

LINEAGE OF THE INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCHES

(Current example- Bible Baptist Church of Salt Lake City)

- LINK 1 - John was with Jesus Christ in the Church that Jesus started. ----- A.D. 27-33
- LINK 2 - John baptized Polycarp. ----- A.D. 95
- LINK 3 - Tertullan was a member of the Partus church that was organized by Polycarp in A.D. 150. ----- A.D. 150
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P A R T F O U R

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CHURCH HISTORY

- LINK 16 - From the first Baptist churches that were organized in Texas, church planters were sent into the counties, towns, and villages- including Tarrant county. -----
- LINK 17 - First Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, TX, Tarrant county, came out of this church planting effort. -----
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to the
Present Day

Up through 2007
Into the future - till the Lord returns!

INTRODUCTION

One of the biggest problems in teaching biblical truth about the Church is the orchestrated heresy that teaches there are only two groups of Christians, Catholics and Protestants. This particular piece of misinformation has been orchestrated by the devil and propagated by both the Catholics and the Protestants down through the centuries. This particular error has been one of the main reasons why the average Christian in the average church does not understand what the Church really is, how and when it was established, and the biblical authority of and in the Local Church. Those three have already been addressed in the first three parts of this study. Now we will go on to attack and destroy this root that is feeding poison to and destroying the churches today.

To offset the error of the two-groups-only heresy, it is necessary that we trace the history of the church (the Local New Testament Church) from its inception by Jesus on down to the present day.

Since the only type of church that is taught in the Bible is the Local New Testament Church, then we will trace the history of this particular church, Bible Baptist Church of Taylorsville, Utah. We will show its direct descent from that first Church that Jesus established in Israel sometime between 27 and 30 AD while He walked upon this earth.

We will briefly touch upon some of the main Independent Church “movements” and the Independent Christian men around whom people rallied to raise up the name of Christ and propagate the faith once delivered unto the saints.

Most of those leaders and a large percentage of their followers were killed for their unabashed stand upon God’s Word and all were persecuted for it. Such groups as the Montanists, Novations, Paulicans, AnaBaptists, etc., and a whole slew of other groups ring out as clear bells amongst a cacophony of noise down through the years. Many times the clear tones of the Independents proclaiming the Word of God were almost drowned out by the noise of the heretical Catholic and, later, Protestant noise which sounded on down through history with bone-jarring and blood-spilling force. But by the power of God and according to His promise, the clear tones of Godly preaching and teaching could always be heard cutting through the noise, if one would but pause and listen for it.

Mt 16:18 “And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

Because of that promise and because God ALWAYS keeps His word, this Independent Baptist Church is here today. Still lifting up Christ and not some religion, still unashamedly standing on the Word of God, still earnestly contending for the faith, this Local Independent Baptist Church is here because of God’s promise and as PROOF that God has kept His word.

On with our study.

SECTION ONE

General History of the Baptists and Others

The lineage of the churches today, including those called Baptists, can be found in the insert in the back of the “Trail of Blood booklet.”

I. Catholic and all Protestant Churches.

A. The beginnings of the Catholic Church can be traced directly to Emperor Constantine who declared the Catholic Church to be the official state church of the Roman Empire.

1. Official recognition of Christianity as a legal religion in AD 313 by Constantine brought to an end the persecution of Christians in the Roman Empire. At least for a time.

2. Then, in 325, he summoned the First Council of Nicea.

3. From that time on the Catholic Church began to gain secular power and to claim ecclesiastical supremacy.

4. The Great Schism between the Western, Roman Catholic Church, and the Eastern, Orthodox, Catholic Church, began in 589 and finally came to a head in 876. From that time on, the Catholic Church became a two-headed monster with one head centered in Rome and the other head growing from Constantinople. The final break came in 1054 with the excommunication of the Eastern patriarch at Constantinople by a papal legate.

5. With the ascendance to secular power, the ecclesiastical power of the Catholic Church began to be severely enforced, up to and including death for heresy. The power of the Catholic Church wed to the power of the Roman Empire was officially consummated by Emperor Theodosius in 380 when he declared that all of his subjects adopt Christianity- and by that he meant the heretical brand of Christianity espoused by the Catholic Church.

6. Then, in 1534-35, King Henry VIII. made himself the head of the Church of England marking the schism between the brand of Catholicism practiced by those called Roman Catholics and those in England that made up the Catholic Church there who, from King Henry and his proclamation onward, became known as the Church of England. Descended from that child of the Catholic Church are the Catholic grandchildren called the Anglican Churches.

B. In 1530, with the “Diet of Augsburg,” the creed of the Lutheran Church was drawn up marking the official beginning of what is known as the Protestant Reformation.



From this “Reformation” of the Catholic church came all of the Protestant denominations. Therefore, all Protestant denominations are simply reformed versions of the heretical Catholic Church and all have brought some of the Catholic heresies with them and because of that are heretical in themselves. If the mother is a dog, then the offspring is a dog. If the mother is a cat, then the offspring is a cat. If a mother church is a heretical faith, then the offspring is a heretical faith.

The way I look at is this: all Protestant churches, because they are simply reformed Catholic Churches, are simply “closet Catholics.” They one day will reunite with their mother, The Catholic Church, and that process has actually been underway for several decades.

II. The Baptists.

True Baptists, and many who call themselves Baptist today are not true Baptists, have never been a part of Catholicism east or west, just as there were groups that called themselves Christian churches in the first century after Christ started His church that were not regular Christian Churches. These would have been such groups as the gnostics and others that are not so well know that claimed to be Christians but were not.

A. Originally we were called Christians.

Acts 11:26 “And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.”

B. Then we were called anabaptists- first by the Catholics.

1. We were recognized by the Catholic Cardinal Hosius, Pres. Council of Trent, in 1554 during the time of the Reformation, as being a separate group from the Reformers.

“Were it not, that the Baptists have been grievously tormented and cut off with the knife, during the past twelve hundred years, they would swarm in even greater numbers than all of the reformers.”

2. We were obviously a separate group from both the Catholic and the Protestant groups since both groups slaughtered us by the millions.

a. Read Foxe’s Book of Martyrs and The Trail of Blood by Carroll.

Carroll - **“Both the Lutheran Church and the Presbyterian Church were soon in the persecuting business, falling little, if any, short of their Catholic mother.”**

b. Nicholas Eymeric, appointed Inquisitor of the Kingdom of Aragon in 1356, wrote the systematic textbook of procedures for Inquisitors, the **Directorium Inquisitorium**” in 1376. In it he lumped magicians, diviners, and Anabaptists all into one group and stated the position that we were subject to the Inquisition.

“Some others, however, are magicians and diviners who are not pure chiro-mantics, but are contracted to heretics as are those who show the honor of *latria* (supreme worship lawfully given only to God) or *dulia* (veneration or homage paid to the saints) to the demons, who rebaptize children and do other similar things... These people are guilty of manifest heresy. And such magicians and diviners do not evade the judgment of the Inquisitor, but are punished according to the laws pertaining to heretics.”

c. Luther, the father of the Reformation, thought we were bewitched of the devil and the Lutheran Church soon joined in with the others in the slaughter of the Anabaptists.

“For by this spiritual witchcraft that old serpent bewitcheth not men’s senses, but their minds with false and wicked opinions: which opinions, they that are so bewitched, do take to be true and godly... even those also which are professors of true Christianity, and well affected in religion,, we also at this day labour by the word of God against those fantastical opinions of the Anabaptists, that we may set at liberty those that are entangled therewith,, they abuse and corrupt the

scripture... [Teaching] clean contrary to the Scripture; which is a manifest sign that they are bewitched of the devil."

And soon after followed the Presbyterians, the Church of England, and other groups in slaughtering the Anabaptists, wherever they were to be found.

It is easy to see that the Baptists, known as Anabaptists and by other names, were never part of either the Catholic Church nor the Protestant Churches. We were slaughtered by all and received protection from none.

NOTE: There is a group today that call themselves "Anabaptist-Mennonites." These are not true Baptists of Anabaptist descent but are simply another Protestant group that came out of the Catholic Church. This group started with the Reformation and should not be confused with the historical Anabaptists that were given that name in antiquity.

The founder of this late group that called themselves Anabaptists in the early 1500's was a man by the name of Thomas Muntzer who died at the end of the rebellion known as the Peasant's Revolt in Germany with the full approval of Luther, whom Muntzer once followed but whom Muntzer had viewed as going soft. Luther called for the nobles to rise up and destroy the rebellion of which Muntzer was the head.

Luther - "Whip, strangle and kill these murderers and robbers like mad dogs."

Tried and executed on May 27, 1525 Muntzer died reconciled to the Catholic Church.

Remember, these Anabaptist Mennonites are a relatively recent group that at the time of the Reformation split off from the Catholic Church and simply adopted a name that had already been around for centuries. They are not true Anabaptists at all.

SUMMARY

The first Church was the one that Jesus started. In about the 4th century a group of irregular churches that had been around since about the 2nd or 3rd century banded together in a heretical group called the Catholic Church. That group then fragmented several times and from them came all of the Protestant and Catholic groups in existence today.

At the same time, the churches that had been following the biblical faith that was once delivered unto the saints continued separate from the Catholic movement. This concurrent existence existed from that time down to the present time.

This separate group, called at various times and in various places, Paulicans, Albigenses, Waldenses, as well as many other names, came to be known, eventually, as Anabaptists and, later, Baptists.

There are basically only three groups in the world today: Catholics (both east and west); Protestants of all kinds, of the various denominations; and Baptists, which are also known as Independent Churches if they are true Baptists. And these Baptist Churches, that are totally non-denominational, follow the fundamentals of the faith that almost all Protestant churches claimed to believe until the 20th century, but which they have not followed, and have now finally denied.

Now we will go on to specific Baptist Church History.

You will find a lineage chart on the next page and the detailed explanation of that chart on the pages following.

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| LINK 6 - Adromicus came from Pontifossi, at the foot of the Alps in France. ----- | |
| LINK 7 - Archer Flavin came from the Daretheo Church organized by Adromicus. ----- | A.D. 671 |
| LINK 8 - Timto Church was organized by Archer Flavin. ----- | A.D. 738 |
| LINK 9 - Balcolao came from the church at Timto, Asia Minor. ----- | |
| LINK 10 - Lima Piedmont Church was organized by Balcolao. ----- | A.D. 812 |
| LINK 11 - Lima Piedmont Church ordained Aaron Arlington. ----- | A.D. 940 |
| LINK 12 - Hillcliff Church, Wales, England, was organized by Aaron Arlington. ----- | A.D. 987 |
| LINK 13 - H. Roller came to the Philadelphia Association from the Hillcliff Church. ---- | |
| LINK 14 - The Baptist Church at Dyer, Tennessee, was organized by J. W. Jetter, who came from the Philadelphia Association. ----- | |
| LINK 15 - The Tennessee Baptist Church sponsored the first missionaries to Texas. ----- | |
| LINK 16 - From the first Baptist churches that were organized in Texas, church planters were sent into the counties, towns, and villages- including Tarrent county. ----- | |
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I. The First Link- the First Church, started A.D. 27 - 30.

A. It was founded by Christ somewhere between 27 and 30 AD, during His ministry here on the earth.

We don't need to go over this again. It was covered in Section Two of this study- "How And When The Church Was Established."

B. That Church was then carried on by the apostles and propagated throughout the known world.

1. They met in appointed places, the upper room, the Temple, in homes, in synagogues; and, they met at appointed times for communal worship, such as: daily, on the Lord's Day (Sunday), and at regular hours of prayer.

(Acts 1:13; 12:5, 12; 2:46; ch. 13; 2:46; 20:7; 3:1; 10:9)

2. They, and all of the mission churches started by them, had church officers- pastor/bishops and deacons. (These were studied in an earlier section.)

3. They sent representatives (missionaries) out to start other churches.

▶ These stories can be found throughout the book of Acts.

▶ They suffered persecution. (Also found throughout the book of Acts.)

4. These missionaries carried the authority and the baptism that was resident in that first Church that Jesus started at Jerusalem.

5. The growth and spread of that first Church can be studied in the book of Acts.

C. The Apostle John was a member of that Church and was sent out by Jesus personally.

Mk 3:13 "And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth [unto him] whom he would: and they came unto him."

:14 "And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,"

:15 "And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:"

:16-17 And Simon he surnamed Peter; And James the [son] of Zebedee, and John the brother of James..."

Also see: Mt 4:21-22; Mk 1:19-20; Lk 6:12-14; et al.

II. The Second Link - John baptized Polycarp on the 25th of December, A.D. 95.

(Neander's Church History, p. 285.)

III. The Third Link - Tertullan was a member of the Partus church at the foot of the Tiber that was organized by Polycarp. A.D. 150. (Cyrus' Commentary of Antiquity, p. 924)**IV. The Fourth Link - Turan Church was organized by Tertullan from Bing Joy, Africa. A.D. 237.** (Armitage's Church History, p.182)**V. The Fifth Link - Pontifossi Church was organized by Tellestman from Turan, Italy. A.D. 398.** (Nowlin's Church History, Vol. 2, p. 319)**VI. The Sixth Link - Adromicus came from Pontifossi, at the foot of the Alps in France.**

(Lambert's Church History, p. 47)

- VII. The Seventh Link - Archer Flavin came from the Daretheo Church organized by Adromicus. A.D. 671.** (Lambert's Church History, p. 47)
- VIII. The Eighth Link - Timto Church was organized by Archer Flavin. A.D. 738**
(Mosheim's History, Vol 1, p. 394)
- IX. The Ninth Link - Balcolao came from the church at Timto, Asia Minor.**
(Neander's Church History, Vol. 2, p. 320)
- X. The Tenth Link - Lima Piedmont Church was organized by Balcolao. A.D. 812**
(Neander's Church History, Vol. 2, p. 320)
- XI. The Eleventh Link - Lima Piedmont Church ordained Aaron Arlington. A.D. 940**
(Jones' Church History, p. 324)
- XII. The Twelfth Link - Hillcliff Church, Wales, England, was organized by Aaron Arlington. A.D. 987** (Alex Munston's "Israel of the Alps," p. 39)
- XIII. The Thirteenth Link - H. Roller came to the Philadelphia Association from the Hillcliff Church.** (Minutes of Philadelphia Association, book 3, item 1)
- XIV. The Fourteenth Link - The Baptist Church at Dyer, Tennessee, was organized by J. W. Jetter, who came from the Philadelphia Association.**
- XV. The Fifteenth Link- The Tennessee Baptist Church sponsored the first missionaries to Texas.**
- XVI. The Sixteenth Link- From the first Baptist churches that were organized in Texas, church planters were sent into the counties, towns, and villages- including Tarrent county.**
- XVII. The Seventeenth Link- First Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, TX, Tarrent county, came out of this church planting effort.**
- XVIII. The Eighteenth Link - Denton Baptist Temple of Denton, Texas, was started by First Baptist, Fort Worth.**
- XIX. The Nineteenth Link - Denton Baptist Temple sponsored Bible Baptist Church of Salt Lake County, Utah.**
- XX. The Twentieth Link and following - The many Churches started out of Bible Baptist Church of Salt Lake County, Utah. These links are in Utah, the surrounding states, across the U.S. and around the world, and many of them have already started the next generation of churches. Timeframe - From now until the Lord returns.**

SUMMARY

From that first Church started by Jesus Christ until the present time, there is an unbroken trail of Independent Churches leading to the Bible Baptist Church of Taylorsville, Utah; and from that church to many other churches started out of Bible Baptist. The same can be said of any true, Independent Baptist Church.

This unbroken historical trail can be followed down through the years to the other Independent Baptist Churches that have been started in the same traditional, and biblical, manner. That manner being of one Independent Baptist Church sending out a representative with the authority of that existent Baptist Church descended from Christ's Church, to start a new Church and to baptize with the authority of the Baptism of John the Baptist which was given approval by Christ himself and which was propagated through that Church that Jesus start, down through the centuries, church to church directly, until the present. Those Independent Baptist Church of today that were scripturally started can trace their lineage through 19 centuries of fire and blood in which multiplied millions of Christians were martyred for the faith. They alone can claim direct descent from the Church that Jesus started and they alone can claim the biblical authority of a true New Testament Church. And they alone are held responsible by Christ to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. In addition, they alone are empowered by Christ to carry out that mandate to win, baptize, and teach to observe, and can claim the promise given by Him in the Great Commission that He would be with them while they carry out the work the He gave them. **(Mt 28:18-20)**

No Catholic Church can claim this lineage because they left the scriptural faith in the 3rd - 4th centuries and started on a heretical path of dominance over other churches as well as dominance over the secular institutions and kingdoms from that time on, for the next 1700 years. They have lost much of their secular power today but the Holy Roman Empire, centered around the Catholic Church, still holds at least some sway over many of the governments of the world and still practices the heresy of dominance over many churches in defiance of God's plan of independent churches answerable only to Christ. In addition, they still propagate the heresy of the papacy which places the pope in the place of being the final authority over all of the churches under the umbrella of the Roman Catholic Church rather than the scriptural teaching that the local pastor/bishop is the one to whom God has given the authoritative responsibility to lovingly lead the Local Church free from any interference outside of that local body of Christ. The Catholic Church, and the Protestant churches descended from it, defy the biblical precept that the local church body is to have no ecclesiastical authority higher than itself and that it is to follow Christ alone as the head of that church and submit to God's authority within that local church, the pastor who loves it and who nurtures and protects and teaches it the Word of God.

No Protestant Church of any kind can claim this lineage because they came out of the Catholic Church. And since the Catholic Church left the faith and jumped wholeheartedly into heresy, then those Protestant churches, and the churches that then descended from them, had their lineage broken through the mother, the Catholic Church, that spawned them. If the root be rotten, then so are the branches.

I pray this study has helped you understand exactly what the church is, local and visible and independent, and how and when it was established, by Christ during His ministry here on earth. I also pray that it has helped you to understand the God-commanded authority of the Church and the God-given authoritative responsibility of the local Baptist pastor to lovingly lead that Local Church with no other ecclesiastical authority than Christ, as He teaches us in His Word, and the responsibility of that pastor to teach His Word to the members of that Local Church Body.

Finally I pray that this study has helped you to understand that only those non-Protestant, non-Catholic, Baptist Churches, such as this Independent Baptist Church, are descended directly from the first Church that was started by Jesus Christ. They alone carry the baptism of John that Jesus chose and authorized personally and they alone have the authority to administer that baptism upon all who have believe in Christ and accept him and who wish to follow the command and leading of God and submit to scriptural baptism at the hands of His authorized baptizers- this Local Independent Baptist Church.

Thank you and may God bless you as you serve Him better because of this better biblical understanding of the Church started by Him and a better understanding of the place, the authority, and the authoritative responsibility of this Local Independent Baptist Church that is directly descended from His first Church at Jerusalem.

The very existence of this church in direct descent from His original Church proves the truth of what He promised nearly two thousand years ago:

Matthew 16:18
I will build my church;
and the gates of hell
shall not prevail against it.

Dr. T.E. VanBuskirk - Taylorsville, UT - updated, August 17, 2007

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Class Instruction

Please return to the class page and take the test for Section Four.
When you have passed that test, then retrieve the PASSWORD
and take the FINAL TEST.