

Sunday School Centennial Anniversary

— OF —
The Death of John Wesley,

— HELD IN THE —

Brunswick St. Church, Sunday, March 1, 1891, at 3, P. M.



"The World is my Parish."

JOHN WESLEY,

BORN JUNE 29th, 1703.

DIED MARCH 3rd, 1791.

DOCTRINE.

METHODISM dates its existence from the formation of the Societies in 1739.

John Wesley formulated no new doctrines, but from that time set forth with wondrous power the New Testament teaching of salvation by faith, viz :

1. **UNIVERSAL REDEMPTION.** That Jesus Christ died for all mankind and freely offered to save all on the condition of repentance for sin and faith in the atonement.

2. **REPENTANCE.** That change of mind in which a sinner resolves to forsake his sins and serve God.

3. **JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH.** An act of God's free grace in which he pardons our sins and accepts us as righteous in his sight for the sake of Jesus Christ.

4. **REGENERATION.** The work wrought in the believing soul by the Holy Spirit, whereby it passes from death into life.

5. **THE WITNESS OF THE SPIRIT.** The direct testimony of the Holy Spirit to the soul of the believer that he is a child of God.

6. **ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION.** Is the purification of the heart of the believer from all sin.

These are the doctrines of the Methodist Church and the conditions of membership is a desire to flee from the wrath to come and to be saved from sin.



HISTORY.



JOHN WESLEY was born June 28th, 1703, at Epworth, a small town in Lincolnshire of which parish his father Samuel Wesley was rector.

He entered Christ Church College, Oxford, when 16 years of age.

He was elected fellow of Lincoln College in 1726 and became Curate of Epworth in 1727.

Charles Wesley and a few others in Oxford formed an improvement Society which was called the "Holy Club."

When John returned as tutor in 1729 he joined the "Holy Club."

The name of "Methodist" was first given because of the methodical way in which these young men disposed of their time.

In 1735 he sailed for Georgia as a missionary. It was during this voyage and after arriving in America that he began to learn from the Moravians "the way of life more perfectly."

On May 24th, 1738, he says, "I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the way of sin and death."

One of the chief agencies used by Wesley in the spread of the Gospel was the employment of local preachers and lay helpers.

The class meeting became a fixed institution of Methodism in 1742. Wesley has been severely blamed for founding a body distinct from the established Church, but it is conveniently forgotten that he was hated and persecuted, driven from the Churches and denied the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. He and his people could not forget the command "Do this in remembrance of me." Therefore they made arrangements of their own.

John Wesley departed this life on March 2nd, 1791, in the 88th year of his age.

STATISTICS

Methodist Church, Canada.



253,808 Church Members.

1,748 Ministers.

3,142 Local Preachers and Exhorters.

12 Annual Conferences.

14 Colleges and other Educational Institutions.

Sunday Schools.

220,050 Sunday School Scholars.

28,411 Officers and Teachers.

37,158 Scholars attending Class Meeting.

49,419 Scholars Pledged against Intoxicating Liquors and Tobacco.

About 200 Branches of the Epworth League.

About 15000 Members of the Epworth League.

Missions.

475 Domestic and Foreign Missions.

507 Domestic and Foreign Missionaries.

\$220,000 Income of Missionary Society.

\$25,500 Income of Women's Missionary Society.

Total Membership of the Methodist Church throughout the world, 6,500,000.

Grand Total of Methodist Population in the World, about 20,000,000.

"THE BEST OF ALL IS GOD IS WITH US."