

## **“The Baptist Name”**

### **Part 1**

By Elder Oscar B. Mink (Now with The Lord)

The designation “Baptist” has, in the last century, lost much of its superlative nature, and in the contemporary period there are many denominations and thousands of churches going by the name “Baptist” who do not claim any ecclesiastical ancestry or perpetuity which antedates the sixteenth century reformation. It is most regretful that they have taken to themselves the appellation “Baptist”, for it is readily seen from their doctrine and history that there is no biblical kinship between them and the Lord’s churches which preceded the Protestant reformation.

The contention that there were no churches going by the name “Baptist” for the first fifteen hundred years of church history is, without the least hesitation admitted, but it is an admission of no great import, for it has to do with name only, and not with doctrine or practice. Pseudo ecclesiology has given the name “Baptist” a generality that is inclusive of all immersionists, irrespective of their origin, doctrine, or practice. While baptism is a vital part of the body of Divine ecclesiology, it is not in itself sufficient to merit the name “Baptist”, for baptism apart from the other biblically prescribed elements necessary to the constitution of a New Testament church is a debauchery of the ordinance and a grave disservice to the subject.

The glorious gospel of Christ has been enshrined in New Testament Baptist churches, and this gospel has been cherished, preached, and preserved pure by them for two thousand years. Baptist churches have not had the elaborate cathedrals, massive choirs, clerical collars, and polished crosses, but they have biblical Christianity with its simplicity, authority, and presence of God.

The name “Baptist” was given to the Lord’s little flocks by their enemies with an evil intent. However, we can by retrospect clearly see the hand of Divine providence taking their efforts to stigmatize the Lord’s churches, and causing it to redound to the glory of God, and the good of His churches. Even though the name “Baptist” is no longer a definitive, it is the name by which the Lord’s virgin and age climaxing churches will enter the bridal chambers in glory. Thus it is, Baptists say to their would-be detractors: “Ye meant if for evil, but God meant it for good”.

While it is true, the Lord’s churches did not go by the name “Baptist” during the first fifteen hundred years of church history, it is equally true that there were churches during this entire period which espoused the same doctrines, and adhered to the same practices that contemporary New Testament Baptists propagate and practice. “A rose by any other name is still a rose”; and a Baptist church by any other name is still a Baptist church. It is an incontestable fact that from New Testament times unto the fifteenth century there were churches that tenaciously followed the teachings of Christ, and these same teachings are found in present day New Testament Baptist churches. Therefore, it is within the realm of propriety to say those early churches were Baptists, even though they went by various names.

**Today is July 23, 2023**

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*“Where the Truths of God’s Word Have Been Taught  
for Sixty-One Years” Since October 21, 1961*

1217 Dillon Texarkana, Texas 75501

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Elder Randy Johnson, Pastor

(903) 490-3048

Pastor E-Mail: [pastor.johnson@sgmbaptist.com](mailto:pastor.johnson@sgmbaptist.com)

Pastors Blog: [sgmbcpastor.blogspot.com](http://sgmbcpastor.blogspot.com)

Church Web Site: [www.sgmbaptist.com](http://www.sgmbaptist.com)

Church Facebook: [www.facebook.com/sgmbcpastor](http://www.facebook.com/sgmbcpastor)



Sister Zee Mink Fuller and Family, Her son’s Bryan Armstrong and Hunter Hackie, Daughter Shannon, Johnnie Stephens, Alecia Stephens, and children, Frank & Sonya Trusty, Frank & Dawana Reigel, Diane & Smoke, Andrew Preston, Larry & Martha Mollette and Her Family Juanita her daughter, Lana Paul, Ted O’Bonion, Larry Mollette II & Family, Kerry Adcock, Kim Reich, Tyler Castle, Danny Mollette, cousin Kayla, Lee & Mary Mollette, Joshua Kidd, Ronnie and Sarah Henderson, Ricky Henderson and Family, James and Luann Reynolds, Timothy Fails, Nathan Fails, Jacob Ramsey, Jerry Hughes, Gina and Kirk, Brother Kelley and Sister Hinson, Patricia Hinson, Jim and Linda Meier, Keith Johnson, Shirley King - Son David - and family, Elder Bob and Sister Jennifer Keller, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Roselyn Pardiillo and Family and those that work with her, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Little Weslynn McClelland, Adrienne Lavina, Pastor Nathan Hille and Sister Cassie and his family and church, Baby Titus Massey.

**Pray For Our Church Supported Mission Works**

Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan in Thailand, Elder Raul and the Printing work Romania, and the Berea Baptist Banner Mantachie, Ms.



## **“The Law of God is a Schoolmaster.”**

By Pastor Randy Johnson

“But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. (24) Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. (25) But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.” Galatians 3:23 - 25

God gave laws, in fact almost the entire bible was written as a law of God. The bible is one very large book of commandments of God for us to read and obey. I do not care how great of a Christian, you believe you are, you are a sinner, and you disobey God’s laws every day. The law of God was written to condemn us, God never wrote His laws with the thinking that any person could ever live them. Even the Greatest of biblical disciples sinned and came short of the glory of God. Rom. 3:23, Rom. 5:12 God said that the law is a schoolmaster, *“the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ”* The word means - "a child-leader" Therefore, God used this Child Leader, or the schoolmaster led us to Christ. The law revealed to us that we had broken God’s law and that we were sinners, and the power of the Holy Spirit revealed the need of our Saviour to redeem us from the law we had broken. In other words, the law of God condemns us as sinners, therefore once the Holy Spirit quickens our dead spirits, brings us to Christ, gives us the faith to believe, opens our eye and ears, then once we understand we come running to Jesus Christ for salvation. It is after all of this is done; we will never again need this schoolmaster. Once we are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb, we are no longer “kept under the law”, but we are safely in Christ. Now, this does not mean the law is worthless to us, it does not mean we are to live lawless as Christians in Christ. The law of God never is beneath us, nor are we above the law. It means we are not *“kept under the law”* or *“under the condemning sentence of the Law.”* Christ has freed us from the curse or condemnation of the law of God, by “law” it is meant all of them. The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from **ALL Sin** that a believer has. Therefore, *“after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.”* Because we are redeemed from its condemnation. Therefore, by faith in Jesus Christ, *“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.”* Galatians 3:26

## **“The Law of God is a Schoolmaster.” Continued:**

So, as children we are no longer *“...kept under the law, shut up unto the faith...”* The words “shut up” means - the object of keeping in ward – or under the condemnation of the law but we are now under faith of Jesus Christ and free from condemnation. God put it this way, *“For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death. But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.”* Romans 7:5 – 6 *“when we were in the flesh”* is past tense as believers in Jesus Christ we are no longer in the flesh but are now spiritually a child of God. We are still under the law of God, but it no longer condemns us **but us a way of life for us.** And when we fail (and we will) God will forgive us and not condemn us. No one, not even the angels in heaven are ever free from God’s laws, but we as children of God, are under grace and God’s grace is stronger than our sin. *“For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. (20) Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:”* Romans 5:19 – 20 **Thank you Lord Jesus for what You did for me!**



- Our 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Bible Conference is approaching quickly. The Conference is scheduled Friday night September 15 and Saturday & 16. We all 7 speakers are confirmed.

