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**THE STUDY OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH'S AND
THE CELESTIAL CHURCH OF CHRIST'S FAITH
AND PRACTICES IN BADAGRY**

An Essay

**Presented to the Faculty of the
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Master of Arts in Theological Studies
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by

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ABSTRACT

This research work is based on the findings about the study of the Baptist Church and the Celestial Church of Christ's faith and practices in Badagry.

The research project covers the historical background of the Baptist Church and the Celestial Church of Christ's faith and practices within each denomination's perspective.

The study, among other things, examines the differences of modes of worship, faith and practices especially in Badagry between Baptist Churches and Celestial Churches.

The research work will evaluate the reasons why Celestial Churches are gaining members through ritual practices to solve individual worshippers' problems while Baptist Churches cannot do that except using the name of Christ to pray and solve individual problems.

Conclusively, if Baptists cannot use the means of rituals to gain more members, there should be challenges for them to improve more on their evangelistic work to enlighten Celestial Churches that they can use the name of Jesus without engaging in religious syncretism. Baptist Churches should improve on their evangelistic work to convince believers in Christ that prayer and the blood of Jesus are enough rather than prayer with rituals, while Celestial Churches in Badagry should build their faith teaching in the New Testament Bible and stop using extraordinary means to substantiate their faith.

CHAPTER SIX

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Conclusion

The investigation of this essay has exposed the reasons why Celestial Church of Christ has a larger population than Baptist denomination in Badagry. The main reason is that people are experiencing various problems daily and they are looking for ways out. The only way out for the Celestial body of Christ in Badagry land is to perform rituals with their mode of worship services according to the laid down principles of their church founder. As a result most people who reside in Badagry and her environs do prefer to attend Celestial Church of Christ rather than Baptist Churches.. From the research, there are four Baptist Churches in Badagry and two hundred Celestial Churches of Christ.

To arrest this situation, there should be serious attention on the part of the Baptist Convention, Lagos State Baptist Conference and Baptist Churches in Badagry to revive people who are already blind, members of the Celestial Churches of Christ in order to receive the true Word of God and to renounce their membership out of Celestial body and to join Baptist Churches.

Badagry is a fetish city but that notwithstanding, we still need to contextualise the three key ministries of Jesus Christ through preaching, teaching and healing. Gradually in process the ministry of Christ will be re-established to open the eyes of those people who are in darkness to the light.

B. Recommendations

In the light of the foreseen problems facing the Baptists in Badagry, the following recommendations have become necessary for solutions to the problems.

First, preaching of the Gospel must be contextualized in a way that the early missionaries did and succeeded in this country. Lagos State Baptist Conference should transfer her theological school to Badagry since there is availability of land in Badagry. For instance, the establishment of the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary in 1898 at Ogbomoso has played a good role in Ogbomoso and her environs. Surely, if such a method can be introduced in Badagry, the ignorant people in darkness will receive their divine sight.

Second, the Nigerian Baptist Convention should come over to Badagry and establish an ultra-modern hospital. This will be an avenue to preach the Word of God that black power is not the means to solving problems. They shall know the truth while the truth shall set them free.

Third, politics should be introduced to the Baptist people in Badagry to promote the name of Christ. Through the religious politics, people will be able to know the gimmick that the founder, Rev. Pastor S. B. J. Oshoffa, used to enlarge the kingdom of darkness, because many of the Celestial members could not know the secret behind the motive. In the politics playing, Baptists in Badagry should buy books written by one of their former prophets, now Rev. Yemi Soetan who revealed the secrets and hidden agendas of Celestial Church of Christ. This

book should be bought in large quantities and be distributed to them after evangelization.

Church's and its
Please Finally, severe prayer is the most essential need to capture and to win help to me if you c
members of Celestial Church of Christ. Churches in prayer should remember the city of Badagry in their prayer. Certainly and surely victory is sure at last.

1. Name (Optional) _____
2. Sex _____
3. Address of Location _____
4. Town _____
5. State/Nationality _____
6. Do you believe in syncretism? _____
7. Do you believe in the power of prayer? _____
8. Who do you perceive as the most powerful? _____
9. Do you think that prayers meet your spiritual needs? _____
10. Does your church use other methods besides the Bible during the naming ceremony? _____
11. Do you believe in other powers beside God? _____
12. Where do you do the naming ceremony? _____
13. Do you think that prayer is very acceptable in my church? _____
14. In evangelism, do you think that prayer in your church is an asset to you? _____
15. Do you think that in Nigeria today, it will be necessary to use prayer to get ahead/succeed? _____