church in Marion County Iowa in September 1910. He was ordained on December 24, 1921.

He was the son of Isaac and Mary (Booth) Jones. He was one of 12 children. His father was a deacon in the church in Marion County, IA. He was married in 1894 to Mary E. Lemmon, they had five children: They moved to Missouri in 1912.

After the Lord taught him what a sinner he was, both by nature and practice, he united with Little Flock Church in Marion County, Iowa in Sept. 1910; in which church his father was a deacon. He was baptized by Elder R. A. Oliphant, being the last person he baptized.

ELDER J. W. JONES

WRITTEN BY ELDER LEE HANKS: Elder Jones of Frisco City, Ala., the able, loving and most efficient moderator of the Antioch Association was buried the 4th Sunday in January. Elder Jones was in his 86th year. He had been an able active minister of the gospel

about 60 years. He had been the safe, peace-loving moderator of the Antioch Association 44 or 45 years. He served churches up to his death. He was able, sound in the fundamental doctrine and practice of the Primitive Baptists. He had no patience with new measures, hobby riding and immorality among ministers or private members.

I first met Elder Jones in 1886, and have been meeting him from time to time ever since. We were perfectly agreed on the fundamental principles of the gospel. I dearly loved him and all his good family.

ELDER LAWRENCE C. JONES

FROM AN OBITUARY IN "PRIMITIVE MONITOR:" Elder Jones died at the Graham Hospital in Keokuk, Iowa, on October 26, 1968. He was born February 8, 1892, the son of William Jackson and Mattie Ann Castlebury Jones, at their country home east of Bentley, Illinois. He was baptized in April 1912. In September 1913, he married Lula F. James, and to their union three sons were born. Elder Jones was ordained to the gospel ministry in July 1919. He loved the doctrine of salvation by grace and gave all the glory to God for sending his precious Son to redeem His chosen ones that they might inherit that wonderful place called heaven.

ELDER MAON JASPER JONES

Elder Maon Jasper Jones was born in Wayne County, Iowa, June 7, 1910. His parents were Elder Newton J. Jones and Clara I. (Adams) Jones. He came to Illinois when he was a young man not yet 21 years of age. After trying to worship with two other orders of religion and being a part of them, at about the age 35 he quit attending any kind of services. His reason for leaving both orders in fact all orders was doctrinal.

However when he was the age of 45 years his mother sent him the address of the Chicago Primitive Baptist Church. About one year after first attending them, he asked for a home with them. He was baptized on June 10, 1956. He was asked to take part in the services soon after joining the church. He has been moderator of his home church since 1963 and was ordained to the ministry in 1966, May 26th.

ELDER MONROE JONES

WRITTEN BY HIS STEPDAUGHTER IN "THE BANNER OF LOVE," JULY 1958: Elder Jones was born in Southwest Missouri in 1872. His first wife preceded him in death in 1933. In 1941 he married Mrs. Verda Wright and since that time the couple have made their home near Tishomingo, Oklahoma. In 1949, with help from neighbors and donations from other Primitive Baptists, he built the first and only church in this county (Johnston County, Oklahoma).

Elder Jones was ordained in 1947 by the Goodwill Church, Tishomingo, Oklahoma at seventy-five years of age.

Among the Elders who served on his Presbytery were Elder J. M. Newman of Purcell, Oklahoma, Elder Barney Huff of Ryan, Oklahoma and Elder P. L. Jones of Las Cruces, New Mexico.

ELDER N. B. JONES

WRITTEN IN "THE GOSPEL MESSENGER" BY ELDER A. J. COLEMAN: Elder N. B. Jones was born in Tennessee, May 22, 1846, and departed this life March 10, 1894. Elder Jones was an uncommon man; he was a man of uncommon sagacity, and quick perception, and strong conviction, and firmness. His stability was so strong that sometimes it almost amounted to obstinacy. He was a strong defender of the faith, and was invincible when he came in contact with opposers of the truth. He was quite eloquent, and possessed the gift of setting forth the truth in such a way as to make it forcible and convincing. Those who were not well acquainted with him would judge him as harsh, but to the contrary of this, he was very kind, tender and generous to all.

His motto was truth and honesty. He was twice married--first to Miss Armintha Parker, of Tennessee. His first wife died in Tennessee, October 22, 1882. He then, after a lapse of years, married our beloved sister, C. Barnes, of Pickens County, Alabama; the widow of our beloved and lamented brother, Deacon Dempsey Barnes. They lived happily together until his demise.

ELDER NEWTON JASPER JONES

Elder N. J. Jones was born April 20, 1876, the sixth of a family of nine and the last to be born in the old log house where the Hazel Creek Association was formed. He united with Providence Church March 14, 1903 and very soon began to speak in public. Although the church spoke many times about ordaining him, he begged them not to as he felt unworthy. However, after serving the church as moderator and preaching for many years, he said he wanted to be submissive to his church and was ordained to the ministry on October 20, 1917. Spiritually as a servant of Christ, he had an excellent gift in preaching, he was a man of deep thought, and spent much time either in study, or like Isaac, in the fields for meditation. He loved his Master and often spoke of Him as Friend. He pastored his home church until his death on July 31, 1921, preaching Jesus as a full and complete Saviour.

ELDER PHILLIP DON JONES

Phillip Don Jones was born August 21, 1949. He was baptized by his grandfather, Elder Wilce Jones, into the Elk Creek Primitive Baptist Church of Oklahoma on December of 1962.

He married Debbie Ansinger November 24, 1972. They had three sons.

The church at Elk Creek ordained him to the ministry September 28, 1985.

Elder Phil Jones pastored Bethel Church in Adrian Missouri and the church in Independence Missouri. He has visited churches in Texas, Arizona and others.

ELDER P. L. (PERRY LESLIE) JONES

WRITTEN BY HIS SON, ELDER VICTOR JONES: Was ordained as a minister in the year 1926 at the Bowie Church in Bowie, Texas. Dad was a member there until 1936 when he moved to New Mexico and was called as pastor of the Primitive Baptist Church at Mesilla Park. He served as pastor there until 1946, when he was called to pastor the church in nearby Las Cruces, NM. He served that church until his death in 1952. He also preached once a month in Lemitar, NM and Edgewood, NM and visited many other churches and was recognized as a very able minister.

ELDER RAYMOND C. JONES

Elder Jones, a brother to Elder Ernest F. Jones, was born 1898 and died 1980, twenty-four days after his brother. He married Elizabeth Hiland, June 24, 1951.

He was received into Bethel Church, Tipton County, Indiana in 1929, and was baptized by Elder J. W. Richards. He was received by letter into Antioch Church August 1931 and chosen clerk of the church in May 1934. He served as clerk until his death. On December 29, 1945 he was ordained to the ministry. Antioch called him in May 1947 to serve each alternate Third Sunday. He served continuously in this capacity as long as health permitted.

ELDER THOMAS JONES

FROM "A HISTORY OF THE PRIMITIVE BAPTISTS OF ALABAMA, MT. ZION ASSOCIATION" BY ELDER E. B. WATTS: Elder Jones was a member of Macedonia Church in 1823 when the Mount Zion Association was constituted. In 1825, he and Elder Phillip Archer ordained Elder George Roberts at Mount Moriah. In 1826, Elder Jones and Elder John Henry organized Mount Joy Church.

ELDER THOMAS JONES

Elder Jones was born in Anderson County, Tennessee, June 24, 1811. In June 1826, at the age of fifteen years, he made a public profession of his faith before Smyrna Church, Roan County, Tennessee, and was received and baptized by Elder Levi. Smyrna Church licensed him to exercise in public in 1847. In 1851 he moved with his family to Hancock County, where he and wife united by letter with Middle Creek Church. In 1855 he was ordained by that church to the full work of the ministry, the presbytery consisting of Elders Jacob Castlebury, J. G. Williams, and George Walker. He and Harriet Haggard were united in marriage on August 3, 1830, and were the parents of six sons and eight daughters. Sister Jones died in 1880, after which he made his home with the children until at the age of 76; on March 23, 1887 he fell asleep in Jesus. Having previously removed his church membership to Smyrna Church in Bentley, Illinois, he was at the time of his death a member of that church and also served the church as pastor.

ELDER VICTOR JONES

WRITTEN BY HIS WIFE, (SISTER) WILLA JONES: Elder Jones was born on June 8, 1922 in Xicetenath, Tamaulipas, Mexico of American parents. Victor was returned to the States as a young child, two years old. His parents were Elder Perry Leslie Jones and Annie Ethel (Brown) Jones.



In December 24, 1949, he married Willa Jean (Murphy) Jones in Chambray, New Mexico (Luna County). To this union were born two children.

In 1940, at eighteen years of age, Victor Leo Jones joined the Primitive Baptist Church of Bowie, Texas. He was baptized in a near by farm pond, by his father Elder Perry Jones.

In 1941, after being invited into the pulpit by his Pastor Elder Cypert Denton, Victor spoke before the church for the first time, using Hebrews 4: 2-9 as his text. He remembers that he did not stand very long.

In 1941, Victor volunteered for military service, as "a Conscientious Objector" after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. He was placed in a hospital unit working as a sanitarian, doing all types of public health work. He spent the next four years in the Pacific Theater, serving in Australia, New Guinea, and on Leyte Island in the Philippines. During that time he was on Leyte Island he heard of a Lowell McClain, through the *Baptist Trumpet*. They managed to meet together one day and had a wonderful time "hard shelling" to their hearts content.

In 1947, he met Willa Jean Murphy, a member of the Goodwill Church, near Tishomingo, Oklahoma. They were married December 24, 1949. They lived on thier acreage

for three years there in Oklahoma where two children were born unto them, Ronald Victor Jones and Alice Jean (Jones) Cooksey.

Victor was ordained to the full work of the ministry on November 30, 1953, in El Paso Texas. Elder Monroe Jones, Elder Raleigh Dale, Elder S. A. Nite, Elder H. J. White and Elder Olan Robertson served on the presbytery, with deacons Thomas Bingham and T. V. Hill. During this meeting the Primitive Baptist Church of El Paso, Texas was constituted, Victor Leo Jones was ordained to the full work of the ministry, called to pastor the new church and baptize Brother Willie Brown into the membership of the church. Victor pastored the El Paso Church from 1953 to 1968.

ELDER WESLEY JONES

Was born April 16, 1897, at Barnes City, Iowa. He received a hope in Christ and was baptized into the fellowship of Pleasant Grove P. B. Church Dec. 19, 1919, by Eld. B. L. Nay. He took his membership to Oak Hill Church in 1928, where he was ordained to the ministry (at the Hazel Creek Association) Aug. 29, 1928.

He was married to Opal Spurgeon Feb. 20, 1927, who died Nov. 30, 1927. Was married to Fay Arnold Jan. 2, 1930, and to this union five children were born, 2 boys and 3 girls.

In 1940, Eld. Jones moved his membership back to Pleasant Grove Church, Barnes City, Iowa, and was called as pastor (jointly) with Eld. W. A. Holmes. After Eld. Holmes' death he served as full time pastor of that church.

ELDER WILCE JONES

Wilce Jones was born May 14, 1902. He died January 10, 1974. He was baptized in 1931 into the Elk Creek Church of Oklahoma, by Elder Walter Fuchs. He was ordained to the office of deacon in 1939. He was ordained to the ministry April of 1956. Wilce married Mildred Nunneley September 6, 1925. They had three sons and four daughters.



Elder Jones began to travel some with Elder Marvin Smith to Kansas and Colorado in the 1950's. He served the church at Syracuse Kansas and also the church at Ordway Colorado. He also held appointments at Perryton Church, in Texas, Erick Church and also in Elk Creek Oklahoma. He had a profound love for the church always desiring the peace of the church. Never in very good health, he spent his declining years studying the scriptures and going when he could to other churches.

ELDER WILLIAM M. JONES

FROM AN OBITUARY IN "MESSENGER OF PEACE:" One of Loveland's (Iowa) most loved and respected citizens was born in Indiana Nov. 14, 1852, and died at his home Feb. 17, 1938. On Oct. 3, 1875, he was married to Tabitha Jane Deal, and two sons were born to them.

In July 1877, he and his wife joined Council Bluffs Primitive Baptist Church and were baptized by Elder W. L. Jones. He was ordained to the ministry in 1911, and ever remained faithful to the cause he loved. He served long and well as moderator, both of his home church and the Missouri Valley Association. His advice and council were safe and timely and his labors were for peace and fellowship. For more than sixty-one years he seldom missed a meeting with the church. He held a number of offices and efficiently served as administrator of more than thirty estates, and was guardian for fifteen minor children.

ELDER F. M. JORDAN

Was born in Noble County, Ohio, April 19, 1853. His parents were Bazle and Elizabeth Booker Jordan. When he was two years of age they moved to Henry County, Ill., where he grew to manhood.

At the age of sixteen he saw himself a great sinner, and for three months he suffered much. One memorable day, late in fall, while in the field husking corn, very suddenly, he, and all nature, seemed to be praising God for his goodness to one so unworthy as he felt to be. He attended many different religious orders, but no one preached the doctrine that reached his case but the Primitive Baptists. Finally, with his brother and a younger sister, he was baptized the fourth Sunday in May 1873.

He was married to Mary Reed in 1875. They moved to Ford County Ill. for one year, thence to Champaign County for fourteen years living in the bounds of Blue Ridge Church of the Big Spring Association. Here he was liberated to exercise a gift, which had long been a burden to him.

In 1894, he with his family moved to Madison Co. Iowa and placed their membership in Middle River Church of the Western Association, where he was ordained in June 1895.

ELDER JAMES A. JORDAN

Elder James Andrew Jordan was the third child born to Elder John A. and Sister Mary Garner Jordan on the 12th day of February 1871. He died the 8th day of November 1940. He was married to Minnie Medora Pounds on the 15th day of Jan. 1893, and to this union four children were born, one daughter, and three sons.

Elder Jordan united with Bethany Church in Atlanta May 16, 1936, and was baptized by the pastor, Elder J. A. Monsees the first Sunday in June 1936. The Church promptly recognized his gift as a minister and he was granted the liberty to occupy the stand on Sept. 20, 1936, and was ordained to the full work of the ministry by Bethany Church, on request of the church at Ivy, on Sunday, Dec. 20, 1936. He was called as pastor at Ivy after his ordination, and served that church until Nov. 1939, at which time he gave up the church. He was pastor of Friendship Church at the time of his passing.

ELDER J. T. JORDAN

Elder Jordan was born May 11, 1840, in Gwinnett County, Ga., and died May 28, 1914 within one mile of where he was born. He was married to Lucinda Miller on May 17, 1859. To them were born nine children. He enlisted in the Confederate Army, Company A 12th Georgia Battalion in 1862 when President Jefferson Davis called for 100,000 volunteers for the cause that was dear to the heart of every southerner and was wounded in the service of his country at the Battle of Fishers Hill Oct. 18, 1864. He never returned to the army afterwards. He joined Camp Creek Church in March of 1858 and was baptized by Elder H. D. Teat, began preaching in 1865 and was ordained in 1866. He served the churches of the Yellow River Assoc. for 40 years. He preached his first sermon at the home of Bro. Eli McDaniels near Sweet Water Church, Gwinnett County, Ga., and this church called for his ordination.

ELDER WILLIAM YANCEY JORDAN

CONDENSED FROM AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH WRITTEN IN 1935 AND PUBLISHED IN "GOSPEL APPEAL:" I was born Nov. 26, 1860 in Crawford County, Ga. My father was called to the front in the War Between the States. He went through the four years (of war) without getting wounded up until the last battle at Bentonville, N.C., where he was killed. My poor mother was left with nothing but myself and a few household possessions.

That year (1880) I was joined in matrimony to Miss Laura Emma Arnold, to which union were born twelve children. After living happily with her for twenty-two years, the good Lord called her home in 1903. Later I married Miss Mary V. Sanders, which union lasted until 1925 when the good Lord called her from my bosom.

My conviction started with me in the spring of 1883 when I saw myself the greatest sinner that ever lived. It seemed to me that I was doomed for hell. I could look at all nature and it was looking on me with a frown. Thus, I went for three long years, begging and pleading for mercy. It was in the spring of 1886 that my suffering was so great that I tried every way to get relief. I could not possibly have lived in that fire. I was sinking down into eternal misery when all of a sudden something overshadowed me and my burden was removed. And as it rolled off and passed my poor heart, my heart seemed to leap with joy.

There was light and joy in my poor soul, rejoicing and praising God for rich and redeeming grace. Any language fails to express that feeling.

On the 4th Saturday in April 1901, I was liberated. I had fought it since 1886. Then in 1910, Fellowship Church of Houston County called for my ordination.

On Friday of our Association, Sept. 16, 1910, I was ordained by the presbytery composed of J. W. Herrin, J. P. Barrs and H. H. Smith. I have tried to preach the word so far as God would permit me to go. Also, since 1910, I have been trying to serve from one to four churches.

ELDER FORREST L. JOYNER

FROM AN OBITUARY IN "PRIMITIVE MONITOR:" Elder Joyner of Mesa, Arizona, died at his home July 12, 1966. His death was sudden and from a heart attack. At the time of his death, he was pastor of Lone Pilgrim Church in Mesa. He was born at Cooperville, Miss., October 5, 1895, and was baptized in early manhood. He was ordained May 19, 1956, at Mesa, and served Blythe Church as well as Lone Pilgrim Church later. He had lived in Mesa for nineteen years, and married Miss Alice R. Caughron in December 1964. He operated a grocery and furniture store for some years.

ELDER J. L. JOYNER

FROM "PRIMITIVE MONITOR:" I was born in Leake County, Miss., May 9, 1856. I joined the Missionary Baptist church in my fourteenth year. In 1875, I was made to see myself justly condemned in the sight of God. I was in the field plowing, and all at once it seemed to me the elements were full of voices singing the song, "Come humble sinner in whose breast a thousand thoughts revolve." From that time on I was made to mourn on account of my sins. The next day, while plowing in the same field in which I was first made to see my condition, all at once, unexpectedly to me, the burden was gone, and when I realized what I was doing, I was singing that good old song, "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me." Oh, I had sung it many times before, but that was the first time I ever knew what it meant! My mind was soon impressed to join the church (I stood excluded from the Missionary Baptist church), and was fully satisfied that the Primitive Baptist was the true church, but my wife and all my people were Missionaries, and had no use for the Primitive Baptists; so I had a great deal of trouble about that.

I worried along until Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1884, when I went to Mt. Olive Church and related what little evidence I have of a change and was received and baptized the next day, by Elder A. J. Stewart, and that was the happiest day I ever spent.

In the spring of 1886 it came forcibly to me that I would have to preach, and right here I fail to express my feelings, for I knew that was impossible; for a poor, weak, unlearned

mortal as I was could not preach. But my mind was impressed daily, and while at work I would be at the church in mind and telling my troubles, and when asleep I would be dreaming I was preaching. My pastor and brethren began to insist on me to take a part in the services, but I would refuse until March 1887, when I made an effort to open the meeting. The church soon licensed me to preach and in June 1888, I was ordained. So I have been going on and trying to preach ever since, trusting in and praying to the Lord to hold me up and enable me to set forth his doctrine in a way that will be honoring to him and comforting to his people. I am serving four churches the best I can. I have baptized eighty-one persons and married one hundred couples.

ELDER CECIL JUDD

I was born at Thurman, Iowa in 1918 and have lived at Pickering, Mo. since 1919. Looking back on my young life I have become convinced that I was given eternal life at a tender age, yet I was not convicted of my sinfulness until I was of age, then my sins seemed so terrible and so many I became convinced there was no hope for me. I continued in this slough of despairing gloom until light came upon. I Tim. 1:15, "This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." Here was a place I qualified and felt to be a sinner through and through. From that time on the electing love of God became my only hope. It still is. I began to build some assurance little by little. Soon my hope became bright enough to trust my Saviour for all my salvation. Then came the weight of my duty to God. Finally I couldn't live under the knowledge of my Saviour doing so much and asked such a little of me by comparison, I made a profession of faith and requested baptism and membership in West Union Church in 1941. They received me and have continued to love and respect me since.



Soon I was chosen clerk, then deacon and then in 1951 was ordained to the ministry. I felt confident a poorer specimen for a preacher could not exist. I do not believe one could demonstrate the grace of God in preaching His gospel more than I have. I was bashful beyond description, what little schooling I had had seemed to be of little benefit as I had gleaned very little from English and History. I tell this because I want God to be glorified when under His blessing I can forget myself and become absorbed in teaching others about God, His church and people. God gave me one of the best minister's wives on earth and I continually thank God for this and that we still have each other.