

Victory Baptist Temple

"Church, the way it used to be"

February 5, 2009

Lighthouse Baptist Church
PO Box 736
130 Ashwood Drive
Columbia, TN 38402

Dear Pastor,

Do you really believe that it is possible for us to reach our world with the Gospel in this generation? Jesus did, and so do I. This is why, as the pastor of a local, independent, fundamental Baptist church, at the request of Dr. Jack Hyles I founded Fundamental Baptist Missions International in 1993, as a ministry of Berean Baptist Church in Adrian, Michigan. It was my belief that it was not only possible but also commanded that we carry the Gospel to every nation, win souls, and establish local independent Baptist churches. Brother Hyles and I believed that we needed a mission agency that was a ministry of a local, independent Baptist church to effectively accomplish this task.

When I established Fundamental Baptist Missions International, I founded it upon five principles:

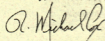
1. The mission agency was there to help independent, fundamental Baptist missionaries and their sending churches, not control them. We provided guidance and counsel but viewed each missionary as an independent Baptist pastor.
2. The missionaries who affiliated with our ministry had to hold the same doctrinal position and convictions regarding ecclesiastical and personal separation as our church. Each had to regularly win souls and bring them into his local church.
3. Each missionary must believe in the inerrancy and inspiration of the **King James Bible** as the **Word of God** in the English language.
4. The mission agency had no churches. The only interest we had in mission churches was through the missionary. If he left a church, we had no further tie to that church though we would provide help and counsel if the church requested it.
5. Our main purpose was to help the missionary and his sending church fulfill the ministry which God had given them. Policies and procedures would not arbitrarily come before helping a missionary.

Several major changes have occurred since the inception of Fundamental Baptist Missions International. In 1997, I resigned the pastorate in order to provide needed guidance and support for a rapidly growing mission ministry. In 2000, we moved the ministry to First Baptist Church of Hammond, Indiana where, under Brother Hyles direction, it became a ministry "out of" First Baptist Church. After Brother Hyles home going, F.B.M.I. became a ministry "of" First Baptist Church, under the leadership of Dr. Jack Schaap. During the next four years the policies, procedures, and direction of the ministry changed to reflect the vision and direction of its new leadership. In 2005, God opened a door for me to once again enter the pastorate. F.B.M.I. was now at a stage of development where such a change was possible.

Since assuming the pastorate of Victory Baptist Temple in the greater Cleveland, Ohio area, I have maintained my vision for missions and my desire to aid missionaries and their churches. It is for this reason we are announcing the establishment of Victory Baptist Missions, a ministry of Victory Baptist Temple. This local church mission agency will follow the pattern begun by Brother Hyles and me 15 years ago. Victory Baptist Missions is founded upon the five previously stated principles. Victory Baptist Missions will act as a clearing house to care for the missionaries' finances, as a counseling center where veteran missionaries will provide help and counsel to missionaries who request it, and as a graphic and media development center, providing the missionary with cutting edge materials for deputation and the field.

Victory Baptist Missions continues to follow the program and fulfills the vision which was begun in 1993. If we can be of help to you as a pastor or your missionaries as you seek to fulfill the great commission, please contact me. As missionaries who are affiliated with our ministry contact you for support, please give them a hearing.

Sincerely,



R. Michael Cox, Pastor

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Dr. R. Michael Cox, Pastor