

meaning Landmark no longer needed to subscribe to religious theories or philosophies. No longer would the “university” often maligned and diminished by philosophical meanings, ruinous religious rhetoric, or by the traditions of men be withheld from the Congregation: All of us, each one, came to appreciate, and praise God for our university, and gladly abandoned any and all divisive sources of diversity.

7. The Pastor

For the pastor of Landmark, the vision cast by its former pastors ultimately prevailed as the current pastor was successfully postured for inevitable success.

Men that had grown upwardly under these giants in our faith gladly took responsibility as deacons, serving in each and every function associated with the buildings, lands, properties-all physical assets- along with the finances of the Church, completely freeing the pastor to fully engage the ministry of the Word and prayer.

The pastor of Landmark has enjoyed an unencumbered service to Christ through His locative, Assembly of Christ under the Headship of Jesus Christ. Pursuing the “Outreach” side of the topic of “Apologetics and Outreach” has become his primary focus, as building projects, expansions, and future facilities are all preserved under the purview of the Deacons and Preachers, maximizing the stewardship of the word of God by not casting the work of deacons onto the pastor.

Landmark’s faithfulness is unsurpassed, and its pastor could find no greater joy than to hear that the congregants are walking according to the truth. Finally, as the pastor of

Landmark, my greatest desire was, is, and forever shall be for each body member to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

For, the purpose of our governance is to foster growth in every way: The Deacons serve as table waiters of the material resources, and the pastor the table waiter of the Word of God. The True and Living God is the Head of the Christ; the Christ, our Lord is the Head of the Husband; the husband is the Head of his wife, and the Children are subject to their own parents expected to obey them in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

May Landmark forever remain in fellowship according to the New Covenant, governed according to the spiritual laws of Christ. Amen!

Landmark Missionary Baptist Church

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What is IAmKOINE.org?

1. The Beginning

Several years ago, Landmark Missionary Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Arkansas engaged a topic called: “Apologetics and Outreach,” Landmark did so during its Wednesday evening Bible study. Apologetics and Outreach quickly became a Church-wide project involving all members. Several newer members had no foundation in the History or Legacy of the Baptist faith, knowing only their own personal experience of the New Birth and Baptism. Some, however, had been heavily steeped in the doctrines of J. R. Graves, using his textbook, and Dr. L.D. Foreman’s literature, along with material by Dr. Ben M. Bogard.

Landmark soon learned that many were unprepared for the dissonance incurred when learning the basis for the faith of Missionary Baptists; especially, the ultimate dissonance that occurred when Landmark realized the great responsibility of being neither Calvinist nor Arminian. Nevertheless, discovering Bible based reasons for our NOT being this, or NOT being that soon yielded to the encouragement

of learning what the basis of our faith once delivered actually was. Landmark was informed by her pastor that an expression that would most accurately reflect our Missionary Baptist faith could be “I am Koine.” Stating “I am KOINE” when asked if one were Calvinist or Arminian provided the congregants a statement that was not according to a man, rather according to the kind of faith, salvation and language that corresponded to the kind in the New Testament. We shared a “common faith,” and a “common salvation.” Common faith that has been kept by Missionary Baptists since the seashores of Galilee, and a salvation in common with all true believers throughout the ages. So, as Landmark’s study proceeded, stating “I Am KOINE” became a “coined” phrase for Landmark Jacksonville. When asked about Calvinism, or Arminianism, or any other “ism” one could simply state: “I am KOINE.”

2. The Opportunity

While studying “Apologetics and Outreach” the opportunity presented itself to Landmark to review the ancient Confessions within Baptist history and, after reviewing, to omit any material that reflected Calvinism, or Arminianism. This arduous task was happily completed and the “KOINE Confession” was published onto Landmark’s website.

3. KOINE Colleagues

Throughout the study in “Apologetics and Outreach,” Landmark’s pastor began to consult numerous pastors, Bible teachers, and former Seminary Classmates, collaborating with them about the opportunity that Landmark Jacksonville hoped to realize; specifically, a unique expression, as unique as the Missionary Baptist Faith itself, according to which she might define herself and her theology. (For,

Landmark, like all Baptists, is neither Protestant nor Catholic ecclesiastically speaking); and desired to be as distinct in her theology as her ecclesiology. Therefore, as KOINE continued to compel our studies, it became apparent that a corresponding slogan be proffered. Settling upon an ancient symbol of the seven churches of Revelation, the symbol of the Waldenses was selected and, along with “I am KOINE,” was literally coined. The coins became, and remain, a token of the faith of the Landmark Missionary Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Arkansas to forever identify her with the faith once delivered and observed throughout Church History.

4. The Gratitude

Furthermore, as the Wednesday Night study continued, the Congregation became more and more grateful for those that went before us, bearing the reproach as a “gazing stock” for remaining free from the admixture of traditional religionists and their “leaven of the Pharisees.” Landmark reflected upon the tenacity of the faithful martyrs to guard the ancient texts upon which the grand English translations were made possible. Further, Landmark began to appreciate the labor, and toil of those that made her studies in this subject possible. For, Landmark discovered among the Trail of Blood, a labor of love that cost God’s people dearly because of their devotion and faithfulness to Christ.

5. The Organic Nature of KOINE

The “organic” nature of KOINE became ever increasingly obvious and more appreciated; for, though its kind of language initially appeared “common” and designed for the simpler minded, it came to be a living

testament for Landmark Missionary Baptist Church. Her appreciation for the KJV grew as she realized that it also was a testament to the faithfulness of Baptists and the Grace from God by which our history was achieved and sustained. Although the KOINE came to be understood as a very “verbose” way of expressing the Truth, the wisdom of God in providing the New Testament Scriptures in such a definitive language became a source of great encouragement to Landmark, and glory to God!

6. KOINE University

Another unexpected blessing from the study “Apologetics and Outreach” was the achievement of “university” among the body members. Landmark was no longer tossing to and fro about “limited or unlimited atonement,” rather being well grounded by the distinction(s) between “Atonement and Redemption;” about the degree or implications of “Total Hereditary Depravity,” rather the responsibility of the sinner to perform the simplest form of action; namely, “believe” the Gospel; about “universal invisible or visible Church,” rather only giving Him the glory in the locative New Testament Church! Further, Landmark came to full university (as opposed to diversity) about the “Living God,” rather than the poorly characterized “open or closed theistic” theories. Finally, of God’s infinite intelligence, all power, knowledge, and presence, Landmark achieved university concerning His Living nature among all of His attributes. Wherefore, Landmark Missionary Baptist Church experienced greater fellowship by finding meaning from the Scriptures for all of our faith-terms, like Church and Baptize: Landmark found meaning for the term Freewill to be “agent causation,” upon which Bible