

History of the SBC

I.) A Rocky Past:

- 1.) 1844 Georgia Baptists asked the Home Missionary Society to Appoint a **Slaveholder** to be a missionary in Georgia.
- 2.) The appointment was declined based on his status as a slaveholder.
- 3.) A few months later the Foreign Mission Board denied Alabama Baptists missionary appointments. This was based on the issue of slavery
- 4.) May 10th 1845 Baptists in the south formed the SBC for the purpose of allowing slave holders to be Missionaries.

II.) Post War Progress:

- 1.) Southern Baptists declined an offer to merge with the north after the war.
- 2.) The home and foreign mission boards of the SBC began to flourish.
- 3.) By 1891 the SBC had raised over 2 million dollars for foreign missions and had 91 missionaries in China, Africa, Italy, Brazil, Mexico, and Japan.
- 4.) By 1891 the SBC Home Mission Board appointed 407 missionaries across the country.
- 5.) The WMU was formed and showed a deep commitment to missions.
- 6.) In 1891 SBC formed the Sunday School Board (Lifeway). This board played a major role in unifying SBC churches and helping them grow.

III.) Fighting the Good Fight:

- 1.) In 1961 Ralph Elliot wrote a book called "The Message of Genesis." This book sparked a clash between conservatives and Moderates at SBTS.
- 2.) Elliot and 13 other faculty were fired for their unbiblical views of scripture.
- 3.) Conservatives that believe in the Authority of Scripture believed liberal professors were undermining God's word.
- 4.) Paul Pressler and Paige Patterson joined together to form a plan to remove liberalism from the SBC and restore a high view of scripture.
- 5.) Pressler and Patterson would rally conservatives to select a president that would clean house. That president was Adrian Rogers elected on a platform of biblical inerrancy in 1979.
- 6.) Pressler and Patterson's next goal was to remove the liberal trustees and Seminary presidents. They did this with presidential appointments.
- 7.) In 1980 the SBC made a resolution condemning abortion. In 1993 Al Mohler was elected as president of SBTS.
- 8.) In 1995 the SBC publicly repented of the past sin of supporting slavery.