

JUBILEE EDITION

United
WE
Stand

Arthur L. Clanton
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United We Stand

Jubilee Edition

by Arthur L. Clanton and Charles Clanton

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PART

1

1901 to 1945

Events Leading to the Merger

Pre-Organization Oneness

One who makes a careful study of the Oneness movement soon comes upon a truth not generally known: Some converts were baptized in Jesus' name from nearly as far back as 1901, when the latter-day outpouring of the Holy Ghost began.

In 1902, Charles F. Parham wrote a book entitled *A Voice Crying in the Wilderness*, in which he said, "Then how quickly we recognized the fact that we could not be buried by baptism in the name of the Father, and in the name of the Holy Ghost, because it stood for nothing, as they never died, and were never resurrected. So if you desire to witness a public confession of a clean conscience toward God and man, and faith in the divinity of Jesus Christ, you will be baptized by single immersion, signifying the death, burial, and resurrection; being baptized in the name of Jesus, into the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; they are one when in Christ you become one with all."¹

Howard A. Goss was baptized in Jesus' name in 1903.

This is confirmed by S. C. McClain, who wrote, "In the year of 1903, the revival had swept into many cities and villages, and in Galena, Kansas, H. A. Goss was converted, and buried in Jesus' name through water baptism."² In 1915, Goss was again baptized in Jesus' name, because he had not fully realized the significance of his earlier baptism.³

Other church historians confirm that some had used the shorter baptismal formula since shortly after 1900 and that many others who did not use it, still thought it acceptable. The shorter formula was, of course, "in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ" instead of "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

There is nothing strange in their baptizing in Jesus' name. Honest Bible students, reading the Book of Acts to learn of the baptism of the Holy Ghost, would come naturally upon the truth of water baptism in Jesus' name. There is no mystery connected with this truth. It is simply a matter of doing what the Bible plainly teaches.

The manner in which Bible study led many into the truth of baptism in Jesus' name is illustrated by the experience of Andrew D. Urshan. In the year of 1910, while praying and meditating, he heard a voice within him saying, "The Father, the Son, the Holy Ghost; the Lord Jesus Christ." He immediately began to study the Book of Acts anew. Said he, "As I looked up the Scriptures over and over, a serious question was created within me: Why did the apostles baptize Jews, Samaritans, and Gentiles in the name of Jesus Christ? One day, while searching the Scriptures, the Lord called my attention to two words in Matthew 28:19—THE NAME. I then began to baptize new converts into the name of the Lord Jesus Christ."⁴

Remember, this happened in 1910!

The question arises, “Why did not *every* Holy Ghost-filled minister baptize in the name of Jesus?” It seems likely that, as more and more ministers of other denominations came into Pentecost, they, not giving themselves to Bible study as had earlier ministers, simply continued using the old denominational formula.

It was not until 1913, however, that the truth of the Oneness of the Godhead was fully revealed; and, along with it, the doctrine of water baptism in Jesus’ name was thrust out into the open.

Frank J. Ewart wrote: “At the great world-wide camp meeting held in Arroyo Seco, California in 1913, there were hundreds of preachers present from all over the nation and Canada. . . .

“One day a preacher spoke from the passage in Jeremiah 31:22. The very suggestion of God’s doing a new thing struck fire in the minds and hearts of the saints, and from then on to the end of the camp, one could hear expressions of hope that God would soon do a new thing for His people. The new thing was exhibited to those who had ears and eyes to perceive it.

“The occasion was a baptismal service in the pool near the big tent. Brother Scott had selected Evangelist R. E. McAlister to preach on the subject of water baptism. . . . He concluded his sermon abruptly by saying, ‘The apostles invariably baptized their converts once in the name of Jesus Christ; . . . that the words Father, Son, and Holy Ghost were never used in Christian baptism.’”⁵

In this camp meeting there was a man by the name of John G. Schaepe, who spent an entire night in prayer. During the night, God revealed to him the truth of