

THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF BAPTIST MEDICAL MISSION
WORK IN OGBOMOSO (1855-2012)

A Thesis Presented to the
Faculty of Theological Studies
Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary, Ogbomosho, Oyo State

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Divinity In Missiology

By
Sunday Adeyemi ADEYANJU

June 2013

ABSTRACT

This study titled:— The History and Development of Baptist Medical Work has not been adequately documented especially in terms of medical care services. This area has witness significantly to social, health care and educational development in the last 100years and yet little is known about these. It has therefore become imperative to examine the history of Baptist Medical Mission in Ogbomoso. The work is descriptive, utilizing essentially the survey research technique. It relied mainly in the information gathered through the interview, field work, reports, questionnaire, observation and historical documentation about the history of medical services in Ogbomoso. Historical analysis allows a systematic enquiry into past and present events. It also makes possible, a meticulous examination of development and experiences of the past that the people of Ogbomoso enjoy through Baptist Mission. Secondary data were also obtained from archives of seminary, Churches, Mosques and Library. The findings of this research include the following Job creation opportunity were provided in substantial rate through Baptist Mission activities in Ogbomoso. Similarly, modern medical system of Baptist Missionaries had improved tremendously on the traditional system of healings among the people of Ogbomoso. Baptist Mission also help to improve the life and living condition of the people of Ogbomoso land. Finally, it is recommended that, the Oyo State Government and the local government i.e Orire, Ogo Oluwa, Surulere, Ogbomoso North and South and community at large should try to maintain and improve upon the medical legacy bestowed by the Baptist Missionaries, through the elements and idea borrowed from Baptist Missions, the five local governments could make their own contribution to the medical development of their respective areas.

5.2 CONCLUSION

Generally, the study highlighted the role of Baptist Medical Mission in the development of Western Education and Health Care Services in Ogbomoso land. Majority of respondents agreed that Christian Missionaries truly helped and contributed immensely to the establishment and growth of modern health care services in Ogbomoso and its environments. Findings further revealed that Baptist Missions has impacted significantly on the people of Ogbomoso land in terms of introduction of former education and health care services. Most of the

elite in the study area have benefited from the Baptist former education. Also the reduction in infant mortality and drastic reduction in hither to incurable diseases were attributed to the introduction of modern medical treatment through the establishment of hospital and clinic in the town. Our findings also revealed that modern medical system of Baptist Missionaries had improved tremendously on the traditional systems of healings among the people of Ogbomoso.

Finally, Baptist Mission had left an indelible marks on the soil of Ogbomoso and its environments particularly in the establiment of some health institution like, Bowen University Teaching Hospital, Leper Colony, Kersey Children home and centre for the Blinds. The above welfare services explains one of the reasons why we have larger percentage of people who are adherent of Baptist denomination in Ogbomoso land.

5.3 RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings of this research, the following recommendations are made.

1. The Oyo State Government and the local government i.e Orire, Ogo Oluwa, Surulere, Ogbomoso North and South and community at large should try to maintain and improve upon the medical legacy bestowed by the Baptist Missionaries.
2. Through the elements and idea borrowed from Baptist Missions, the five local governments i.e. Orire, Surulere, Ogo Oluwa, Ogbomoso

South and North could make their own contribution to the medical development of their respective areas.

3. The Baptist Missions tradition of hard work, dignity of labour, and the likes should be emulated by medical doctors, Nurses, and a host of health workers in Ogbomoso and its environments
4. There should be effective cooperation between the health workers and people of Ogomoso to achieve their stated objectives.
5. The Oyo State Ministry of health should provide adversary services and financial support for the Bowen University Teaching Hospital Ogbomoso, to help in the improvement of Public health Services and training of Public health workers.
6. The Oyo State Ministry of health should see to the provision of information clearing house services for health and medical matters such as epidemics and result of research to the Bowen University Teaching Hospital Ogbomoso.
7. All the Christians converts identified in the study area should form an association with the view to maintain and protecting the edifice or legacy left behind by the Baptist Missionaries since all the different Christian denomination in the study area proclaim Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour, they should harmonize their worship procedures so that they would not cause the vision and misunderstanding among the converts.