

THE HISTORY AND EVALUATION OF MISSION ENTERPRISE OF
YABA BAPTIST CHURCH, YABA, LAGOS (1960 – 2010):
A LESSON TO THE CONTEMPORARY CHURCH

An Essay Submitted to Department of Theology Faculty of
Theological Studies The Nigerian Baptist Theological
Seminary Ogbomoso in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirement for the Award
of Master of Divinity in
Theology

BY

ADEYEMO EMMANUEL ADENIYI

MATRIC NO: 11/0009

JUNE, 2016

ABSTRACT

This essay, the History and Evaluation of Mission Enterprise of Yaba Baptist Church, Yaba, Lagos: A Lesson to the contemporary church (1960-2010) is a research work that reflects on the history of Yaba Baptist church from inception till date as well as an Evaluation of the Mission Enterprise of the church and the relevance of it to the New Testament church. The significance of the research is based on the possible means employed by the church in implementing her mission enterprises within the church and outside her community. Also, the effect of the enterprises upon the church in particular and her community in general since the period of her existence. This project researches into the history, growth and the problems observable in the way, the mission enterprises of the Baptist church are being carried out and the result of such activities and it involves the use of primary and secondary sources as the major sources for the information. The primary sources such as the information collected personally from the church and questionnaire administered. Secondary sources included textbooks, journals in the library and project written by others in the seminary in the past. Through critical analysis of the research work on mission enterprises of Yaba Baptist church, the mission enterprises can be improved upon in these areas: by extending more assistance to mission fields and missionaries, sponsoring the education of missionaries children and providing health facilities on the mission field. The active participation of individuals is based majorly on giving their resource such as money, clothes, etc to the need of others on the mission fields. Instead of visiting the fields and involving in activities, only 30% of the entire congregation of Yaba Baptist church which includes members of Mission and Evangelism Ministry had actually visited the mission fields. The church collaboration with mission agencies is high since there is need for partnering with others for greater impact on the unreached. It was discovered that the church focuses on both urban and rural mission, and many churches were planted as a means of executing the gospel message.

5.2 CONCLUSION

It is important to conclude that the issue of missions is a must for all churches, and more demanding for pastors, and it becomes a task that should never be compromised. Besides, pastors must be aware of the relative importance of passing across to members the need for missions enterprises. The wrong mentality of seeing the missions work as solely that of the pastors or missionaries on fields must be

changed. Apostle Paul says that, the foundation has been laid and so everyone must be careful how he is building on it (I Cor. 3:10-15). Yaba Baptist church has been examined in some areas of giving, church planting and financial assistance to missionaries and mission fields. The time constraint and other factors do not permit the researcher to look more in depth. Based on findings, other Baptist churches need to brace up and work upon their mission efforts.

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

From the result of the data collected, some problems were identified. In order to improve the state of church mission enterprises, the following recommendations are made:

1. Church needs to extend more assistance to mission fields and missionaries.
2. Sponsoring of missionaries children education and provision of health facility.
3. Establish more schools, especially secondary school with boarding facilities.
4. Give financial assistance and sponsorship to pastors in theological seminaries.
5. The church should also partner effectively with mission agencies such as CAPRO, Great Commission, Mesiah ARENA so as to “conquer” more land because the response shows that the church only partner well with Global Mission Board which has 74% while the other three agencies has 26%
6. Men Missionary Union and Women Missionary Union can make it a yearly commitment to adopt mission field and supply needs of the place as much as they can.
7. The church can invite mission experts to give a talk on how to effectively witness. This will also help the mission organizations and ministry in the

church. The church should at every point in time have a minister for mission and evangelism or outreach minister.