

Autobiography
of
Rev. William Hunt
(11 Mar 1806–19 Aug 1897)
of
Jefferson County, Alabama, Lafayette County, Mississippi,
&
Spearsville, Union Parish, Louisiana

William Hunt, the son of Isaiah and Jane Hunt; my father was born Feb. 4, 1777, in N. C.; my mother was born Aug. 25, 1780, in S. C. I was born Mar. 11, 1806 in Laurens dist., S. C. My father moved to Middle Tennessee in 1807 and settled on Duck River near the three forks in Bedford county, in 1813.

My father moved to Jefferson county, Alabama, Aug. 1824, united with the Baptist church at Canaan. I was married to Teresa Holcomb, the oldest daughter of Rev. Hosea Holcomb, June 5, 1825. My wife united with the Missionary Baptist church in August 1825. During our stay in this church I was engaged in prayer meetings and Sabbath Schools nearly every Sabbath. I was Superintendent of a Sabbath school for several years. In 1825 I was ordained Deacon of Canaan Baptist Church. In 1840 I moved from Alabama to Mississippi and joined the church at Clear Creek. Joseph Lane was the pastor of said church.

In 1850, I felt that I was called to the ministry, and was verbally licensed to exercise my gift. In 1854 I moved from Mississippi to Union Parish, Louisiana, and joined the Missionary Baptist church at Spearsville - said church licensed me to preach. In 1855 I was regularly engaged in the ministry, preaching most of my time to the destitute sections. In 1857 the church called me to ordination. I was ordained by a Presbytery consisting of Joab Pratt, S. T. Cobb and William Meek. Since that time I have served various churches as pastor, during which time I baptized a great many into the churches of which I was pastor. God manifested his blessings on my labors, being the means of bringing many souls to repentance and faith in Christ.

Teresa Hunt, my wife, died April 6, 1874, aged 66 years, 6 days. She lived a Christian life. She was a true companion and a devoted mother. Alva J. Hunt, our only child was born April 2, 1826. He joined the missionery Baptist church in 1838. A. J. Hunt and Laura A. Rockett were married on

25th of October, 1849, in Lafayette County Miss. They were the parents of seven children, five living to be grown and joined the Baptist church - three children still living. A. J. Hunt died Sept. 7, 1862, aged 36 years, 5 mos. and 5 days. Laura Ann Rockett Hunt died January 13, 1867, aged 35 years, 7 mos.

In 1893 I had to retire from the ministry having partially lost my voice and eyesight, and being too feeble to undergo the labors, but still my mind runs out for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

I am now in my 92nd year; having been a member of the church about 73 years; have been in the ministry 40 years, but I never weary in working for the Lord. My hope in God is strong. I am just waiting for Him to call me home, where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest. I have a great many relatives and friends that have gone to that better land which makes Heaven more desirable. A great many friends I expect to leave behind, who, I hope will follow after me.

William Hunt



Note: Rev. William Hunt did not date his autobiography. However, he turned ninety-one years old on 11 March 1897. According to his tombstone in the Spearsville Cemetery, he died on 18 August 1897. Since he stated in his autobiography that he was in his 92nd year, this means that he wrote the above piece in the year 1897, between March 11th and August 18th.

