

## THE DEDICATION OF THE MONCTON REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

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within fifty days we were worshipping in it and in three months and fourteen days from the beginning, the 7th September, 1890, this church was dedicated to God, and within one year from its foundation it was clear of debt. This was accomplished, not by bazaars, tea meetings, suppers or sociables to tempt the money from the pockets through "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye or the pride of life," but by tithing and free-will offerings. Of the charter members twelve are still living, although not all reside in Moncton.

In the same year (1889) we organized a Sunday School which was a great help to the church. Although small in numbers it was interesting and ever green, and some of the children who gave their hearts to God then, have grown to manhood and womanhood as Christians, and today are holding up the blood-stained banner of Christ.

In the same year also we organized a missionary society, a society which no church is complete without. The first local branch was organized under the name of "The Home Mission Aid Society." The officers were:

Mrs. John Kinnie—President.  
Mrs. J. Rushton—Vice President.  
Mrs. C. E. Freeze—Treasurer.  
Mrs. A. L. Bubar—Secretary.

Although the membership was small, the members were very determined, and labored and prayed and gave of its means, not only for home missions but for the foreign field as well. The meetings were sometimes held under difficulties, being held in the homes of the different members and some having a long way to walk. But it has prospered, and one of our church members, Rev. I. F. Keirstead, offered himself for the foreign field and went to South Africa with Dr. Sanders, and labored among the Zulus for a number of years, though at present he is home in New Brunswick, working for God here. And still the work goes on.

### THE AFTERNOON SERVICES WERE ALSO FULL OF INTEREST.

At 2.30 there was a short session of the Sunday School.

The lesson was taught by Rev. W. B. Wiggins, the whole school forming as one class. 150 were present.

The city pastors had been invited to give short addresses in the afternoon service, but several of them were unable to be present. Those present were Rev. Bowley Green, pastor of the First United Baptist Church; Rev. E. H. Cochrane, pastor of the Highfield Street U. B. Church, and Adj. Elsworth, of the Salvation Army. All giving excellent addresses and brought greetings from their churches, and congratulated the Reformed Baptist Church and congregation on their success in remodelling their building.

The singing of two selections by the children was much enjoyed by the large congregation present.

### THE EVENING SERVICE

Was a season of much blessing, Rev. W. W. Howe preached a sermon from Acts 1-8, which was listened to with marked attention, and evident helpfulness by the large congregation, and a very enjoyable after service followed with many testimonies and songs of praise. The offerings during the day amounted to over \$700.00.

### SKETCH OF SERMON

By Rev. W. B. Wiggins, B. A., at the Rededication of the Reformed Baptist Church, Moncton, Sunday Morning, April 20th, 1919.

Text I. Cor. 3:9.

How wonderful the condescension of God in associating fallen men with himself, admitting them to communion and investing them with the most exalted privileges!

To properly understand this condescension man must feel himself lost and perishing and as rescued by the grace of God and that only. That is Paul's argument. Salvation not by man but of God. We have in the text a **Description of the Church of God**—"Ye are God's building."

The term is figurative and used by the Apostle to show that the Church has been designed, founded, built, adorned, and will be glorified by God alone. "For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God."

God is the **Proprietor** of this building. He owns the **site** (the world), the **foundation** (Christ), the **materials** (mankind), the **builders** (ministers); its **privileges** here and **eternal glory** beyond. He is the **Architect**. There was design. "Being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of own will." He saw the site—its sad condition as also the materials and resolved to make a beautiful building reflecting his glory. "Predestinated to be conformed to the image of his son." God formed and announced the plan of the building in the garden of Eden—"the seed of the woman shall bruise Satan's head," as also by the prophets and apostles.

God also laid the **Foundation**—"Therefore, thus saith the Lord God, behold I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation." "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." It is stable, durable as the rock and a sure foundation" and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Then there is the **Superstructure**. The materials once had no connection with the building. Imbedded in nature's quarry they had to be dug out and fashioned by the Holy Spirit's energy and the hammer of God's word; changed and polished; regenerated and sanctified and thus made meet for the Master's use. For this God employs workmen—"Some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."

Then these materials must be "fitly framed together," and the **Principles** by which they are cemented together are **faith and love**.

Faith unites to Christ, the foundation, and love joins and cements believers to the foundation and to one another. Without these elements the building will not stand, and the greatest of this is love.

"These things I command you that ye love one another." There was also **Special Design** in the erection. "In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit," "For ye are the temple of the living God." "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you." This building has also **Beauty**, as God is to dwell within and to be worshipped in spirit and truth. "Worship the Lord in the beauty of Holiness." This **Beauty** was internal. Solomon's Temple was beautiful within, being overlaid with **pure gold** and beautiful carvings. "The King's daughter is all glorious within; her clothing is of wrought gold."

There is **Blessedness** in being a part of this building as it is **most honorable**. To be **Holy**, to be pure in heart is to be like God, and nothing more honorable.

It is **Advantageous**. We have all the privileges and blessings connected with the building. "I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with me." "And in this mountain shall the Lord of Hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things." In it is **Safety**. The Proprietor ever watches over it. "The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous." **Defends** it. "The Lord is round about his people from henceforth even for ever." Angels minister to it. Are you a part of this **Holy Building**? Are you built on Christ? No other foundation will stand the test of storms here nor the judgment beyond.

### EVANGELISTIC SERVICES.

On Monday, 21st, Evangelist F. W. Foster arrived, and preached every evening during the week to full houses, with telling effect and several were at the altar for pardon and reclamation and the fulness of the blessing, and claimed victory. Brother Foster always finds a cordial welcome in Moncton, and quick response to his preaching of the double cure for sin. Sunday, the 27th, was a full day, the church was well filled both morning and afternoon, and was packed at the evening service and extra chairs were placed in the aisles. It was a day of visible results in general interest, and conviction, with much helpfulness to the saved people, and a considerable number of seekers at the altar, and several claimed to find peace, and the joy of salvation. A testimony meeting followed continuing until after 10 o'clock and a large number witnessed to the saving and keeping power of God. Some stating that the meetings were the best they were ever in. The blessing of God was surely with us in every service throughout the week, which were a series of dedicatory services. The offerings reached a total of over one thousand dollars. For all these blessings spiritual, and temporal we sincerely praise God.

The blessing of God has been with our  
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