

J. T. Moore

Secretary-Treasurer, 1927-1931

President, 1932-1934

John Thomas Moore was born in a log cabin on August 26, 1864 in Monroe Co., MO about 7.5 miles SW of Paris, the county seat. His father, John F. Moore, was born and reared in Bath County, KY, and when he was a young man, he came to Missouri and married Ann Elizabeth Welch.

Bro. Moore was saved in a revival meeting at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Audrain County, MO on August 6, 1881 and was baptized by the pastor, Eld. J. F. Smith.

In August of 1883, Bethlehem Church sent him as a messenger to the Bob-Femme Association. He had felt the call to preach before, but during that association he surrendered to preach the Gospel.

He was called to pastor his first church, Mt. Airy Baptist Church, in January of 1886. He was ordained by the Bethlehem Church on April 21, 1886*. Later that year he came to Baker City, Oregon, where he taught school and supplied a Baptist pulpit. His first pastorate in the West was the Elgin Baptist Church in 1887.

Scanty records indicate Bro. Moore was involved in mission work in Mexico as early as 1894. The notice of his death, published in the Oct. 5, 1938 edition of **The American Baptist**, stated that Bro. Moore was a missionary in Mexico for ten years.

At the 1907 meeting he was a messenger from the Prineville Church, Prineville, Oregon. The 1910 minute of the General Association stated that Elder Moore, "who for some years was in charge of the work in Cuernavacca, Mexico, has during this year returned to Mexico, sent by Antioch Church in Little Rock, of which he was for a while [supply] pastor.

"Brother Moore located at Los Esternon, in the State of Tamaulipe last July, and is beginning his work, preaching to both Mexicans and American colonists living there. . .

"While out on the direct plan, Brother Moore expresses his great appreciation for the stand we have taken for the truth.

Although he was listed as being from Tamaulipas, Mexico, he was a messenger from the Fossil Church, Fossil, Oregon. He was scheduled to preach the Introductory Sermon.

In 1918 he was listed as being from Jacksonville, TX and was a missionary for the General Association.

Bro. Moore led in organizing the Antioch Baptist Church in Portland, Oregon about 1924. He resigned as pastor in 1927 to accept the position as Secretary-Treasurer of Missions for the American Baptist Association. At the 1927 meeting of the Association, another brother was elected, who declined. Bro. Moore was chosen by the Missionary Committee. The 1928 Minute recorded: "On account of the condition of the work on his field, Bro. Moore felt that it was best for the work on the Pacific Coast that he should remain there for a while. Hence he did not begin work as our Secretary-Treasurer until July 15th (1927), arriving in Texarkana on July 30th. He continued as Secretary-Treasurer of Missions until 1931.

Bro. Moore served as President of the American Baptist Association in 1932-1934. During that time he purchased the **American Baptist** paper, and moved it from Kentucky to Texarkana. This paper was started by D. B. Ray in 1876, and then was later acquired by J. N. Hall. After serving as publisher and editor for 2.5 years, Bro. Moore sold the paper to D. N. Jackson, E. T. Burgess, and C. A. Gilbert, effective December 26, 1934.

Bro. Moore had previously edited the Baptist Sentinel at Dayton, Washington from 1892-1894. He resigned his last Arkansas pastorate (Oakland Church, Fayetteville) in January, 1935 and left Texarkana on February 1, 1935 to return to Oregon.

He resumed the pastorate of Antioch Church in Portland in 1935. With the encouragement of three local associations, he led the Antioch Church to establish the Pacific Coast Bible School, which opened in September, 1935, with 22 students.

During his ministry he served in seventeen states and Mexico. He pastored churches in Missouri, Oregon, Washington, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

At the time of his death, September 14, 1938, Bro. Moore was pastor of Antioch Baptist Church, superintendent of Pacific Coast Bible Institute and editor of the Pacific Coast Baptist, all located in Portland, Oregon**.

* J. T. Moore, "Landmark Preachers of Oregon," **Landmarks**, September-October, 1977, p. 1 ff. This article was found in Dr. Moore's personal papers after his death. According to the editor, John R. Blaylock, this personal account was first published in the **Pacific Coast Baptist** of March, 1941.

** **The American Baptist**, October 5, 1938, p. 1
