A Summary Of The Secession Of David Clarke's Secession From The Bierton Strict Baptist Church 1984.



https://youtu.be/piz8Gec3PS8

A summary of David Clarke withdrawing from the Bierton Strict and Particular Baptist church, in 1984 over matters of conscience.

Having written an account of my succession from the Bierton Strict and Particular Baptist church over matters of conscience on the 26th of June 1984. This is the sum of my findings. The Bierton Church was formed in 1831 and we became a gospel standard cause on the 16th of January 1981.

In 1982 I was called by the lord and sent by the church to preach the gospel. My application to preach was sanctioned by Mr Hill of Luton and Mr Hope of reading, both ministers and pastors of Gospel Standard Churches. I was licensed to preach and sent by the Church to go wherever the lord opened the door for me to preach.

I was also appointed as church secretary and correspondent with all our ministers, including those who withstood our work. This enabled me to examine those serious charges levelled at the church for holding to serious doctrinal issues once we became a Gospel Standard cause. Our alliance with the Gospel Standard Baptist was seriously opposed by those outside our church, as is demonstrated by Mr. Kenneth Dix<sup>1</sup>, who was a Strict Baptist Historian, and pastor of Dunstable Baptists. His response typified

<sup>1</sup> See; Chapter 4 Visitors and Strict Communion 'Let Christian Men

the opposition against Gospel Standard Baptists. I was left to resolve those serious charges levelled at our church for joining the Gospel Standard list of churches. Those who opposed us were Evangelical, other Strict Baptists, Congregationalist, and we were labelled Hyper Calvinists. These being and holding to views we called Fullerite Baptists. Hyper Calvinist being a term that rally means nothing and used by uneducated Christians who are less Calvinistic than them, and only suggests one is more Calvinistical than some one else.

I have shown the Bierton church we're unable to maintain a faithful testimony to the truth of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ as outlined in our church's articles of religion, and set out in our indenture and Trust Deed dated 1831, or the Gospel Standard Articles of religion as a result i seceded from the church on the, 26th of June 1984 ,over matters of conscience. However due to our strict rules of membership and traditional church ruling related to membership I remained a church member as the church did not terminate my membership or that of my wife. We. I remained church members as the church did not terminate our membership. as the Church wished us to return. The church had failed us and were bound to preserve and keep to the doctrine of particular redemption but it failed to do so and continue to allow its other male church member to teach general redemption as is recorded in The Bierton Crisis 1984, and Let Christian Men be Men.

Despite my many failings and serious fall i was recovered by the lord and continued my work as a minister of the gospel, not only in England but also in the Philippines and now in Pakistan.

Upon hearing of the closure of the bean chapel and the deceased of its members on return from mission working in the Philippines in 2002, I was encouraged by Mr. Paul Crane, of Laken Heath, our appointed church overseer, to return to Bierton and reopen the chapel.

Upon approaching those who i understood to be the lawful trustees who were the Association of Grace Baptist Churches limited I was refused permission to use our chapel. I soon learned that these were not the lawful trustees as they had not been elected by the church. These were not the lawful elected trustees of the chapel because our trustee deed states that new trustees must be elected by the church. This Association were unfamiliar with our traditional rule relating to Church membership as clearly spelled out in

Be Men.

the Gospel Standard rules relating to Church membership. The Association were also were opposed to our doctrinal stand and positioned as a Gospel Standard cause as they classified us as Hyper Calvinist.

When seeking to resolve my claim against the Association at the London County Court they claimed I was no longer a church member and dismissed our traditional rules related to church membership as expressed in or Gospel Standard rules of conduct. They simply denied that i was a member. So in light of that denial I was not prepared to argue that I was and decided to leave the matter to the lord to deal with. They went ahead and registered the Bierton chapel Trustee Deed, with the H.M. Land Registry, by producing a Memorandum of Appointment of New Trustees that took over for the existing lawful trustees elected by the Church in 1976. This was signed a date in the 5th of February 2003, this was after all the members had died and without notifying Mrs. Holloway or myself who were the remaining two, of seven church members alive, and after ignoring my request to give full proof that they were the lawful trustees they simply ignored me. This memorandum of appointment of new trustees was unlawful, and was contrary to our trust deed, as they had not been elected as trustees by the Bierton church. They finally sold our chapel, in 2006. This was a serious error in law which need to be corrected.

The Bierton chapel is now a domestic dwelling and the money's raised from the sale disposed off which in the event of all the church member dying should have been paid to the particular baptist fund trust of London founded, in 1717.

Despite all these awkward and difficult workings of religious men my work, as a sent minister of the Bierton Strict Baptist church continues not only in the U.K. but also the Philippines and Pakistan and I maintain that the funds, from the sale of the Bierton Chapel should be returned to the Bierton church in order to continue its calling and the work entrusted to me as a sent minister of the Bierton Strictly and Particular Baptist Church.