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Watching and Waiting

LIGHT FOR PERILOUS TIMES

SCRIPTURAL

Reformed, Protestant, Puritan, Prophetic, Expository, Doctrinal

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**This magazine is issued by the
SOVEREIGN GRACE ADVENT TESTIMONY**

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CENTENARY ISSUE

The objects are:

1. To teach the nearing approach of our Lord's return. James 5:8
2. To hold forth the Truth and to expose and resist error. Jude 3
3. To note passing events in the light of 'the Scripture of Truth.' 2 Peter 1:19
4. To unfold the Word of God by comparing Scripture with Scripture. Acts 17:11
5. To encourage missionary endeavour, and all service for Truth. Acts 1:8
6. To comfort and strengthen those who seek to stand with the Lord, apart from abounding lawlessness. 2 Timothy 2:19
7. To call for separation from false ecumenism. 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

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Two Special Centenary Occasions

Newtownabbey, Northern Ireland

You are invited to a Conference

to be held, God willing,

on Saturday, 3rd November, 2018

**at Newtownabbey Free Presbyterian Church
307-309 Ballyclare Road, Corrs Corner, Newtownabbey,
Co Antrim, BT36 4TQ**

3.30.pm - Question Time:

Dr John Douglas, Rev Ivan Foster, Mr Stephen Toms

7.30.pm – Centenary Service

Preacher: Rev Ivan Foster

Refreshments, kindly provided by the Church, in the interval

London, England

You are invited to the Centenary Meeting

to be held, God willing,

on Saturday, 24th November, 2018 at 2.30.pm

**at Westminster Baptist Church, 100 Horseferry Road,
London, SW1P 2EE**

Preacher: Dr John Douglas

This Testimony was formed in November, 1918 and we trust that friends will make every effort to attend one or both special centenary meetings.

In the July issue of 'Watching and Waiting,' we gave a little information about some of the men whose testimony was used of God for the proclaiming of doctrinal and prophetic truth prior to the formation of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony. In the present issue, we endeavour to state something about the men who actually were involved, under God, in the formation and continuation of the Testimony. Once again, there is much that cannot be given in these short articles, and many other names should be included, but space does not permit this. The first five mentioned brethren are those who were at the prayer meeting on 1st November, 1918 and formed the original conveners. The remaining brethren are just a few of the many that have been used to continue the Testimony. We do not supply these details for the glory of men but rather that the Lord may be honoured for raising up such godly persons to bear witness to the whole counsel of God.

The Original Conveners:



John Hunt Lynn: Pastor J H Lynn was elected chairman at the inaugural meeting in 1919. He had been pastor at various churches in Wiltshire, Devon, Suffolk, and London, and in 1914 he became the minister at 'Hope' Strict Baptist Chapel, Bethnal Green.

As a grace-taught Biblical scholar of no mean attainments he had exercised his talents as secretary, editor and organiser in many Christian causes.

His constant aim had been to further the knowledge of the WHOLE WORD of GOD, taking the original Hebrew and Greek words and bringing out their full contents in doctrinal, experimental, prophetic, preceptive, and evangelical truth; in all that honours the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He was born in 1845 in Kingsland near the City of London, and his home was a godly one. In tender years he was taken to Sunday School at Grove Chapel, Camberwell, where at five years of age he received first conviction of sin. He also attended the ministry of Pastor James Wells at the old Surrey Tabernacle, to whom he became dearly attached. After a long period of very deep soul trouble, it was a sermon by R Govett that brought him liberty in Christ, and the ministry of William Lincoln further instructed him, and by him he was baptised at Beresford Chapel, Walworth.

His education began at the City of London School, and had he not been a non-conformist, he would have gone on to Cambridge; but this Spirit-taught scholar received true heavenly degrees.

An early employment was in a draper's establishment in Lisson Grove. He took a delight in mathematics. For a while, he became a school-master, and then ran his own

school, and at the same time began his life-long studies in the Hebrew and Greek Scriptures, and made himself conversant with Latin.

When about twenty years of age he frequently walked from Chelsea to Greenwich to hear the expository ministry of Dr Adolph Saphir.

The call to Gospel ministry quickly followed his new-found liberty in Christ. He began as a Sunday School teacher, open-air preacher, and itinerant preacher; and was soon found in full-time pastoral ministry.

In 1866, he met Mr B W Newton and found himself being led along similar lines of doctrinal and prophetic truth to that unique Bible teacher.

Mr Lynn supplied many articles for 'Watching and Waiting,' the 'Bible League Quarterly,' the 'Christian's Pathway,' the 'Gospel Herald,' and the 'Monthly Letter of the Protestant Evangelical Mission.' His book entitled, 'Grace, Government and Glory' is now sadly out of print, but the SGAT still has a supply of his pamphlet, 'The Coming Ten Kingdoms.'

In addition to being chairman of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony, he held the same position for the Bible Spreading Union, the London College Mission in the East End, and the Protestant Evangelical Mission.

He was taken to be with the Lord on 17th December, 1940, age 95.



George Hazelton Fromow: When the Testimony was formed, Mr Fromow was appointed secretary and he fulfilled that service until his home-call in 1974 – a period of over 55 years. During those many years he never deviated in the least either from the doctrine of grace or from the truth of the second advent. His stability is an example to us all. For many of those years he had edited 'Watching and Waiting' and those back issues, now very rare, would be a valuable asset for any student of Scripture, particularly as prophecies concerning the end of this age begin to be fulfilled.

He was born of Christian parents on 21st November, 1888. Following his conversion, he was baptised at North Road Chapel, Brentford at the age of 16 and he remained a faithful member of that church for the remainder of his life – 69 years. During that time, he was sent forth as an itinerant preacher and he had a pastoral heart for all the many churches to whom he preached.

He had a real interest in spreading the Word of God and was, following Mr Lynn's home-call, chairman of the Bible Spreading Union for 34 years. He was interested in other organisations faithful to the Truth and served on the committees of the Bible League and the Hebrew Christian Testimony to Israel. Believing that God's people should be a separated people, he supported the witness of the International Council of Christian Churches.

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As secretary of the SGAT, he worked extremely hard in his desire to spread the truth, and the Lord blessed his labours so that the magazine together with other items of literature circulated in all English-speaking countries and many others besides. The blessing he was made to many people will not be known until the great harvest day.

We still have some copies of the July, 1974 issue of 'Watching and Waiting' which commemorates the life of our dear brother and anyone wishing to have a copy should apply to the present secretary. We also have a supply of his book, 'Teachers of the Faith and the Future,' in which he gives useful information about Mr B W Newton and Dr S P Tregelles. Then we have some copies of his booklets, 'Christ and Antichrist Contrasted' and 'New Testament Millennial Teaching.'

He suffered a stroke from which he made a reasonable recovery but his speech was affected and this was a real trial to him. He was taken to be with the Lord on 17th April, 1974, age 85.

Frederick Parker: As stated in the January issue of 'Watching and Waiting,' it was in the home of Mr Parker in Ealing that the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony was founded, and he was one of the original five conveners.

The early years of his Christian life were spent in the fellowship at the Talbot Tabernacle, under the ministry of Pastor Frank H White, who baptised him and by whom he was married. Later, he found spiritual upbuilding in doctrine and prophecy under Dr Cecil Yates Biss at Carlton Hill Chapel, St John's Wood. While there he acted as publication agent for a number of the Doctor's sermons and Bible lectures. About the time that Dr Biss died, he moved with his family to Ealing, and worshipped at North Road Baptist Chapel, Brentford, where under the ministry of Pastor Robert Mutimer, he found happy union and service,. For a few years he attended the ministry of Pastor John Wilmot at Highgate Road Chapel.

Mr Parker's ministry as an itinerant preacher indoors and out of doors was highly valued in London and the suburbs, until following his partial retirement, he removed to Worthing. Up to the time of his homegoing he attended the ministry at Chatsworth Road Hall and at Christ Church Baptist Church, where he was much interested in the men's Bible Class and Prayer Meeting.

He was called home on 30th October, 1953, age 90. He had for some years served the SGAT as treasurer, and at the time of his passing, Mr Fromow expressed his appreciation of the service rendered for the Lord and for His holy truth.

When Mr Parker gave his testimony at a meeting in Highgate Road Chapel in 1921, he spoke of the SGAT as having been born in prayer and the desire to carry the light of prophecy to fellow believers. He desired clear views, but deprecated a state as cold as clear. He insisted that the literal sense of prophetic Scripture should be taken before any spiritual application was made; the application often was not interpretation.



Ernest Rose: Pastor Rose was another of the original five conveners of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony. He gave vigorous and heartening council and contributed invaluable service in drawing up the SGAT Manifesto. His successive ministries had been in Walthamstow, Wandsworth, Farnham, and lastly, in Amyand Chapel, St Margaret's.

In 1914, he launched a Sunday School magazine entitled 'Seed Thoughts.' The first script was prepared, but not submitted to the printer, when almost immediately the first world war started. In spite of the difficulties, he persevered and regular issues were published until 1919, after the war had ceased.

He contributed numerous addresses on the SGAT platform. In his early years, he had come under the gracious influence of Pastor J W Tobitt. The Evangelical Library numbered him amongst its trustees. He was called home on 28th August 1951, age 74.

Thomas Dean: As mentioned in our January issue, Mr Dean was another of the five original conveners and was appointed treasurer of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony at the inaugural meeting one hundred years ago. He lived in Wandsworth and the Lord used the ministry of Pastor John Hunt Lynn for his spiritual quickening. Mr Lynn subsequently baptised him. He was active in service for truth and a liberal supporter of the SGAT. There was a freshness and heartiness in his efforts worthy of imitation. His knowledge of prophecy and hope of Christ's coming urged him to evangelistic effort. He was prime mover in the re-publication of the books, 'The Things which shall be Hereafter' by Septimus Sears, and 'Grace, Government and Glory' by J H Lynn. He was father of a large, devoted family, head of a large business, and member of missionary and other religious councils. He was called home on 1st April, 1929, age 76.

Some Who Quickly Joined the Conveners' Council:



James Payne: Pastor James Payne was the longest serving of the early conveners as he out-lived all the others. As a lad of 16, he stood by the bed of an elder brother who was dying and it brought home to him the truth of eternity. He thought of his own sinful state and was compelled to pray that the Lord would prepare him to stand before Him. He was brought to believe through the testimony of Scripture – 'the Blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin.'

When leaving home, he came under the ministry of Pastor

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Robert Mutimer at Brentford and was baptised by him. He found Mr Mutimer's ministry, with his sound sovereign grace teaching, to be far better than any college education. He was in lodgings with his brother and the two studied the Word of God together. He read extensively from the works of Dr H Grattan Guinness and other historicist writers but they made him more and more confused and he was constrained to lay aside all books other than the Bible. He sought by prayer for enlightenment and came to understand more clearly the purposes of God. He was helped at this time by a London City Missionary, Mr Thomas Parkes – mentioned in our last magazine.

He was called to the pastorate at 'Salem' Chapel, Croydon. At a meeting there in 1919, Mr Payne spoke on the Lord's coming, and Mr Cottey, who was in the congregation that day, made him a gift of Mr Newton's books. As he read these books he found the teaching in them confirmed what he had understood from his own Bible study. It was about that time that he met Mr Fromow and learned of the formation of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony and he was very happy to be a signatory to the manifesto and join the Conveners' Council.

He had subsequent pastorates at Southport and Brighton. He assisted with 'Watching and Waiting' and became editor on Mr Fromow's passing. He was a trustee as well as council member of the Testimony and helped in every way possible. He was taken to be with the Lord on 29th April, 1982, age 90.



George Barnett: Pastorr George Barnett was born of praying parents in a godly home, and in early life he sought the Lord and absorbed Biblical teaching. He was educated in spiritual things under the ministry of Pastor George Reynolds at the Independent Church in Loddiges Road, Hackney. When Pastor Reynolds died he was elected by the church as their minister, and he faithfully served there until the second world war, when the premises were bombed. While he was there he frequently had meetings for the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony and Bible Spreading Union. He co-operated with the church at Homerton Row for meetings in the two church buildings in the interest of the SGAT, BSU, Trinitarian Bible Society and other such societies.

Mr Barnett served on the Council of the SGAT and subsequently became chairman, and was a trustee. He also served on the committee of the BSU; and was councillor at a local old peoples' home.

After the war, he served an independent church in Epping, where he was much loved. He could literally turn his hands to any work, and his mind to any subject. He was a faithful Protestant and separate from the ecumenical movement. He was a lover of the works of God in creation and science and nature.

He was called to be with Christ on 12th June 1971 in Ongar, age 92.

James H Pizey Mr Pizey was the son of Christian parents, and was called to discipleship in early years. His education in the sciences brought him face to face with unbelief, but by God's grace he overcame. He found spiritual food and fellowship in the ministry of Pastor James Stephens and the church at Highgate Road Chapel. Here he served as deacon and trustee, and later secretary. When the excellent book, 'God's Work in God's Way' was produced he wrote the foreword.

He was ever ready with invaluable advice and practical help to young preachers and Christian workers, of whom a goodly number could have testified to his wise counsel. A relative of his became ensnared in spiritism, to deliver whom he gave careful, prayerful study to that cult. He became its doughty opponent; giving Scriptural answers, as evidenced in his lectures thereon and his articles in 'Watching and Waiting,' and the pamphlet 'Spiritism and the Historic Faith.' Following the death of Pastor John Hunt Lynn, he became chairman of the S.G.A.T. Conveners' Council.

He was taken to be with the Lord on 9th April, 1959, age 81.



William John Rowlands: Pastorr W J Rowlands was a Londoner by birth, and his early years were spent in the printing trade. He was called by grace at 15 years of age and began preaching at 18. He owed not a little to Dr G Campbell Morgan on Friday evenings at Westminster Chapel. From these he learned principles of Bible study which he never abandoned. In the first world war he went to Birkenhead and became associated with the Brethren Assembly at Wallasey and he was commended to missionary service in British West Indies. He settled in Castries, St Lucia and he and his wife were the means of building up a thriving native church; and he became a trustee of the Assembly Hall, which he built. As taught of the Lord in the Word of Truth he advanced in both the doctrinal and prophetic aspects of Scripture and was led to see the truth of only-one-second coming of the Lord and so the unscripturalness of the any-moment coming theory. From then onwards he found much help from the writings of Mr B W Newton.

His papers on our Lord's return were published in 'Watching and Waiting' and subsequently issued in a book entitled 'Our Lord Cometh,' which is still available.

When he returned from St Lucia he was called to the pastorate at Bethesda Church, Liverpool. Later, he was called to the pastorate of College Park, Lewisham, where he remained thereafter. For several years he was tutor and superintendent of the Brockley Bible Institute.

He spoke regularly and helpfully at SGAT meetings and contributed articles to the magazine. He was a trustee and council member and assisted with proof reading.

He was taken to be with the Lord on 30th September, 1954, age 70.

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William Wileman: Pastorr W Wileman was pastor, preacher, itinerant evangelist, printer, publisher, author, editor, and pamphleteer, poet and hymn writer, lecturer on Biblical subjects; and his was a strenuous life.

He maintained a happy balance in doctrinal, experimental, evangelistic, prophetic and practical teaching.

For over seventy years he had been a preacher, including a pastorate at Kilburn Vale Strict Baptist Chapel, 1885-1903. In 1871 he was helper to Pastor Septimus Sears, whose influence and friendship abode with him thereafter.

As Sub-editor of the 'Gospel Standard,' he gained an intimate understanding of the churches associated with that paper. In 1885 he founded and for some years edited 'Gospel Echoes,' an evangelistic monthly which circulated in millions of copies.

His poems and hymns appeared in many religious papers all over the English-speaking world; one of his early works was a small hymn book for use in Sunday Schools.

He proved a valuable speaker at many SGAT meetings and conferences. As a member of the Conveners' Council he encouraged fellow members greatly, and it was stimulating to hear him say that he, an old Bible student, had learned much from the Testimony.

Children listened to his simple and well illustrated Gospel addresses. His happy adaptability in gaining the interest of children to vital truth was remarkable. Himself a father of eight, and a grandfather, he knew how to engage the youthful mind.

He possessed a warm, large heart, intense devotion to the Lord, and alert mind and clear understanding with a simple vocabulary, all of which made him an interesting speaker.

In the last five years of his life his sight, hearing and strength declined but he retained an alert mind and heart. He passed to be with Christ on 15th March, 1944, age 95.

James E Rayner: Mr Rayner, following his experience of salvation, was baptised by Pastor Sawday at Vernon Chapel, Kings Cross, and thereafter came under the teaching of Pastor James Stephens. He joined the fellowship at Highgate Road Chapel and from thence became a devoted supporter of the church and its godly, gifted minister, being in membership about 37 years

As Sunday School teacher, superintendent, then Bible Class leader, deacon and secretary to the deacon's court, he served that church faithfully both with Pastor James Stephens and Pastor John Wilmot.

In the early years of the SGAT, his interest was aroused and he was invited to join the Conveners' Council. He served to the end, esteemed for his wisdom and spiritual discernment. His addresses were always well ordered, framed and expressed in Scriptural simplicity, with a gracious grasp of most phrases of doctrine, prophecy and

precept, both as to the Church, Israel, and the nations. Such truth as Divine Sovereignty, the Grace of God in Election, and Particular Redemption, was food to his soul, and the Blessed Hope of our Lord's Return a living expectation.

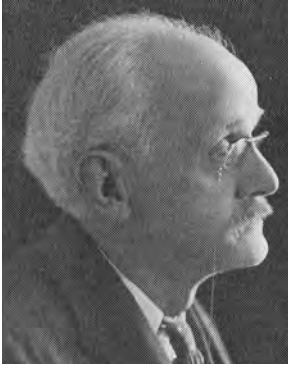
While in later years resident in Twickenham, he frequently attended Amyand Park Chapel, and at times served other local churches.

As an able lanternist, he many a time helped missionary and other lecturers by a successful exhibition of their slides.

Among men in this world, he was known for integrity of Christian principles, both in his own business in Smithfield and in the Butchers' Association.

He passed away on 17th October, 1944, age 78.

Some Who Have Helped Continuation of the Testimony:



George Turner Hunt: Until Mr John Cox was called home, Mr Hunt was co-editor with him of the predecessor of this paper, 'Light for Perilous Times.' Then he became sole editor. When the title was changed to 'Watching and Waiting' he took the main responsibility as editor, secretary and treasurer.

He had a printing business in Aylesbury known as Hunt, Barnard & Co and numerous books, pamphlets and tracts in harmony with SGAT teaching on prophetic, doctrinal and gospel lines came from his printing works, including sermons by Dr C Y Biss, works of Pastor F H White, and lectures and addresses by Mr B W Newton prepared by Miss Daniels. The Lord alone knows the measure of service rendered to the cause of truth through his articles and pithy observations given in the two magazines he successively edited.

Mr Hunt was called home on 4th January, 1936, age 80, and at the time of his passing the local press wrote of him as follows:

'Side by side of the great joy which the practical art afforded him was the unbounded happiness which he derived throughout his life from his religious work. In his work and in his leisure, George Turner Hunt strove always to be faithful to his God. Those who knew him longest and most intimately were unanimous in testifying to the great height of his spiritual attainments. He set himself high ideals, and any possible criticism of his daily life could have emanated only from himself; never from his fellow men. As a family man, as an employer, as a business man and as a public figure he lived a blameless life. For many years he conducted the services at the Lisson Grove Mission on Wednesday evenings, after a long day in the City, and again on Sundays. For a number of years he was associated with the work of the Assembly Hall at Aylesbury. With Mr Job Smith, an old Aylesburian, he also took a very active part in the activities of the Aylesbury Colportage Association resigning the joint position of chairman and secretary only in the year 1930. He was a keen supporter of the Aylesbury Auxiliary for

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the Propagation of the Gospel among the Jews. For twenty-six years he conducted a very popular and helpful Bible Class – always known as the Friday night Bible Class – at his residence in Church Street, the membership of which was drawn from all denominations in the town’ – *The Bucks Herald*.

‘Even before the days of welfare societies he always took a keen interest in the welfare of his employees, his knowledge of medicine being a valuable asset to him in this work. Mr Hunt devoted most of his life to his business and spreading the knowledge of the Gospel. During the whole time he was in charge of the business of his firm not one hour was worked on a Sunday.’ – *The Bucks Advertiser*.



Robert Mutimer: Pastor Robert Mutimer was pastor at Brentford where Mr Fromow was in membership, and where Mr Payne also attended in his early Christian life. He heartily endorsed the SGAT manifesto and encouraged Mr Fromow in the work. He wrote a foreword to the 2nd edition of Mr Sears’ book, ‘The Things which shall be Hereafter.’ A loving presentation of salvation by free and sovereign grace and of vital experimental religion characterised his long, vigorous and widespread ministry. He highly valued the writings of Mr B W Newton, Dr C Y Biss, Dr Adolph Saphir and Missionary David Baron. He was called home on 15th July, 1945, age 84.



Thomas Houghton: Rev Thomas Houghton was for 34 years the editor of the ‘Gospel Magazine’ and he also wrote the spiritual leader for the ‘English Churchman.’ He trained for the ministry at Manchester and was ordained in 1885.

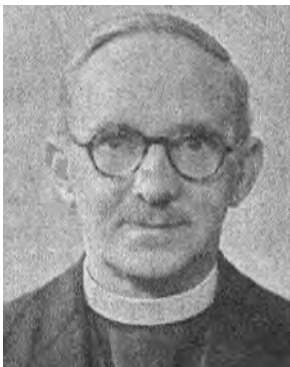
He immediately welcomed the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony on its inception in 1919. He spoke at almost every SGAT conference from the first one until 1949, altogether delivering some fifty addresses

Second advent and prophetic study was not new to him. From early days of his long ministry he had become increasingly interested. In 1893 he wrote to Mr B W Newton expressing his appreciation of his work on

Matthew 24/25. In resulting correspondence, Mr Newton gave him his major works.

He had correspondence with Pastor F H White and when conferences were convened at the Talbot Tabernacle for prophetic testimony in 1913, 1914, 1915 and 1916, Mr Houghton was invited to each as a speaker. It was then that he met Pastor James Stephens, Mr David Baron and Dr C Y Biss, who became his lifelong friends.

Mr Houghton was called home on 20th January, 1951, and following his passing, Mr Fromow arranged for many of his conference messages to be printed in a book, which was entitled, ‘The Faith and Hope of the Future.’ We still have a few copies available.



William Edwin Dalling: Rev W E Dalling was born of godly parents in Ilfracombe, where he spent his early life. After service in the first world war, he completed his studies at Cambridge, obtaining his M.A. Then he felt a call to the Christian ministry and to the Baptist Church at Stanningley, Leeds. Being a Varsity man he was not expected to enter college, but the Baptist Union asked him to read theology under the guidance of Prof A C Underwood of Rawden College. The instruction proved of such a modernistic character that, after many protests, he refused to pursue the studies and gave up all thought of ministerial recognition by the Baptist Union. He resigned

all connection with that Union.

He had pastorates at Southampton and at Sidmouth, and whilst at the latter he started a Bible correspondence school, 'The School of Simplified Bible Study.' On leaving Sidmouth he devoted himself to these correspondence courses.

He loved the prophetic teaching of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony and frequently spoke at meetings and conferences. It was SGAT literature which clarified his outlook and led him to see that the Great Tribulation is not the wrath of God but is the wrath of Satan, the antichrist and the ungodly.

He joined the Bible League council and edited their quarterly magazine with great ability and forthrightness.

He had a great ability for analytical study and exposition, and a rich fund of friendship and fidelity. He was a faithful but withal fair fighter in the good fight of faith. Once he saw a truth as in Holy Scripture he became its devoted advocate in loyalty and love to the Lord.

He was taken to be with Christ on 13th March, 1954.



Edward Joshua Poole-Connor: Rev E J Poole-Connor was born at Hackney on 27th July, 1872. The family was of Irish extraction; both parents were devout Christians and earnest Protestants, being attached to the Calvinistic Independents.

He was converted in early life and whilst still in his 'teens' he had a Sunday School class in which several scholars were older than their teacher.

He passed the Ministerial Recognition Examination of the Baptist Union, but felt compelled to leave the Union because of his convictions concerning 'the Downgrade.'

His life was enriched by the friendship of Pastor James Stephens of Highgate Road Chapel, who introduced him to the writings of Mr B W

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Newton, although he had learned similar second advent truth previously.

He had several pastorates and was at one time assistant to Mr Fuller Gooch at Lansdowne Hall, West Norwood. He is probably best remembered for the two times that he was pastor at the Talbot Tabernacle and it was whilst he was there that his concern for churches which desired separation from liberalism, led him to take steps in forming the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches, of which he became National Commissioner.

Amongst his many missionary interests he was concerned with the North Africa Mission and was at one time its secretary.

When Mr Dalling was called home, Mr Poole-Connor became the editor of the Bible League Quarterly which office he fulfilled with the ability of devout scholarship.

He frequently spoke for the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony and we have had many of his messages printed in a book entitled, 'Champion for the Truth,' in which there is also a more detailed biographical sketch. This book is still available from ourselves.

He received the home-call on 20th January, 1962, age 89. He appreciated Mr Spurgeon's stand against the Downgrade and always referred to his action with full approval. His desire was to be buried near Spurgeon and so his grave is in West Norwood cemetery.



Donald Argyle Thompson: Bishop Thompson was born in Portsmouth on 28th September, 1896 and came from a naval family. Having been brought to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ in June, 1911, he was led to enter the ministry, for which he trained at the evangelical Church of England College in Blackheath. He received his licentiate in 1916 and was ordained into the ministry of the Free Church of England the following year. He was a churchman by conviction but owing to the rising sacerdotal movement in the Established Church, he preferred to enter the Free Church of England. He served several churches at Exmouth, Walsall, Teddington and Bexhill-on-Sea.

In 1938, largely through his influence, the Bishop Cummings Memorial College was opened at Putney and he was appointed principal. In 1942, he felt impelled to withdraw from the denomination, largely over the question of freemasonry. He moved to Turret House in Felpham, Bognor Regis and there opened a Bible Museum which included, among other things, unique models of Jerusalem, the Temple, and the High Priest. His lectures on these subjects were very profitable. Turret House was also used for the Bannister Theological College and for Lord's Day services. Later he moved to Weybridge where he continued to have the Museum.

He consistently supported the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony and spoke many

times on its platform – as long as he was physically able. In his book on Jerusalem and its Temple, he refers appreciatively to Mr B W Newton and his prophetic teaching.

He had many other interests including the Trinitarian Bible Society and Bible Spreading Union, the Lord's Day Observance Society, the Protestant Truth Society, and Bolivian Indian Mission. He was chairman of the Bible League and editor of its quarterly magazine.

He stood for the Protestant Reformed Faith against Romanism, Ecumenism and all manner of error, thus involving much controversy, but he always showed the Christian graces of sweet concern for others, of quiet generosity, and complete absence of bitterness.



Charles Fisher: Mr Fisher was born in Lancashire in 1884 and was born anew in his youth while at a Methodist mission. He studied and graduated at Cambridge, where he was a keen member of the Inter-Collegiate Christian Union. Called to preach the Word, he studied theology under Dr W H Griffith Thomas, to whom he ever bore warm tribute for his spirituality and scholarship.

His first curacy was in Walworth in 1910. Then vicar of St Paul's, Halliwell, later of Holy Trinity, Old Hill, Staffs. In 1925 he went to St John's, Harborne, Birmingham. Here he organised the Harborne Prayer Conference, at which a body of evangelical clergymen issued a faithful declaration against the Revised Prayer Book.

He first came to the SGAT platform at a conference in Birmingham, having been introduced by Mrs J W Bernard Wright and family. She and Mr S R Cottey introduced Mr Newton's works to him.

The Prayer Book controversy led him to withdraw from the Church of England ministry, after which he went to Canada as assistant to Dr T T Shields in Toronto. He moved on to take charge of a Baptist church in Winnipeg and then in Vancouver. In 1929, he was recalled to this country for the pastorate of Lansdowne Hall, Norwood.

Always forward in fostering the cause of missions, he served on the councils of the Heart of Africa Mission, the Regions Beyond Missionary Union, the All Nations Bible College, and Mildmay Mission to the Jews.

The profit he received from the works of Mr Newton may be gathered from a letter he wrote to ministers of the Gospel in which he said, 'I have found B W Newton a writer of great lucidity and spiritual insight, one of God's choice gifts to the Church.'

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Percy Weston Heward: All who knew Mr Heward would agree that he was a saint; a Bible scholar; a simple-hearted and loving disciple; a linguist in tongues both ancient and modern; an evangelist, teacher and pastor; a lover and distributor of good books, and in ways untold, a succourer of many. Besides editing two magazines, he issued numerous tracts and typescript addresses on many Biblical themes, doctrinal, prophetic, and practical. He was at home and at ease in all manner of meetings, whether with the crowd on Tower Hill or in his beloved assembly at 61 Upton Lane, Forest Gate.

He spoke at the monthly SGAT meetings and supported the work and witness. He was taken home on 6th May, 1948, age 65.



Edwin Kirk: Mr Kirk was born in Fulham in November, 1882, when it was a village. His parents had him christened in a church at Walham Green, but he was led to know the Lord and attended the meetings led by Mr Percy Heward. He considered that he was greatly privileged to sit under such a ministry. So interesting were his expositions of Scripture that he felt a great desire to know the Bible from the time of his conversion. He joined the gathering that had meetings at Forest Gate and Walham Green and was pleased to continue a deeper study of the Word and also to learn something of the Greek language. He continued with this company of believers who met twice a week and had a

time of prayer in a hired room. They went together among the Jews in the East End of London preaching in the open-air and giving away tracts.

Mr Heward had edited two magazines entitled 'Thoughts from the Word of God,' and 'The Student of Scripture,' which two were later combined. About six weeks before he fell asleep, he asked Mr Kirk if he would continue that work so he did so as long as he was able.

Mr Kirk was a regular supporter of the SGAT meetings and he joined the committee, becoming its chairman. He was taken to be with the Lord on 19th June, 1987, age 104.

James W Hudson: Mr Hudson attended the Sunday School at Lewisham from his early days. He profited from the ministry of Pastor W J Rowlands and joined the church, where he became secretary, treasurer, and Sunday School superintendent.

He was vice-chairman of the SGAT, having been a council member for a long time; he proved himself a most valuable supporter. He was also a member of the Bible Spreading Union committee.

He was called home on 1st August, 1972, age 59.



Robert George Martin: Pastor R G Martin was born in Watford and although his mother was a professing Christian, she had married an atheist. However, she encouraged her children to attend the local Congregational Church in Garston. Her father, in God's good providence, was a man of prayer and would have remembered his grandchildren at the Throne of Grace. Even when young, Mr Martin was profoundly moved by the hymn, 'Eternal Light.' When the war broke out in 1939, he enlisted and was sent to Gibraltar and it was there he came under strong conviction of sin. He pulled out his forgotten Bible from the bottom of his kit-bag and opened it on the words, 'Ye are of your father the devil.' These words highlighted his wretched state. In desperation, he sought help at the local Methodist Chapel and was just told to believe; but he found he could not do this. On ultimately returning to Watford he happened one evening to be passing 'Mount Zion' Chapel, and, hearing singing, was constrained to go in. It was here that he had much spiritual help under the ministry of Mr James Hill. When in Eastbourne he profited under the ministry of Mr Offer.

He was called to the pastorate at Bedworth and had a time of rich blessing – a kind of revival in miniature. He later had successive ministries at Ipswich, Stratford and Potten. He became chairman of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony following the retirement of Mr Kirk.

He was called to be with Christ on 6th February, 1975 at the early age of 54, and it was a great loss to the Testimony at the time as Mr Fromow had been taken only a few months earlier.



Hubert Gerald Charles Harvey: Mr Harvey was born in the Lowestoft area and was affected by the 1921 revival which commenced in that region and spread round the coast. He was a railwayman, and he was transferred to Stratford with his work. He went to an Independent Gospel Hall where he came to see that he was a lost and guilty sinner. Later, he attended the meeting at 61 Upton Lane where Mr Percy Heward ministered. He discovered that Mr Heward taught the whole truth of God regarding sovereign grace, the prophetic Scriptures, church ordinance and discipline. It was during this time that he heard of Mr Fromow and the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony, and he commenced attending the monthly meetings.

When he retired from the railway in 1968, he travelled regularly to Chiswick to assist Mr Fromow with the practical work, and when Mr Fromow received the home-call, he

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moved to Chelmsford to help the present secretary in the same way. When Pastor R G Martin was called home, Mr Harvey became chairman of the Testimony.

He was taken to glory on 10th April, 1985, age 81, and on the evening that he passed away he had conducted a local prayer meeting without any signs that he would depart so quickly.



Jack Douglas Boulton: Mr Boulton was born in Brighton, his father at the time being pastor at Brighton Tabernacle. It was through reading a Scripture text on a poster that the Lord spoke to him and called him by His grace. He soon became a Sunday School teacher and preached in the open-air. Subsequently, he became an itinerant preacher. He assisted Mr Payne with editing 'Watching and Waiting' and when Mr Payne was called home he became sole editor until the time of his passing in 1985, age 73.

Stanley F Smith: Mr Smith was true to the Word of God and the Lord of the Word, and he was a devout disciple. At one time he was deacon and organist at Highgate Road Chapel and later at East Finchley Baptist Church under Pastor R T Gray. For many years he was pianist at the monthly London meetings of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony and he was an enthusiastic member of the SGAT Council. He served in the official capacity of accountant. He was called home in June, 1966.

William John Whybrow: The Lord met with Mr Whybrow while he was a young man and gave him a craving for instruction in the fullness of Scriptural truth; which he did not find in the church of his upbringing. Providentially he was led to Grove Hall, Paddington, where under the leadership of Mr George Hunt, he was 'instructed in the way of God more perfectly' - in doctrine, prophecy, and practical godliness.

The first world war saw him serving in the Middle East. After this, he gave himself to the work at Grove Hall, of which he later became the secretary. As a Post Office clerk, he was sent to Stoke-on-Trent in world war II and in that district formed a Bible study group, which brought enlightenment to many. While there, he organised the SGAT Whitsun Conference at Llandudno

For his last ten years, he lived at Felpham assisting Bishop Thompson in the ministry and witness at Turret House. He found reliable teaching in the writings of SGAT men and wrote to Mr Fromow concerning Mr B W Newton saying, 'What a wonderful insight he was given into the Word of God.'

He was taken to glory on 31st May, 1958 age 73; and at his funeral Bishop Thompson said that Mr Whybrow 'was a faithful brother, that is, full of faith; a beloved brother; an active brother; and now a brother in heaven; and so a brother for ever.'

My Experience in Learning the SGAT Message

By Stephen A Toms

I have every reason to be thankful for my upbringing. My father was a keen supporter of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony (as were both my grandfathers) so there is a sense in which my home life had a large influence on my thinking. It really meant that whilst young I came into contact with many dear men of God who held to prophetic truth.

I remember Pastor John Hunt Lynn from my childhood days. He was the first chairman of the Testimony. He conducted the wedding service of my parents and they esteemed him very highly. He was the pastor at 'Hope' Strict Baptist Chapel, Bethnal Green and my father and mother, who were in membership there, greatly appreciated his faithful and learned Scriptural ministry. I would have been very young when the family attended 'Hope' Chapel, and I believe Mr Lynn's influence reached me mainly through my father often quoting what his pastor had taught him.

It would be true to say, however, that Mr George Fromow and Pastor James Payne were probably the greatest influences that I had in coming to believe prophetic truth. Both these men were like Mr Greatheart, both being so Scriptural and having strong convictions with abundant zeal.

When I was young, my father took the family to a Saturday meeting at Theydon Bois Baptist Church, Essex, at which Mr Fromow was showing his slide lecture entitled 'Bible Lands in Bible Light.' It was at that meeting that the Lord gave me an interest in prophecy. Following that occasion, I read Daniel chapters 2, 7 and 8 over and over again. I have never lost that interest. Subsequently, I was able to hear Mr Fromow speak on prophetic subjects in various places and I always found his expositions to be soundly scriptural. Although he was such a humble and gracious man, he was a wonderful teacher of God's truth, whom I learned to love greatly.

Pastor James Payne was equally careful in his unfolding of scriptural subjects and I have listened to him with great profit on many occasions. The way in which these two brethren were so precise in believing every word of the Bible has always appealed to me.

That is, of course, true about all the preachers on the SGAT platform. Mr W E Dalling held pastorates in various places but when I came into contact with him he was editor of the Bible League Quarterly. He had been through a college where modernism was promoted and he suffered much for his stand for the truth. That experience had made him very careful in seeking to understand God's Holy Word aright. He conducted correspondence courses through 'The School of Simplified Bible Study' and I found much profit in doing three years' studies with that school.

Bishop D A Thompson was another great influence on my life. No one could question his scholarship and he faithfully expounded prophetic truth on the SGAT platform many times.

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Mr E J Poole Connor was another able expositor mighty in the Scriptures; and so the list could go on and on. All these gracious brethren approached the Word of God reverently and thoughtfully. Their emphasis on Sovereign Grace doctrine and their adherence to Historic Pre-millennial teaching has been such a help to me.

On the other hand, I have heard many men who take opposing views who seem to rely on their own reason rather than revelation. Their very approach to the Bible has confirmed me in the view I have had set before me by men such as those mentioned above.

Now, all those godly venerable gentlemen have been called home but I trust the Lord will help me to continually rejoice in the truth to which they have borne witness, especially as this teaching is so relevant in the days in which we live.

Subscription Forms: When sending the last issue of the year, we usually include a subscription form with the magazine. We know that many of our readers have busy lives and do not find it easy to write letters, and the form is accordingly included for the use of such. Some friends have already sent, but if this is the case, the form can be used at a later date. We would again express our thanks to the many friends who give so generously to the Lord's work through the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony.

S.G.A.T. Meetings: Arrangements have been made, God willing, for meetings of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony to be held in 2019 and the theme for the year is due to be 'Highlights in Hebrews.' The Book of Hebrews contains much important teaching and we trust that friends will be interested in this chosen theme, and we would like to see others come to our meetings, which we expect to hold on the fourth Friday of each month except August and December. The Spring Conference is in April and the Autumn Conference in September, when we have afternoon meetings at 4.p.m. in addition to the usual evening meetings. All evening meetings are at 7.p.m. So that you can insert the dates in your diary and arrange to be present, we would mention that the suggested programme is due to be as follows:

January 25.....	Christ, the Son of God (c1)	<i>Philip Knowles</i>
February 22...	Christ the Son of Man (c2)	<i>David Park</i>
March 22.....	Christ, the Prophet – Superior to Moses (c3)	<i>Paul Toms</i>
April 26 (Aft).....	Entering into His Rest (c4:1-13)	<i>Stephen A Toms</i>
	(Even)..Christ the Priest (c4:14 – 5:10)	<i>Martin Humphrey</i>
May 24.....	The Melchizedek Priesthood (c7)	<i>John Douglas</i>
June 28.....	The Better Covenant (c8)	<i>Gordon Dane</i>
July 26	The Better Sacrifice (c9:1-1 – 10:18)	<i>Ivan Foster</i>
September 27 (Aft).....	The Faith of the Old Testament Saints (c11)	<i>Ian Shaw</i>
	(Even)....God's Dealings with His Saints (c12:1-17)	<i>Ian Shaw</i>
October 25	Sinai and Sion Contrasted (c12:18-29)	<i>Richard Monteith</i>
November 22 ..	Practical Godliness (c13)	<i>David McMillan</i>

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‘He (*The LORD*) established a testimony’ (Psalm 78:5)

‘Our testimony among you was believed’ (2 Thessalonians 1:10).

‘Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord’ (2 Timothy 1:8).

You are warmly invited to meetings arranged by the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony, to be held, God willing, at
NEW LIFE BIBLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
44 SALUSBURY ROAD, LONDON, NW6 6NN
(near Queens Park Underground Station – Bakerloo Line)

Theme for 2018 – The Teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ

October 26th, 7pm

Subject: The Throne of His Glory

Speaker: Richard Monteith

November 23rd, 7pm

Subject: Concerning His Coming

Speaker: David McMillan

It is hoped that each message will be recorded and friends should be able to listen to and download messages from our website. Applications for cassettes and/or CDs should be made to the secretary. Full lists of S.G.A.T. recordings and of publications can be found on our website (WWW.SGAT.ORG) or may be obtained from the S.G.A.T. secretary.

Representative in Canada: Mr Andrew Foster, 549 Johnson Crescent, Oliver, British Columbia, V0H 1T5 (E-mail: atcfoster@gmail.com).

Representative in New Zealand: Miss E R Wilson, 27 Walshs Road, Ashburton, 7700

To our subscribers and friends: Please send subscriptions, gifts to Sustentation Fund, for Bible circulation and orders for publications to the S.G.A.T. secretary, Mr Stephen A Toms, 1 Donald Way, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 9JB. Cheques, etc. should be made payable to ‘Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony.’ In order to save postage, receipts will be sent with the next issue of the magazine.

To those not residing in the United Kingdom: In view of the high charge for exchanging foreign currency, it would be appreciated if, where possible, friends send in sterling. Supporters in Canada or New Zealand may send to their respective representatives. Payments can be made over the S.G.A.T. web-site.

S.G.A.T. Council: Peter Fleming, Martin Humphrey, David McMillan, Richard Monteith, Andrew P Toms, Paul Toms, Stephen A Toms.