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# The Trail Of Blood

The Trail  
Of  
Blood...



Following the Christians Down  
Through the Centuries...  
Or  
The History of Baptist Churches  
From the Time of Christ, Their  
Founder, to the Present Day

By J.M. Carroll



## Synopsis

This book covers the history of the Baptists from the time of Christ to the present day. It includes an excellent chart in the back showing not only the origin of the Baptists, but also the rise of the Roman Catholic Church and the origin of Protestantism. This book is also available in paperback for \$2.00 on the publisher's website: Book Heaven-Challenge Press (<http://www.baptist-books.com/product/CP-211-948.html>)

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## Customer Reviews

I gave this pamphlet 3 stars because it is the classic expression of a movement within the Baptist denomination known as "Landmarkism." It is good to read if you understand its context. The Trail of Blood has been called "successionism" because Landmarkers believe that the Baptist church has existed in unbroken succession since Jesus was baptized at the Jordan River by John the Baptist. (It is also called the JJJ theory.) Landmarkist beliefs began circulating in the 1830s and stem primarily from the teaching of J.R. Graves who was a Baptist editor and preacher in Tennessee. Graves taught that Baptist churches are the only true churches; the true church is local and visible

and that the Baptist church and the kingdom of God are one and the same. Landmarkism split Baptist churches and threatened the unity of the denomination after the Civil War. This pamphlet was written by J. M. Carroll, the brother of the prominent Texas Baptist and founder of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, B. H. Carroll. (Baptist historians still debate whether or not B. H. Carroll espoused Landmarkist views.) Most Baptist historians today contend that Baptists derived from English Separatism in the 17th Century. Some believe that Baptists were also influenced by Dutch Anabaptists. It is abundantly clear that Baptists were not connected to groups such as the Donatists or Waldensians mentioned in this pamphlet. For more on Baptist history see: H. Leon McBeth, *The Baptist Heritage* (1987); Walter Shurden, *Not a Silent People* (1995); Bill Leonard, *Baptist Ways* (2003); C. Douglas Weaver, *In Search of the New Testament Church* (2008) and David W. Bebbington, *Baptists Through the Centuries* (2010).

Great Book. Reassured my faith in the Baptist teachings. Would recommend to anyone having questions about religions and where the types originated. Great piece for historical studying.

I found some it a little hard to piece together. It is interesting but I wonder about the historical accuracy and how the theology of the different parties meshed. A stretch of the imagination.

Old favorite, good to read it again. great champion of the Faith. Good documentation of historical facts. recommend it to all.

Thank God for the Baptist who gave their lives and stood for our religious liberties. If you're of the Baptist denomination, and if you don't know why you call yourself a baptist, then you must read this book.

Quite an interesting read. Seemingly accurate and brings into perspective the uniqueness of this denomination. Very well organized and written.

This is a poorly written booklet and does not jive with the documented truth. Baptist did not have their origins in the Anabaptist movement of the 16th century Reformation nor did they exist in the days of John the Baptist. They were one of the separatist movements who broke away from the Church of England in the early 17th century. You will get all kinds of stories from Baptist people who in fact like to make you think that they were part of the church in the Apostle Paul's day. Not true. I

do not know where the author of this little book received his Doctorate's degree by I can tell you that he was poorly educated. If you read this pamphlet it will be very obvious from the first page. So one must have bestowed a Honorary Doctors Degree upon him. Most Baptist churches are the most prejudice churches you can attend. Most discriminate against divorced men serving as deacons or pastors by misrepresenting scriptures from 1 Timothy and Titus. With the exception of a few they discriminate against people of other than the white race. I know this for a fact as my grandfather and father were both Baptist ministers. There is nothing like attending a good Bible teaching Elder led church.

I am enraged that this book is spewing such lies. A very easy way to show how void of truth this book is, is to show that all the sects that Carroll labels as "Baptist" had beliefs that were heretical and absolutely unacceptable to modern-day Baptists: Carroll claims the Montanists were Baptists, but the Montanists believed apostles and prophets could forgive sins in addition to God. They also required virgin girls to wear veils. Carroll claims the Donatists were Baptists, but the Donatists believed in confession, veneration of the saints and the Virgin Mary, and almost everything else Catholicism teaches. Carroll explicitly stresses that the Cathari and Paulicians were Baptists, but neither of these groups even baptized people! In fact they strongly preached against it! Look up any of these "Baptist" groups if you do not believe me. I fully encourage research: "The truth shall set you free." Carroll has invented a fairy tale which no self-respecting Baptist or Christian should take seriously.

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