Bierton And The Association Of Grace Baptists



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This book is a personal account of its author of the difficulties connected with the closure of the beaten baptist chapel in December 2002. The Bierton chapel belonged to the Bierton Strict and Particular Baptists of which David Clarke became a member, in 1976. The Bierton Society of Strict Baptist was formed, in 1831, whose articles of religion and terms of the trust are recorded and now registered with the H.M. land registry since 2006.

The articles of religion are clear and state the church are committed to teach particular redemption, and those doctrines of grace that are taught throughout the world from the 16th century. The Bierton church became a Gospel Standard Baptist Church, in 1981, and adopted their rules of conduct. The Bierton church held to the traditional rules of conduct related to membership that states that only the church can sever a member from the church, and that is either by an honourable transfer to another church of the same faith and order or a dishonourable dismissal, which means one is either an honourable or dishonourable member of the church, once joined. Mr. Clarke was called by the lord and sent as a minister of the church to preach the gospel, in 1982, and he preached in many Gospel Standard Churches throughout the country, until 1984.

During this time the church fell into serious doctrinal errors in allowing general redemption to be taught ,and not sanctioning one of its other male members from teaching general redemption. Mr ClarkE withdrew from

the church after a period of 18 months, after seeking to put these matters right. This was because the church had turned from its responsibilities, as specified in the trust deed in not maintaining the doctrines of particular redemption.

On leaving the church Mr. Clarke remained an honourable member of the church as the church wanted him to return. The church did not terminate his membership.

David wrote an account of his succession entitled the Bierton Crisis 1984, sending it to all concerned, including the five trustees, so they knew the nature of the problem and were responsible to ensure the chapel was used for the purpose it was entrusted to the church, and to them. This has now been republished in David's book, Let Christian Men Be Men, in January 2021.

It was some 18 years later that the problem arose relating to the Bierton Chapel and its trustee, which at that time had not been registered with the land registry.

The chapel and its property was owned by the church and in the lawful hands of its elected trustees, all of which had been chosen by the church in 1976.

One of these trustees was the other male member of the church who was responsible for teaching general redemption, contrary to the church's articles of religion.

In 2001, David Clarke continued his ministry responding to a call to preach and conduct evangelical missions to the jails of the Philippines, to many prison inmates in New Bilibid Prison and other prisons.

During those missions David and his brother Michael appointed William Poloc a former converted prisoner in New Bilibid Prison whose story is told in his book called, 'Out Of Nature's Darkness Into His Marvellous light', to return to his own city and preach the gospel to his family and friends, and in Baguio City and Benguet Provincial jails. This work continues to this day.

During his mission work, in 2002, David learned that all the former Bierton church members had died and the chapel left in the hands of the publications available internationally as all its former members have died. So we now invite you to view an interview between David and one of the members of his family which tells the whole story we know that in this very prison there are prisoners being converted and saved and they've been helpful in keeping the regulation and the rules and supporting uh the director of this prison so we commended to you now give him the desires of his heart we ask these things in the lord Jesus name amen

trustees, who later informed David they were too old to continue to look after the chapel. There were left five remaining trustees who had the responsibility to take care of the chapel, one of them was the only other male member of the church who had taught general redemption.

It was during his mission work that David wrote and spoke to one of the other five trustees informing him of his continuing mission work. On David's return to the U.K., in 2003 it was suggested by the former Bierton Church overseer for him to return and reopen the Bierton chapel that was closed for worship, on the 22nd of December 2002.

He was informed, by the church overseer, that The Association Of Grace Baptist Churches LTD, had taken over responsibility for the chapel but they refused to permit him to use the chapel. Not only that but they also denied he was a church member and that the Bierton Church was a Gospel Standard cause, and adding insult to injury, said he could make a bid to buy the chapel for £150 000 pounds.

Mr. Clark requested the Association to give him the documentary evidence that they were the lawful trustees but the Association ignored his request. It is believed this was refused because they did not have the Memorandum Of Appointment Of New Trustees issued by the church because the church had not chosen them to be trustees. The Bierton trust clearly states that new trustees were to be elected by the church and since all the church members had died, by 2002, the Association had not been elected as trustees by the church. Then the proof being that neither David, nor his wife, being church members, were informed of such elections which had to take place according to the terms of the Bierton Church trust deed.

The Association Of Grace Baptist Churches limited had no legal right to take the Bierton Trust Deed to register themselves as the owners of the chapel and so no right to sell the chapel.

This book tells a story and is submitted to the Association Of Grace Baptist Churches with a view to put matters right and return the monies realized from the sale of the Bierton Chapel in 2006, two thousand six being in order for David Clarke to continue the function of the Bierton Particular Baptist, of which he remains the sole remaining member, continuing his work as a sent minister of the gospel in publishing writing and teaching the gospel to this current day, as evidenced by the many