

freed by the Son, who came to fulfill the Law. And as the Apostle Paul speaks, *"wherefore the law was our school master to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith."* (Galatians 3:24)

Yet Christ Jesus said, when asked which were the greatest commandment, *"Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."* (Matthew 22:37-39)

Though our saviour delivered us from the curse and condemnation of this Law by fulfilling it, yet He has not exempted us from obedience to it, that we are not without Law to God, but rather we are under the Law of Christ, our Saviour, Who is our law-giver and head over all things to the Church. Thus every true believer can say with David of old and the apostle Paul, *"Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight." ... "For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:"* (Psalm 119:35 and Romans 7:22)

Returning to our Text, this Law was given under very terrifying and trying circumstances, thunder, fire, and smoke, the earth quaked---it was a dreadful sight. So that the people said. *"...unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak to us, lest we die."* (Exodus 20:19)

Now all of this was a serious reminder to Israel of the dread majesty, of the holiness and justice of God, of His awful power and great glory. Thus Moses became the mediator, the man between God and His people. In this position Moses is here a type of our Lord Jesus Christ---our Mediator and Great High Priest over the House of God. By whom we have access to God with boldness and confidence through His being the fulfillment of the Law in all righteousness.

Now as God had chosen them, and delivered to them as his people His Law and placed them under obligation to him, He directs them in His worship and service. How and where they shall worship their God? *"And the Lord said unto Moses, Thus thou shalt say unto the children of Israel, Ye have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. ... An Alter of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee."* (Exodus 20: 22 and 24)

An alter of earth, which is a type of Christ. He is God manifest in the flesh (earth) upon which and through which all our sacrifices and services are acceptable to God. As no service or sacrifice is acceptable to God---only as it is made in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Also the sacrifices offered on the earthen alter were typical of Christ Who is our Sacrifice---Who is a sweet smelling savour to God and by His one sacrifice sin is atoned for,

reconciliation is made---justice is appeased and peace reigns. We come boldly unto the Throne of Grace.

Now the Lord, to encourage His people to worship Him, in His own way and where he would have them, promises His Presence to be with them, and His blessings upon them. And as yet no particular place was appointed, therefore, He says in the language of our Text, "*... where I record my name I will come unto thee and there I will bless thee.*" (Exodus 20:24b)

Later on we learn from God's Holy Word, where He commands Moses to speak unto the children of Israel, and said, "*... let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.*" (Exodus 25:8)

Therefore the Tabernacle was erected and dedicated as the First House of God in the earth. This was built at God's direction, for He said unto Moses, "*according to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it. ... And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount.*" (Exodus 25:9 and 40)

Why? If the God of heaven is indeed going to dwell on earth among His people, then He is fixing or ordering the preparations and provisions for His coming and His dwelling among them. For not only is Jehovah coming, He is by foreshadowing the coming of the Messiah, His Son. Who when He is come, will dwell among His people in a tabernacle not made with hands.

Not only did God Himself give the instructions or pattern for the construction of these buildings but God also gave all the orders and regulations, commandments and statutes for the service and worship of God in these places. Only under strict obedience to God's order and command did He condescend to honor such places, with His Holy and Divine Presence.

This being a place, even though, a tent structure, the House of God was a place where God recorded His Name, where He came in and blessed His people. This Tabernacle served at various places until eventually it was placed in the City of Jerusalem; King Solomon built a magnificent Temple.

For our purposes, one outstanding feature which marked the construction of Solomon's Temple is the fact that though the materials for construction, whether stone, gold or silver, everything that went into the building was cut, hewn or fitted in the place where it was formed. Here it was shaped, prepared and assembled together. All materials were put together and the building constructed "*... so that there was neither hammer nor ax nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building.*" (1 Kings 6:7)

In this we see the wisdom and great revelation of God as He reveals to His people, the places and manner in which He will come, and dwell with them on earth and for the

purpose of blessing them. In the securing of materials from various parts of the earth, in their preparation and assembly---all fitting together, everything in its proper place. Without noise, or observation---are we now reminded of the fact that Jesus Christ said *"No man can come to me, except the Father which sent me draw him: ..."* (John 6:44)

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me:..." (John 6:37)

Again Jesus of Nazareth said: *"... behold, the kingdom of God is within you."* (Luke 17:21) and, *"...The kingdom of God cometh without observation:"* (Luke 17:20)

Yes! Without the instrumentality's of man, selected and prepared of the Lord!

No wonder Peter said:

"ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 2:5)

Also Paul said:

"In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." (Ephesians 2:22)

Hear at Jerusalem the worship of God was continued several hundred years, until destroyed by the Chaldeans; and after some time was rebuilt by Zerrubabel, which continued until the coming of Christ, and was a little time after destroyed by the Romans.

Now all of this time was indeed marvelous and glorious. But none of it took away sin. There was no salvation in it. But bless God it pointed to the dispensation of Grace and Salvation: *"Truly the law was given by Moses but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."* (John 1:17)

In the Hebrew letter we read: *"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake unto the fathers by the Prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds. Who being in the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;"* (Hebrews 1:1-3)

Just as Paul declared, *"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; ..."* (1 Timothy 1:15)

And this he did ... *"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;"* (Titus 3:5)

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:8-10) [Read all of Romans 8: 28-39!]

Jesus Christ, our Savior, having

- come into this world
- proved by many infallible proofs and signs that He was God's own Son, God manifest in the flesh;
- accomplished the salvation of his people by His life and death;
- obtained eternal redemption for us;
- offered Himself through the eternal Spirit;
- gained the victory over death, hell, and the grave;
- established His Church in the world, He ascended up on high and gave gifts unto men for the work of the ministry for the edifying of the body of Christ (the Church) till we all come in the unity of the faith to the measure and stature of the fullness of Christ.

Since the coming of Christ Jesus our Lord, the worship of God has not been confined to one place. As Jesus said to the woman of Samaria, neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem, *"But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him."* (John 4:23)

Jesus Christ further said *"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there as I in the midst."* (Matthew 18:20)

There He records His Name; there He comes in and blesses them---they who worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

Finally, may we inquire into the question, where does God record His Name; or, how is His Name recorded?

First, God records His Name and Blesses His people, by manifesting His present. He records His Name where it is exalted and honored above every other name, whether it be in a mansion or hut, in the city or country. It is in or at that place where His Gospel is preached and believed; where prayer is to be made; where love rules; where peace prevails; where our hearts are warmed, His Spirit felt and realized, that we rejoice with joy

unspeakable and full of glory; where souls are melted, tears flow as streams from living fountains of water; where sinners cry mercy because Jesus the Saviour of sinners is in their midst; where He Who is chiefest among ten thousand and altogether lovely, He is Lord and King---Behold the King of Glory!

"For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness." (Psalm 84:10)

Second, God records His Name and blesses His people through His ministers for they are lovely and humble men, who speak His word with power and divine authority, though they may not be learned men in the arts and sciences of the world---yet they are ambassadors of heaven, preaching with power and liberty of the Holy Spirit.

Third, God records His Name and blesses His people where Thanksgiving is made. In that place where His Holy Ordinances are kept and observed in greatest reverence and respect as a memorial unto Him showing forth His Death till He come again; where Jesus Christ is seen and acknowledged as Lord and King; where songs of love, and hymns of praise are sung with Grace in our hearts, as unto the Lord; where heavenly and spiritual blessings are experienced and realized. For He said, *"I will not leave you comfortless: I will come unto you."* (John 14:18)

This is the house of God! This is where He records His Name, where He comes in and blesses because the House is His! For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and glory.

As such we humbly dedicate this place of worship as the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church, the House of God, the Pillar and Ground of the Truth. AMEN

Elder Maurice T. Thomas

Written by Elder Maurice T. Thomas
January 7, and 8, 1959.

Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church

1367 Ponce de Leon Avenue, N.E.



ATLANTA GEORGIA

1965 YEARBOOK DIRECTORY

Schedule of Services

Bible Study	9:45 A.M.	Sunday
Morning Worship	11:00 A.M.	Sunday
Youth Choir	5:15 P.M.	Sunday
Youth Fellowship	5:45 P.M.	Sunday
Evening Worship	7:00 P.M.	Sunday
Adult Choir	7:30 P.M.	Tuesday
Wednesday Evening Worship	7:30 P.M.	Wednesday
Mary-Martha Circle Meeting	9:30 A.M.	First Tuesday of each month
Fidelis Circle Meeting	7:45 P.M.	Third Monday of each month
Deacons Meeting	7:45 P.M.	Third Monday of each month
Church Conference	7:30 P.M.	Third Wednesday of each month



CHOIR DIRECTOR



Church Choir

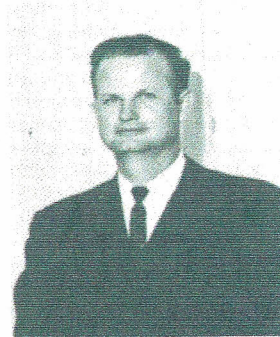
Pastors Message

Dearly Beloved,

The Apostle Paul often used the salutation, "Grace and Peace be unto you". It is with much thanksgiving in my heart that I realize anew how wonderful the Lord has been to us in manifesting His grace unto us and endowing us with peace in our hearts.

As I look back over the months that I have been with you as pastor, I am constrained to thank God for you and for your steadfastness in His service. Truly I am grateful for the love and devotion that has been in our midst, one toward the other.

Elsewhere in this book you will find a short history of the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church. It is my desire that each of you as you read this history, will realize the goodness of God to us as He has revealed His Will and made possible those great things of the past. Then let us ask ourselves, what will be the future? Certainly no one can tell, but we all realize that our future as a church depends on two things. First of all, we must have the presence of the Lord with us. Without Him, we are nothing and can do nothing. Secondly, we must ourselves, always be ready to take up our cross and follow Him. "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." Unless God is with us in our work and unless we are willing to sacrifice and work in His cause, then all work will be for naught. It is my sincere prayer that this church will continue the work of those gone by, especially in "contending for the faith once delivered unto the saints." May we all realize that the church is the pillar and the ground of the truth and let us also realize that each one of us has a particular place to fill in the work that is ahead of us.



H. B. Simms, Pastor

My prayer is that God will keep you in His love and manifest His grace unto you continually.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. B. Simms".

History of the church

Our faithful and esteemed deacon and church treasurer, Brother A. Earl McLendon, is the only remaining member of the little band of thirteen men and women who constituted our Church in a hotel room on Peachtree Street, May 9, 1922. We marvel at the zeal and dedication of this little church that bought a lot and erected a house of worship and dedicated it just six months later. Others who became members during that first six months included Brother and Sister Fred L. Cannon, Sr., Brother Roger Sims, Brother J. T. Lyon and Brother and Sister H. C. Routon. Services were held every Sunday, beginning with Bible Study. Much interest was manifested in the church and at times the little temporary building was filled to capacity. This growth continued for about three years, when confusion came in and scattered the membership so that the few who remained could make no improvement.

In August 1933 the property was leased with an option to buy and the church held services in the Glazener Church building. After six years the lessee bought another location and moved from our building, leaving it in a very dilapidated condition. Through the generosity of Brother Fred Cannon the building was repaired and made ready for use. In August 1939 we moved back to 766 Boulevard and began to raise money to pay off the loan on our building. We had no regular pastor that year but were able to obtain supplies for services once each month and by September, 1940, the loan was paid off and the church free of debt for the first time since its organization. For twelve years there were services at the church only one Sunday each month. During this time, the meetings of the ladies' circle had a large part in promoting love and fellowship and preserving unity among the membership.

A sum of \$18,000 was spent in 1945 to remodel the building and beautify the sanctuary. In 1947 a Bible School Annex was added and later a kitchen and room for a nursery. Ten years later, the property at 766 Boulevard was sold to the Plymouth Brethren and we were watching with happy anticipation the erection of our present building.

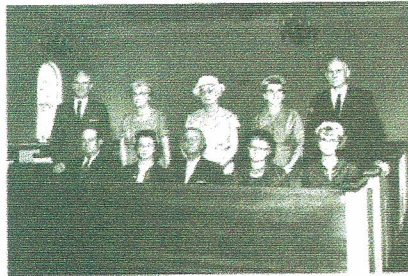
It was truly a thanksgiving indeed when the first service in our new building was held on Thanksgiving Day of 1958. The first conference was held in the new building on December 18, 1958.

At this writing the membership of the church is 162. More than 455 persons have had membership in our church over the 42 years of its existence. In October of 1952, a new church was organized in East Point with 22 members from the Atlanta Church becoming charter members of the new church. We love to think of the many faithful members who have gone on to be with God. Our church stands today as a monument to their dedication to God's service.

History Cont.

Elder Walter Blackwell was the first pastor of the church. Elder V. F. Agan succeeded him in 1925 and preached two Sundays each month for three years. He was recalled in 1940 and preached one Sunday each month until November of 1942 when the church resumed services twice each month. He left in December of that year only to be recalled to the church in September, 1954 when he served the church full time, leading us through a successful building program with a united membership to crown his more than fifty years of pastoring churches. From 1928 to 1939 we enjoyed the preaching of Elder William H. Crouse who lived in Statesboro, Georgia. His profound sermons made us happy and kept us strong in the faith, but our church failed to grow with a pastor who lived so far away. Beginning in January of 1943, Elder Maurice Thomas journeyed from his home in Jennings, Florida, and preached for us two Sundays each month until August, 1945. During his pastorate the building was remodeled. Elder Paul O. Revels moved to Atlanta in September, 1946 and served the church until September, 1952. During this time the Bible Study was reorganized largely as the result of Elder Revel's untiring efforts. Elder Fred Hartley followed Elder Revels as pastor and served for eight months when the Lord saw fit to take him home. It was a great loss for the church. Elder Claude Osborne served the Church from September, 1953 to September, 1954, followed by the return of Elder Agan. When Brother Agan retired from active pastoral duties, the church called Elder H. B. Simms, who is now present pastor. Our earnest prayer is that the Lord will deal with us in the future as kindly as He has dealt with us in the past. May we be true to His service, always "contending for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

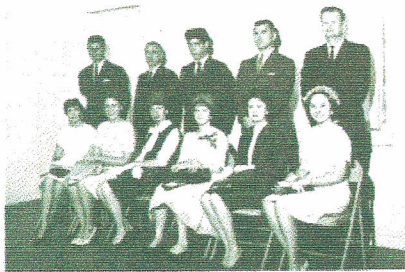
Our Church



Senior Adult Class



Adult number 2

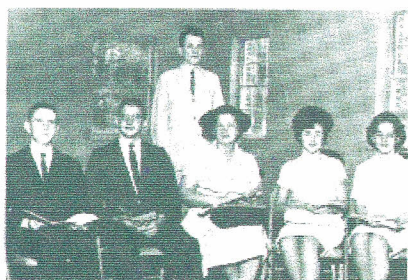


Fellowship Class

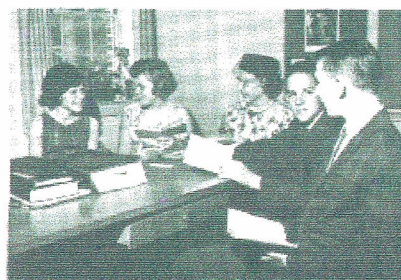


Primitive Baptist Youth
Fellowship

Our Church At Work



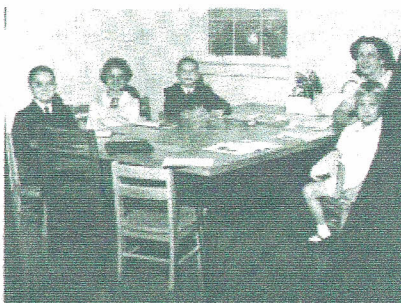
Young Peoples Class



Intermediate Class



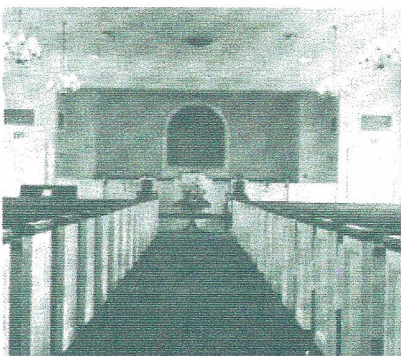
Juniors Class



Primary Class



Beginners Class



Inside of Sanctuary