

Fort Payne church of Christ



The Weekly Moment

A Weekly Motivational Message

Wednesday, January 9, 2019

Batsell Baxter

1886-1956



Batsell Baxter was born to Price and Etta Elliott Baxter on November 17, 1886, at Sherman, Texas. He was baptized by T. B. Larimore at a gospel meeting in Sherman, Texas, that lasted almost six months.

In 1912, he married Frances Scott who was a wonderful helpmeet and companion to him through their life together. She passed on to her reward in 1940.

Baxter began preaching in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1908 and attended **Nashville Bible School**, where he sat at the feet of David Lipscomb and James A. Harding. He was greatly influenced by the life and teaching of David Lipscomb. He stood as a link with such pioneers as Lipscomb, Harding, Elam, Freed and others. He was very much like Lipscomb in his judgment and his mixture of meekness and humility. Both men stood steadfastly for the truth and yet in meekness and in love.

Baxter attended school at **Texas Christian University**, **Baylor University**, and taught school at **Thorp Springs Christian College**, **Abilene Christian College**, **Cordell Christian College** and **Harding College**. He was president of **Abilene Christian College** from 1924-32, president of **David Lipscomb College**, 1932-1934, and again in 1943-1946. He was president of **George Pepperdine College**, 1937-1939. He had been president emeritus and head of the Bible Department at **David Lipscomb** since 1946. He had written regularly for the ***Gospel Advocate*** for 26 years and was a highly respected member of its staff.

At the services that were conducted at Sherman, Texas, on March 7, Don Morris recalled the influence of Baxter upon his life, and stated that it was quite possible that he would never have been associated with **Abilene Christian College** had it not been for Baxter. He first met Baxter when his father took him to see the

young Dean at **Thorp Springs Christian College**. He paid tribute to Baxter's courage and vision in leading the college to the new campus in Abilene and in building the new buildings to provide for the school's growth.

Athens Clay Pullias paid tribute to the great assistance Baxter had been to him, personally, and to **David Lipscomb College**. He emphasized the fact that Baxter would live on in his influence on the lives of students who had studied with him.

It was the privilege of those present to close the service by recounting some of the attributes of Baxter's life as a Christian and as a gospel preacher. He was a man like Moses in his meekness. He was a man of vision, a man who encouraged young men to prepare for places of leadership and was willing to step down and encourage them in taking the lead. He thoroughly believed in Christian education. After Morris had received news of Baxter's death, he opened a letter from Baxter expressing appreciation for the wonderful lectureship week in Abilene. The letter contained a check for **Abilene College**.

Baxter began preaching in 1908 in Nashville, Tennessee. He preached in numerous places, particularly in Corsicana, Texas, and had numerous appointments around the Christian colleges where he taught. He preached the gospel in 21 States.

After his death, his words lived on through the work of his son, Batsell Barrett Baxter, whose work continued to live. He continued to speak through his thousands of boys and girls who felt the impact of his life. He speaks through his writings of his lifetime. We thank God for the influence Baxter had through the years. His counsel and encouragement are greatly missed. May the Lord multiply his teaching and influence for the cause so that untold good may redound to the glory of God through the ages. His body was laid to rest alongside that of his faithful companion who preceded him in death, in the Holloway Cemetery near Sherman, Texas. He was survived at his death by his son, Batsell Barrett Baxter, who has now joined his father in death.

Truly, a great prince in Israel died on March 4, 1956, when Baxter went to be with his Lord.

Think about it.

Here's hoping you'll make the "*most of your minutes*" this week.

Hope to see you at Bible Study tonight.

In Christian Love,

Bob Strickland