

Old Landmarkism – What is it?

Chapter 14, 15, 16, and 17 – The Teachings of History

[Rev 11:3] And I will give [power] unto My two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.

[Rev 12:6] And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days.

Does ecclesiastical history reveal that the teachings of Landmarkism were believed and practiced from the days the Lord Jesus Christ to this day?

Latin and Greek Catholicism

The mystery of iniquity (2nd Thes 2:7) was already at work in the day of Paul. This was a falling away from the doctrine and church form established by Christ and His apostles which characterized all the scriptural churches in the first century, and as a general thing, part of the second.

It was a falling away from Baptist doctrines, principles, and form of church organization and fellowship.

This falling away took place in the third century resulting in a general withdrawal of the pure and uncorrupted Churches from Catholicism.

Pure, Uncorrupted Churches

Novatians in Europe and Donatists in North Africa withdrew from Catholicism. *Israel of the Alps*, quoted in *Baptist Succession*, speaking of the Waldenses state "It was not they who separated from Catholicism; but Catholicism which separated from them in modifying the primitive worship."

Encyclo of Rel. Know., p. 1148, "...Rome grew too potent for the church of Milan, *planted by one of the disciples*; insomuch that the bishop [pastor] and people, rather than own their jurisdiction, retired to the valleys of Lucerne and Angrogna..." These are located in the Alps.

"*Treatise Concerning Antichrist*" in 1120 from the Waldenses. Antichrist is not any particular person "but a system of falsehood" opposing itself to the truth, covering itself with a show of beauty and piety, yet unsuitable to the church of Christ, as by names and offices, the Scriptures and sacraments..

Statement of Albert Barnes, Presbyterian.

See page 120 – paragraph from "*Exclusivism*" pg. 66 and 67.

Can any Baptist read this, and doubt for one moment that Bro. Barnes, and all Presbyterians who indorse him, would, by imprisonment, fines, and *flames*, attempt to compel us to recognize their societies and human traditions, as Calvin and Luther, Zwingli and Knox, did in the sixteenth centuries and their ancestors--the Catholics--did for twelve hundred years before?

Chapter 15 – Baptists of New England, 1638 AD until 1776 AD

Baptists during this period could Not have affiliated if they desired to do so.

Chapter 16 – Baptists of Virginia

They could Not affiliate with the state church – the Episcopalians.

The state church unrelentingly oppressed and persecuted the Baptists as long as they were backed by the State. The Epis. lost their position in 1798.

Chapter 17 – Summary of History

1. It is a fact that the churches of the New Testament, covering the entire apostolic age, were instructed to hold the doctrines, and observe the policy now denominated "Old Landmarkism."
2. It is a fact that all those churches, by whatever name called, which were the recognized witnesses of the truth and preservers of the gospel up to the Reformation, were strictly "Old Landmark" Baptists.
3. It is a fact that the genuine Baptists, from the rise of Protestantism onward, for centuries following, were "Old Landmarkers".
4. It is a fact that the Baptists of England and Wales, from the time churches were planted in those countries until a late day, were Anabaptists who refused to recognize the Pedobaptist persecuting sects of that day,
5. It is a fact that the first Baptist Church in America at Newport, RI, in 1638: and its pastors, Clark and Holmes, were "Old Landmarkers,"
6. It is a fact that the Baptist Churches of America, from 1707-1807, according to the minutes of the Phil Association, were "Old Landmarkers."
7. It is a fact, according to the testimony of Bro. Spencer H. Cone, that from the earliest planting of Baptist Churches in New York, until 1845, the general sentiment and practice of the churches and all the leading ministers, was strictly Old Landmark.
8. It is a fact that the venerable Oncken, and all the churches he has planted in Germany, and Prussia, and Russia, comprising tens of thousands of Baptists, are Old Landmark to the core.
9. It is a fact that the oldest churches and Associations in Mississippi were Old Landmark, and never affiliated, and do not until this day, with human societies, or their ministers, or accept their ordinances.
10. It is a fact that the oldest and most successful Baptist ministers in Tennessee, as the venerable James Whitsett, George Young, and Joseph H. Borum for forty years a pastor in West Tennessee, never affiliated with Pedobaptists or Campbellites, and they testify that affiliation is a new practice, and the forerunner of open communion.
11. It is a fact that the attempt of the few influential and would-be popular ministers of this present time, to carry us into affiliations and alliances with Pedobaptists, and to influence us to recognize them as evangelical churches, by accepting their immersions, and their preachers as evangelical ministers, has caused all the strifes that afflict us as a people.
12. It is a sad fact that in Christ's last revelation through John, of what would take place toward the close of the present gospel dispensation, and previous to His second advent: laxity of views and practices, general indifferentism and lukewarmness, a state which He denominated as "neither cold nor hot," would characterize a large number in His churches resulting in them being spewed out of His mouth. While He would receive and declare the faithful Churches to His Father as His Bride.