

Florida Baptist Historical Society Biography Collection

This link provides the specific resource information which documents and undergirds the biographical resource information on a specific Florida Baptist pastors, church staff or significant laity leaders.

The link you have chosen connects to the specific individual's resource files that provide the basis for information which the Historical Society has used to develop the respective biographical profile. The sources attached may include copies of articles gleaned from back issues of the *Florida Baptist Witness* and other news publications. Other resources include books, historical journal articles and church histories that are cited as documentation for the biography.

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Dillard Floyd Sebastian, Sr. (1893-1951) was born in Garrard County, Kentucky the son of Thompson D. and Martha Ann Ham Sebastian. He was educated at Berea College, Georgetown College and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Sebastian served as pastor of churches in Kentucky and Florida including First Baptist Church, Winter Garden, 1923-1929 and First Baptist Church, Plant City, 1930-1940. He preached the Florida Baptist Convention sermon in 1936. Sebastian was named Pastor Emeritus of First Baptist Church, Plant City when he retired. He and his wife, Bettie Mae Sparks Sebastian had one son.



Carolina; trustee, Anderson College; author: "Tale of Two Peoples—Gentiles and Jews," "Jewels of Promise"; Mason, K. of P. Home: 307 Manning St., Anderson, S. C.; office: First Baptist Church, Anderson, S. C.

SEBASTIAN, DILLARD FLOYD

Pastor, First Baptist Church, Plant City, Fla.; born, Lancaster, Garrard County, Ky., March 26, 1893; son of Thompson and Martha Anne (Hamm) Sebastian; education, Berea, Ky., Foundation and Normal, Georgetown College, Kentucky, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; ordained April 16, 1916, at Gilead Baptist Church, Madison County, Ky.; married Bettie Mae Sparks of Paris, Ky., May 10, 1920, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Sparks; children, Dillard Floyd, Jr.; taught school, Lancaster, Ky., 1914-17; pastor, Liberty and Mt. Hebron Baptist Churches, Garrard County, Ky., 1916-20; Burgin and Mt. Moriah Churches, Mercer County, Ky., 1920-23; First Baptist Church, Winter Garden, Fla., 1923-30; First Baptist Church, Plant City, since 1930; teacher of Homiletics in South Fla. Bapt. Bible School, Plant City, 1930-33. Mod., South Florida Bapt. Assn., 1935-36. Home: 208 W. Evers St., Plant City, Fla.

SEGER, DRYDEN D.

Pastor, Oran, Mo.; born, Bonne Terre, St. Francis County, Mo., April 4, 1908; son of John C. and Ida (Ferguson) Seger; education, partial college work; ordained Oct. 4, 1929; married Mary Grace Freeman of St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 12, 1929, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Freeman; children, Marilyn G., Maxine G., James W., Oran; pastor, Franklin Park Baptist Church, East St. Louis, Mo., 17 months; Maplewood Park Baptist Church, East St. Louis, Mo., 14 months; Lindenwood Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo., 19 months; clubs: Knights of Pythias. Home: Oran, Mo.

SOURCE:

Among Southern Baptists, Vol. 1, 1936-37

By John S. Ramond, compiler, Sheveport, Louisiana, copyright 1936
Western Baptist Publishing Co., Kansas City, Missouri



Dillard Floyd Sebastian, Sr.
March 26, 1893 - March 6, 1951

Born March 26, 1893, in Garrard County, Kentucky, Dillard Floyd Sebastian was converted at 16 years of age. He was baptized in and later ordained to the ministry by Gilead Baptist Church.

He attended Berea College, Georgetown College, and Southern Seminary, and taught school for three years.

During his ministry he served six churches: Liberty, 1916-1920; Mt. Hebron, 1917-1920; First, Burgin, Ky., 1920-23; Mt. Moriah, 1920-1923; First, Winter Garden, Fla., 1923-1930; First, Plant City, 1930-1940.

Resigning the Plant City pastorate because of ill health after ten years and nine months service, he was later named Pastor Emeritus.

He was moderator of South Florida Association in 1935, preached the annual sermon for the Florida Baptist Convention in 1936, and served as one of its vice-presidents in 1939.

After an illness of eleven years, he passed away at his home in Plant City on March 6, 1951.

Surviving are his wife and one son, D. F. Sebastian, Jr., now a student in Southern Seminary, Louisville.

Said his pastor, L. Don Miley, at the funeral service, "For the past eleven years he has been tested by sore afflictions by day and by night. He was a heroic sufferer. He went through the fiery furnace with the three Hebrew children, through the lion's den with Daniel, on the ash heap with Job, and through the Garden of Gethsemane with his Lord, without wavering in his Christian Faith. During this period he has taught us many wonderful lessons. By testimony of mouth from his bedside and with his pen he has carried on a glorious private ministry. One would search in vain throughout the pages of the Holy Bible to find a more worthy example of glorious Christian living, except that of his Lord whom he served."

Seventy-three ministers were among those present for the funeral service, in which the pastor was assisted by Dr. Roy Mason and Dr. G. A. Lechlitter.

<i>First Church</i>	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION	No. 320
	Nashville, Tenn.	FEB 20 1951
Pay to the order of <u>Baptist Foreign Mission Board</u>		\$956,515.70
Nine Hundred Fifty Six Thousand Five Hundred Fifteen and 70/100 DOLLARS		EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—S. B. C.
AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK NASHVILLE, TENN.		<i>John L. McCall</i> TREASURER

Foreign Mission Board Receives \$956,515.70

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—One check for \$956,515.70, the largest ever written in the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee office, was sent to the Baptist Foreign Mission Board, February 20, 1951.

Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee said, "This amount included Cooperative Program receipts, Lottie Moon Christmas offering, and special designations for the previous week.

"Heretofore the largest check for three quarter million dollars was also sent to the Foreign Mission Board as a part of a relief and rehabilitation offering in 1946.

"The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee forwards all Cooperative Program funds and designated gifts to the respective agencies each Tuesday."

Dr. McCall also stated that, according to the 1950 audit report, 51.06% of all funds received during the year by the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention went to the Foreign Mission Board.

John Remembered Why

By ROBERT WITTY

Matthew remembered, after the five thousand were fed, about the gathering of the remaining fragment; but, he forgot why it was done. So did Mark and even Luke.

But John remembered why—and plainly wrote the reason there in the Gospel.

Of course, the entire effort seemed foolish. If Jesus could feed five thousand from so little, why bother with left-overs. Jesus could make plenty more when needed.

Only John remembered Jesus' answer: "Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost." John 6:12.

This is God's plan: conserve every value of God's special revival out-pourings that nothing be lost.

As leaders in our denomination's greatest hour of feeding the hungry multitude, a careful plan should be followed for conserving every value of this revival, that "nothing be lost."

Too many of us think, "Oh well, it will work out some way. We will have another revival later."

Be a John—be a conservationist of revival blessings.

Matthew forgot—so did Mark and even Luke. Thank God, the Holy Spirit kindled John's memory to write "that nothing be lost."

Wildwood Church, Bartow, just completed an 8-day revival with Pastor Donald Martin, Jonesville Church, Newberry, preaching, and Mr. and Mrs. James Hatteway leading the singing and playing the piano, respectively; eight came for baptism, three by letter.

During January and February, Evangelist John L. Bray, Jacksonville, conducted meetings at the following churches: Grant Park, Tampa, Fla.; Ashland Ave., Lexington, Ky.; First, Byron, Mich.; Hope, Mich.; Harmony, Detroit, Mich.; Marantha, Grand Rapids, Mich.

J. ALVIN INMAN ACCEPTS HAINES CITY PASTORATE



J. Alvin Inman

After more than ten years as pastor of First Church, New Smyrna Beach, J. Alvin Inman has resigned to accept the pastorate of First Church, Haines city.

During his New Smyrna ministry which began October 1940 offerings have grown from \$5000 to \$18,000 annually, an indebtedness of \$11,000 was retired, an organ installed, interior of auditorium was remodeled at a cost of \$2,000, and sufficient funds set aside to re-roof the entire church plant. There were 627 members added (290 by baptism).

Inman led in organization of two missions, one of which is now the self-supporting Samsula Church. The other, Edgewater Mission, will soon have its \$40,000 building completed and expects to be organized into a church in the not too distant future. First Church will continue to mother this mission until it is able to become a self-sustaining church, just as it did the Samsula work.

https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/32185491/dillard_floyd-sebastian
Dillard Floyd Sebastian Sr.

Birth 26 Mar 1893

Death 5 Mar 1951 (aged 57)

Burial Memorial Park Cemetery Plant City, Hillsborough County, Florida, USA

Family Members

Parents

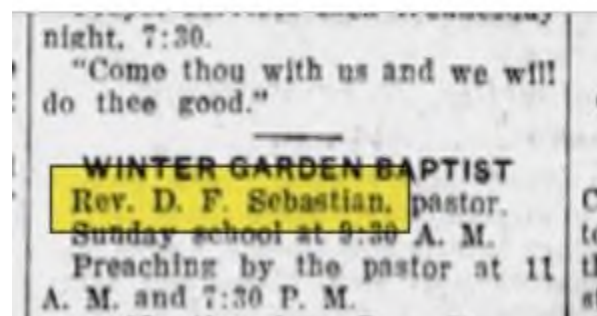
Thompson D. "Thomps" Sebastian 1845–1933

Martha Ann Ham Sebastian 1854–1920

The Tampa Tribune
Tue, Mar 06, 1951 · Page 2



Orlando Evening Star
Sat, Feb 08, 1930 · Page 4



hotel since Welch was ousted.

Church Without Minister

The **Rev. D. F. Sebastian** of Plant City has declined a call to accept the pastorate of Cavalry Baptist church in Clearwater, a pulpit committee of that church announced today. The committee will meet again to recommend another minister to succeed the **Rev. Selwyn Smith**, resigned. The call to Mr. **Sebastian** was made after a unanimous vote of both the committee and church membership.

New members of the M
initiation.




NEW PASTOR CALLED

WINTER GARDEN, April 5.—(Special.)—The Baptist congregation here has called the **Rev. John E. Evans** of New Orleans to the pastorate of the local church, to fill the vacancy caused by resignation of the **Rev. D. F. Sebastian**, a month ago. Mr. **Sebastian** accepted the pastorate of the Plant City church. He was the leader here, six years ago, when the Winter Garden modern temple was built at a cost of more than \$100,000.

...up to 50,000 acres.

ACCEPTS PLANT CITY CALL
PLANT CITY, Feb. 18.—(Special.)
—Word has been received here by H. M. Kilgore, chairman of the pulpit committee, that **Rev. D. F. Sebastian** of Winter Garden, has accepted a call to the First Baptist church of this city. **Rev. Sebastian** preached here Sunday. He succeeds Dr. W. Raleigh White, who recently accepted a call to Albany, Ga.

The Late Rev.
D. F. SEBASTIAN
Honored on Radio Tomorrow



Rev. D. F. Sebastian, who died March 5th, will be honored on the "Christ for the World" Broadcast by **Rev. E. J. Daniels** tomorrow (Sun.) from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m. over **WDBO**, Orlando, and over **WRUF**, Gainesville from 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. Some of his favorite music will be sung. **Rev. Daniels** will deliver a message written and left by **Dr. Sebastian**. **Rev. Sebastian** was one of Florida's most popular pastors, having served the First Baptist Churches of Winter Garden and Plant City. (Adv.)