Early Restoration In America
Reasons To Study Church History

• Helps Us Learn From The Mistakes Of The Past And Avoid Them
• To Build Upon Their Successes, So We Can Grow From Them
• Helps Us Appreciate The Lord’s Church
Movements Independent Of Campbell & Stone

- To Some Campbell & Stone Are Credited With Beginning Restoration
- Some Predate These Men In Restoring New Testament Christianity
- The Religious Freedom That This Country Was Built On Allowed Anyone With A Bible To Search The Scriptures And Obey Them
Earliest Restorers

Elias Smith
1769-1846

Abner Jones
1772-1841

John Wright
1785-1851

James O'Kelley
1738-1826
Elias Smith

New England.

Born In Lyme, Connecticut, June 17, 1769

- His Father Was Baptist & Mother A Congregationalist
- At 8 yrs. Sprinkled
- Broke With Sandamanian Congregationalists In New England
- 1789 Immersed A Baptist
- Went Into Universalism Three Times Over The Course Of His Life
- Gave It Up By 1826
- 1802 – Taught That We Should Be Only Christians

1769-1846
Elias Smith

- 1810 – Started Christian Church Woodstock, VT
- 360 Baptisms Within A Short Time
- Met In Woodstock Courthouse
- Never Heard Of Campbell Or Stone
• Moved From Mass. When He Was 8 Yrs. Old To Vermont
• 1793 Baptized Into Baptist Church, Woodstock, VT
• Began To Preach 1801, Age 29
  • Began Planning At 21
  • Studied His Bible On His Own
  • Found Baptist To Be Unauthorized Name
  • Should Be A Christian Only
• Organized 1st Free Christian Church In New England
• Denied Calvinism And Branded As Heretic By Free-Will Baptists

New England

• Studied And Practiced Medicine For Many Years
• Mastered Hebrew, Latin & Greek Grammars
• Started Christian Churches In Vermont, New Hampshire & Salem, Massachusetts
- Born In Ireland
- Moved To America At A Young Age
- Fell Under Influence Of Methodist Episcopal Church
- Ordained A Methodist Preacher And Circuit Rider
- O’Kelley’s Concerns
  - Didn’t Like One Man Being Placed Over The Church
  - Thought Circuit Riders Should Go Where They Felt The Need
O’Kelley Leaves Methodism

- By 1792 – Other Than Francis Asbury, O’Kelley Was Probably The Most Influential Preacher Among Methodists
  - In 1789 – He Had Written *Essays On Negro Slavery*
  - He Was A Personal Friend To Thomas Jefferson
  - Had Addressed & Preached Before The U.S. Congress
- December 24, 1792 – Awkward Conference Of Methodist – Made Two Suggestions
  - If Circuit Riders Did Not Like Their Assigned Circuit, They Could Appeal To The Conference For Change
  - Proposed That The Bible Be Taken As Final Authority In All Doctrinal Matters
  - Neither Were Accepted
O’Kelley Leaves Methodism

✓ Broke With Methodists With Many Followers
✓ They Called Themselves Republican (Free) Methodists
✓ August 4, 1794 – At A Meeting At “Old Lebanon” Surry County, Virginia A Momentous Event Took Place
✓ At The Suggestion Of Rice Haggard They Took The Name “Christian” Only And Determined To Go Back To The Bible
Christian Movement In Virginia & North Carolina

- Marked A Coming Together Of The Smith, O’Kelley & Jones Movements
- O’Kelley Lived Near Durham, North Carolina And Planted Christian Churches
- His Beliefs
  - Lord’s Supper On 1st Day Of Week
  - Collection – Free-Will Offering
  - Singing, Preaching, Praying
  - Failed At Baptism
An Indiana Movement

John Wright Was A Member Of A German Free-Will Baptist Group
- Known As “Dunkers” – German For “Immersers”
- Began Comparing Baptist Doctrine To Baptist Doctrine And Found Discrepancies
- When Comparing Baptist Doctrine To Scripture, Found Discrepancies
- Taught That The Bible Was All-Sufficient For Faith & Practice
- The Lord’s Supper Should Be Taken On The 1st Day Of Every Week
- Thought Baptism Was Essential To Eternal Salvation, But Not For Forgiveness Of Sins – Later Changed This Belief
- His Actions: Took 16 Baptist Churches Away From Baptists Near Salem, Indiana
- In All This He Had Never Heard Of Alexander Campbell
Movements Independent Of Stone & Campbell Part II

Old Philadelphia
Warren Cty. TN
1805

John Taylor
1807-1895

Dr. Chester Bullard
1809-1893

Christian H. Dasher
1789-1866
A Virginia Movement

Dr. Chester Bullard

1809-1893

- Born In Massachusetts In 1809
- Early Influence Of Methodists Who Taught One Must Have A Holy Spirit Experience
- His Study Found H. Sp. Worked Only Through The Word Of God
- Baptized By Landon Duncan Dec. 11, 1830
- 1831 Medical Studied, Became A Doctor
- Preached His 1st Sermon On Baptism
- Organized A Church After The Ancient Order In Catawba, Craig County, 1833
- By 1836 He Had Planted Six Churches
- Followers Called Bullardites
- Moved to Snowville, Montgomery County, Snowville Church Became Known As “Little Jerusalem” Of S.W. Virginia
- Never Heard Of The Campbells Until 1839 Finding Their Teaching Similar To His
- Preached 60 Years & Baptized 8000-10,000
An Alabama Movement Before 1826

John Taylor

1807-1895

- Alabama Became A State In 1819
- He Was Reared In The Baptist Faith
- Had Trouble With Scripture & Baptist Doctrine
- He Wanted To Be Baptized For Remission Of Sins
  - Found A Baptist Minister Who Nervously Consenting To Baptize Him For Remission Of Sin
- Began Preaching After The Ancient Order In Lauderdale/Colbert /Franklin Counties, Alabama
- Never Heard Of Alexander Campbell
- Said He Found His Doctrine From The Word Of God
The Influence Of John Taylor

T.B. Larimore
1843-1929

Rock Creek Church Of Christ
Near Russellville, Alabama

Gus Nichols
1892-1975
Mars Hill Bible College

F.B. Srygley
1859-1940

F.D. Srygley
1856-1900

Florence, Alabama 1871-1887
John Taylor
Born: Feb. 20, 1807
Died Feb. 19, 1885
Mary M.
wife of
John Taylor
Born Jul. 27, 1808
Died Jan. 11, 1868

In great poverty and through bitter persecution John Taylor
Preached the Gospel in Ala. and Miss.
from 1830 to the time of his death.

This stone is erected by his brethren of the Lord as a token of their appreciation of his labors as a Father and Minister in the Church of Christ
Old Philadelphia, Viola, Tennessee
Those Influenced By Jesse Sewell

Jesse L. Sewell 1818-1890

David Lipscomb

Elisha G. Sewell

William Lipscomb

Lipscomb University
The Work And Influence Of John & Elizabeth Mulkey

Tompkinsville, Kentucky
Mill Creek Baptist Church, Near Tompkinsville, Kentucky

John Mulkey, From A Family Of Baptist Preachers, Father Jonathon, Brother Philip

While Preaching From John 10:28 Closed His Bible And Said He Could No Longer Preach Calvinism

He Went Out One Door Of The Building Into The Snow, 2/3 Of Congregation Followed

He Did Not Originally Intend To Restore N.T. Christianity When He Walked Out.

Later He Joined Forces With Barton W. Stone & Others In The “Christian” Movement

Said That In The 53 Years Of His Ministry He Preached 10,000 Sermons And Baptized As Many People