

Such a Cloud of Witnesses

“Stories of American Christians”

Temple Baptist Church
April 23, 2023



1 Corinthians 12: 27-28

27 Now **ye** are the **body of Christ**, and members in particular.

28 And God hath set some in the church, **first** apostles, **secondarily** prophets, **thirdly** teachers, after that **miracles**, then **gifts of healings**, **helps**, **governments**, **diversities of tongues**.

NT:484

antilepsis (an-til'-ape-sis); from NT:482; relief:

KJV - help.

NT:482

antilambanomai (an-tee-lam-ban'-om-ahee); to take hold of in turn, i.e. succor; also to participate:

KJV - help, partaker, support.

Governments

NT:2941

kubernesis (koo-ber'-nay-sis); from kubernao (of Latin origin, to steer); pilotage, i.e. (figuratively) directorship (in the church):

KJV - government

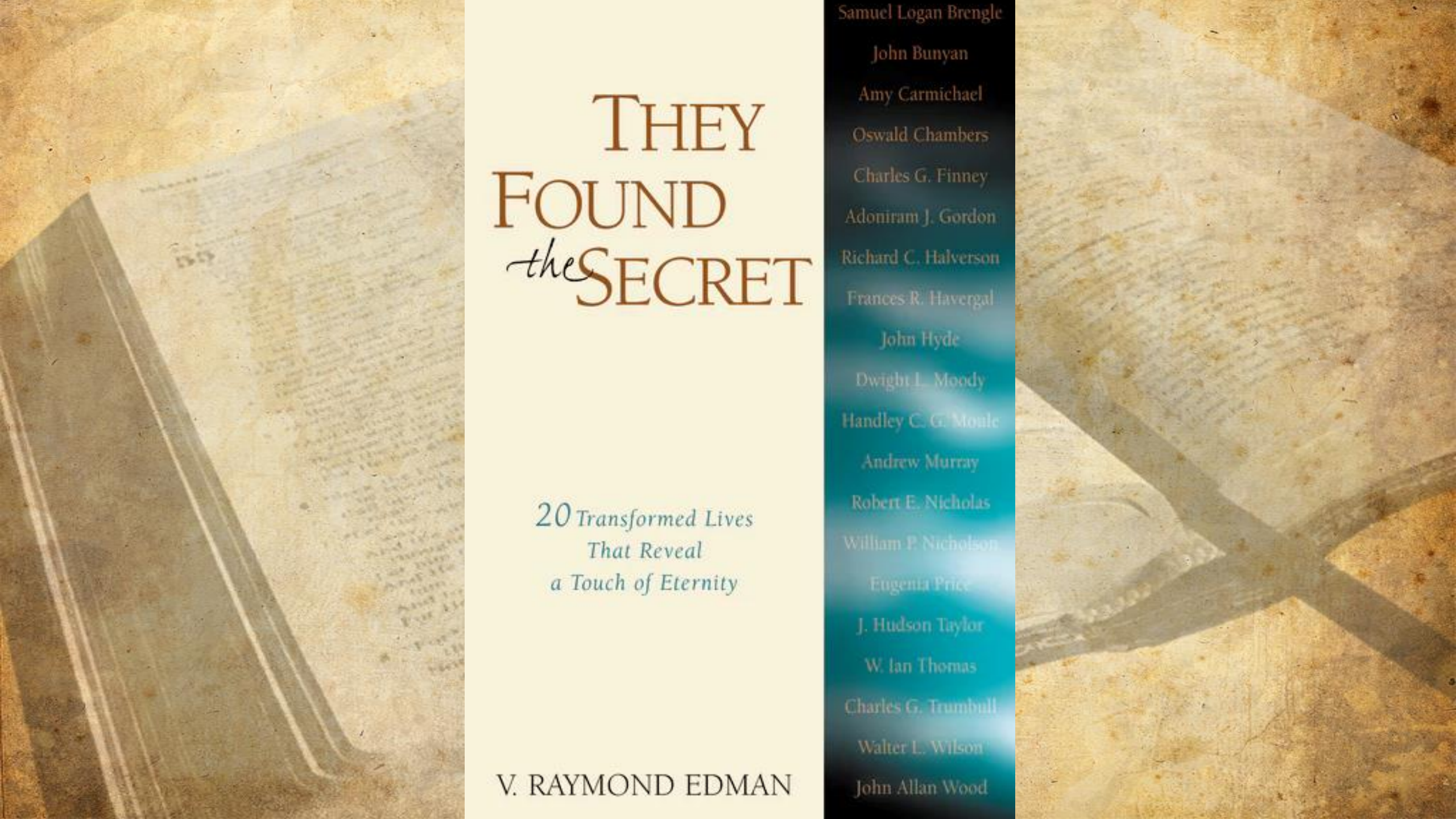




Columbia River Bar Pilot







THEY FOUND *the* SECRET

*20 Transformed Lives
That Reveal
a Touch of Eternity*

V. RAYMOND EDMAN

Samuel Logan Brengle

John Bunyan

Amy Carmichael

Oswald Chambers

Charles G. Finney

Adoniram J. Gordon

Richard C. Halverson

Frances R. Havergal

John Hyde

Dwight L. Moody

Handley C. G. Moule

Andrew Murray

Robert E. Nicholas

William P. Nicholson

Eugenia Price

J. Hudson Taylor

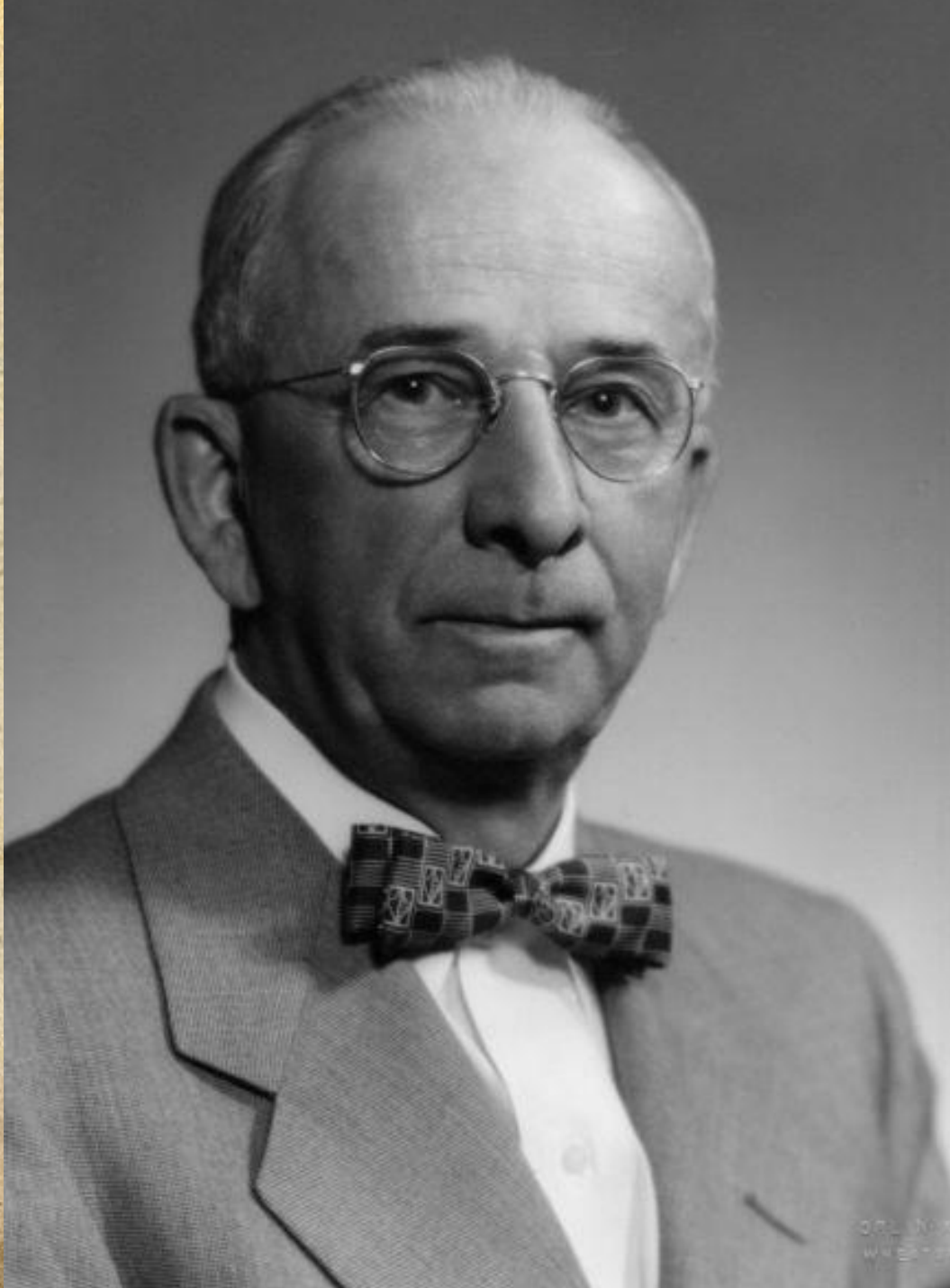
W. Ian Thomas

Charles G. Trumbull

Walter L. Wilson

John Allan Wood

Robert
Nicholas



1 Corinthians 12: 29-31

29 Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles?

30 Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?

31 But **covet earnestly the best gifts:** and **yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.**

1882



- Robert Nicholas was born in the Canadian Province of state of Ontario in 1882. He was the eldest son of eight children. His parents farmed outside of the small town of Caledonia.
- Robert's parents were hard working farmers. Robert learned the blessings of hard work and the value of money at their feet.
- This is also where he met his Savior. Both his parents had a deep and abiding faith in the Christ. They did everything in their power to see each of their children come to him.
- They also had a reputation of benevolence. The farming and ranching life comes with built in challenges. The Nicholas family lived out their faith in how they treated others. It made no difference. Beloved friend, next door neighbor or just a new acquaintance, they were always ready to lend a hand of help.

Caledonia, Ontario



Caledonia,
Ontario





Caledonia,
Ontario

1901



- Robert had apprenticed as a clerk in a hardware store but there did not seem to be many opportunities on the farm or in his small town. He remembered a statement his uncle had said many years before after attending the the Chicago Columbian World's Fair in 1883. As he was talking to Robert's Mom his uncle said, **"There are a hundred ways to make a living in Chicago."**
- This was the motivation that Robert had to move to Chicago and see for himself. Robert and his cousin both got a position at a large hardware store in Chicago. They worked eight hours a day, six days a week and each earned a dollar-a-day.
- Once learning of exorbitant wages, he was receiving, Robert's father wrote him a long letter on his Christian responsibilities such as stewardship, tithing, and benevolence.

Proverbs 11:24

24 There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth;
and there is that withholdeth more than is meet,
but it tendeth to poverty.



Epworth League



THE RECTORY AT EPWORTH, ENGLAND.

EPWORTH LEAGUE

WORKERS



BY
JACOB EMBURY PRICE

NEW YORK: HUNT & EATON
CINCINNATI: CRANSTON & STOWE
1890



Bathing Beach, State Epworth League Chautauqua, Havana, Illinois



Epworth League



1909 ~ 1914

- Robert and His cousin were active in church and the Epworth League. First as young adults and then as leaders.
- They bowered some money and purchased a hardware store of their own in a small town west of Chicago called Oak Park. It wasn't much, but they saw what it could become. In a short time, the Nicholas hardware store earned a sterling reputation for quality, service and fair prices.
- Robert's ministry to the youth of Chicago lead him to meet his future bride, Amy Ellison. They were married on June 24th, 1909. They would go on to have two sons and daughter. Robert, Thomas, and Dorthy.
- In 1914 he would be called to aid one of his sisters due to her husband being away fighting in France. God had greater plans!



Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary, June 24, 1959.
Left to right: Robert E., Thomas A., Mother, Dad, Dorothy, and Everett.



1915 – 1950

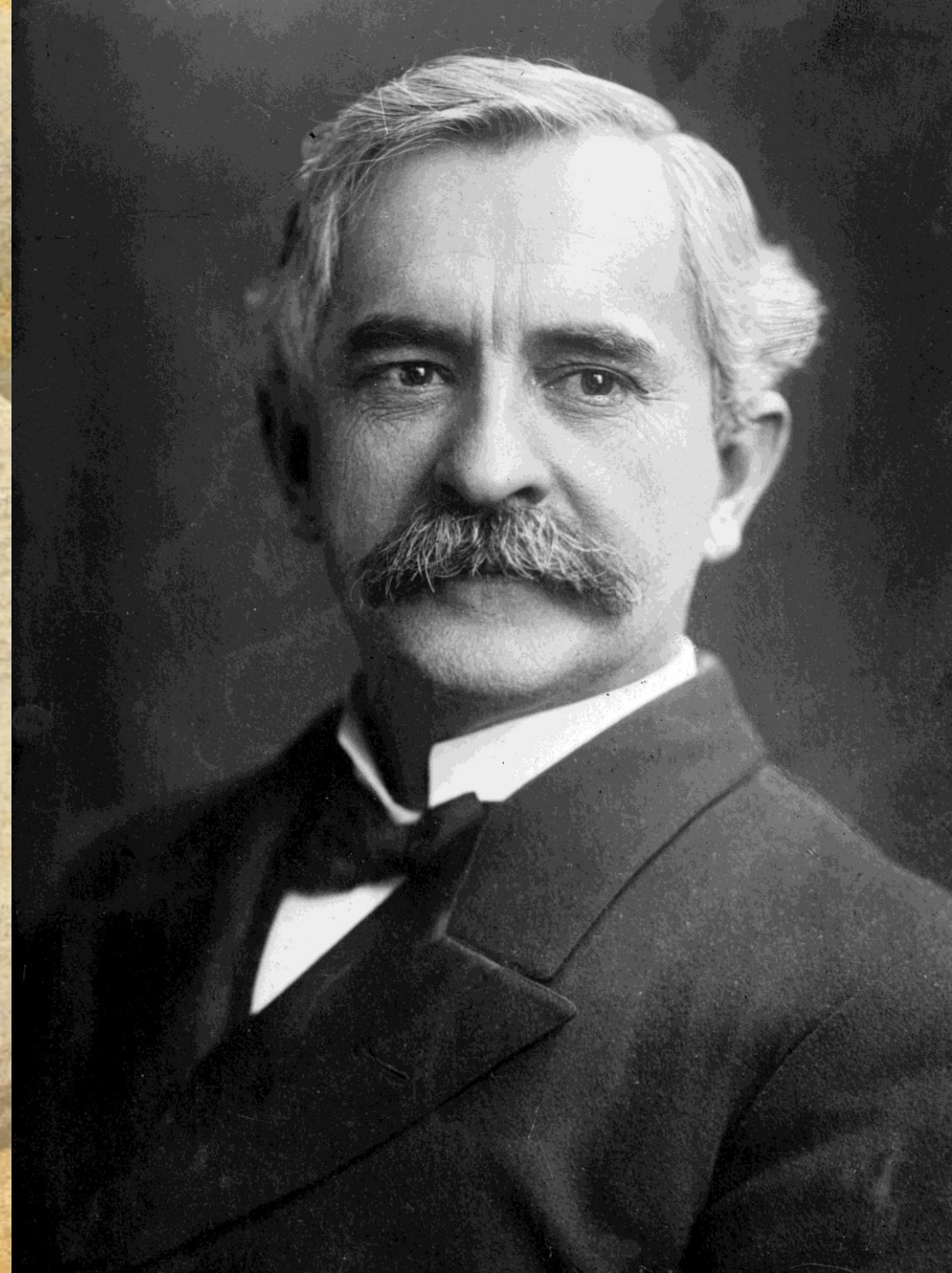
- It was obvious that something about Robert had changed. It wasn't business first and his faith second. It was just the opposite.
- He was led to sell his profitable hardware business and start a Savings and Loan Association to help people buy and build homes.
- During the great Depression not one of his home loans went into default.



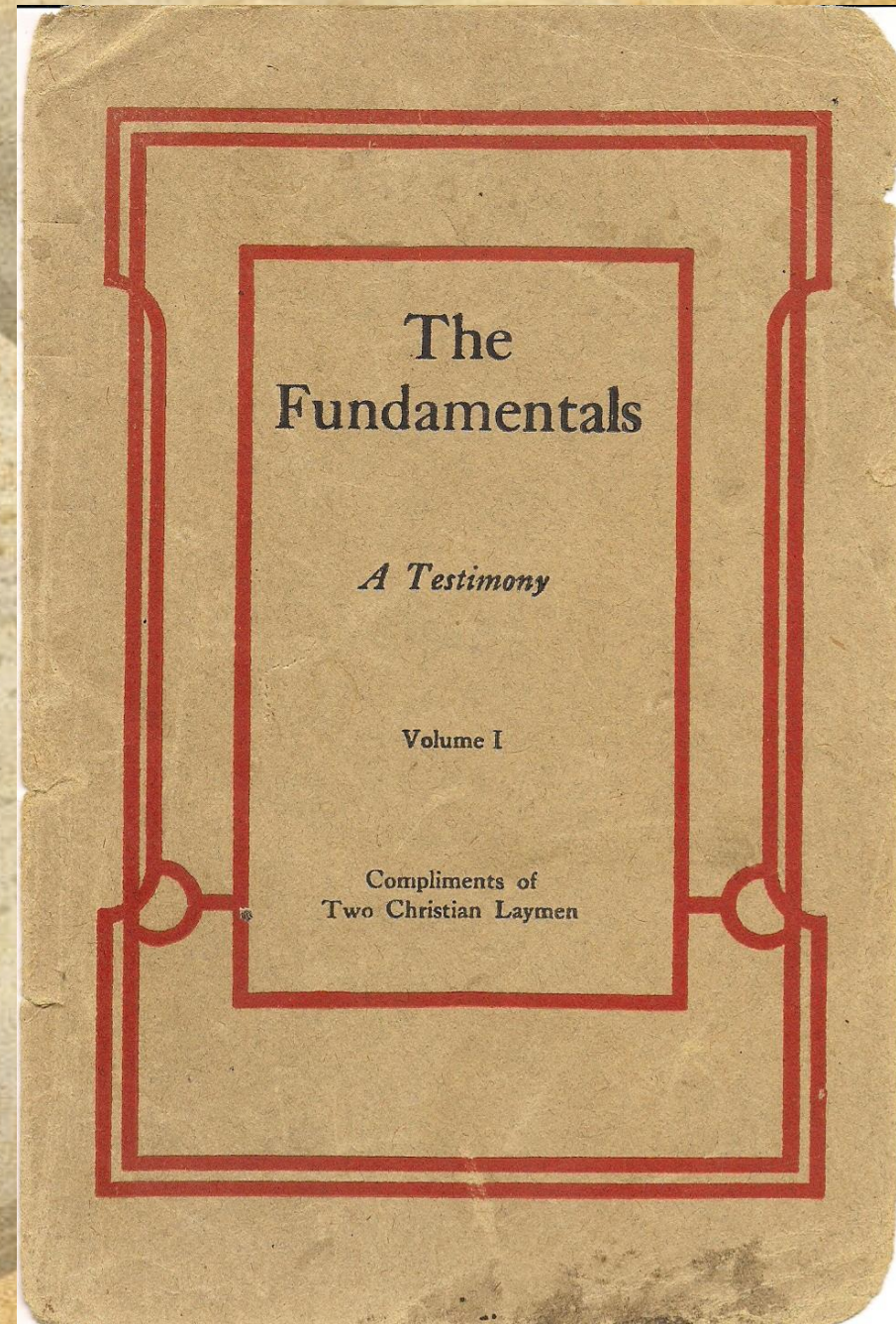
Moody Memorial Church

Senior Pastors

1. J.H. Harwood (1866–1869)
2. Rev. William J. Erdman, D.D. (1876–1878)
3. Charles M. Morton (1878–1879)
4. George C. Needham (1879–1881)
5. Charles F. Goss (1885–1890)
6. Charles A. Blanchard (1891–1893)
7. Dr. Reuben A. Torrey (1894–1906)
8. A.C. Dixon, D.D. (1906–1911)
9. Paul Rader (1915–1921)
10. Rev. P.W. Philpott, D.D. (1922–1929)
11. Dr. Harry A. Ironside (1930–1948)
12. S. Franklin Logsdon (1951–1952)
13. Alan Redpath (1953–1962)
14. George Sweeting (1966–1971)
15. Warren W. Wiersbe (1971–1978)
16. Dr. Erwin W. Lutzer (1980–2016)
17. Philip Miller (2020–Present)



The Fundamentals (1910-1917)



Notable Students...

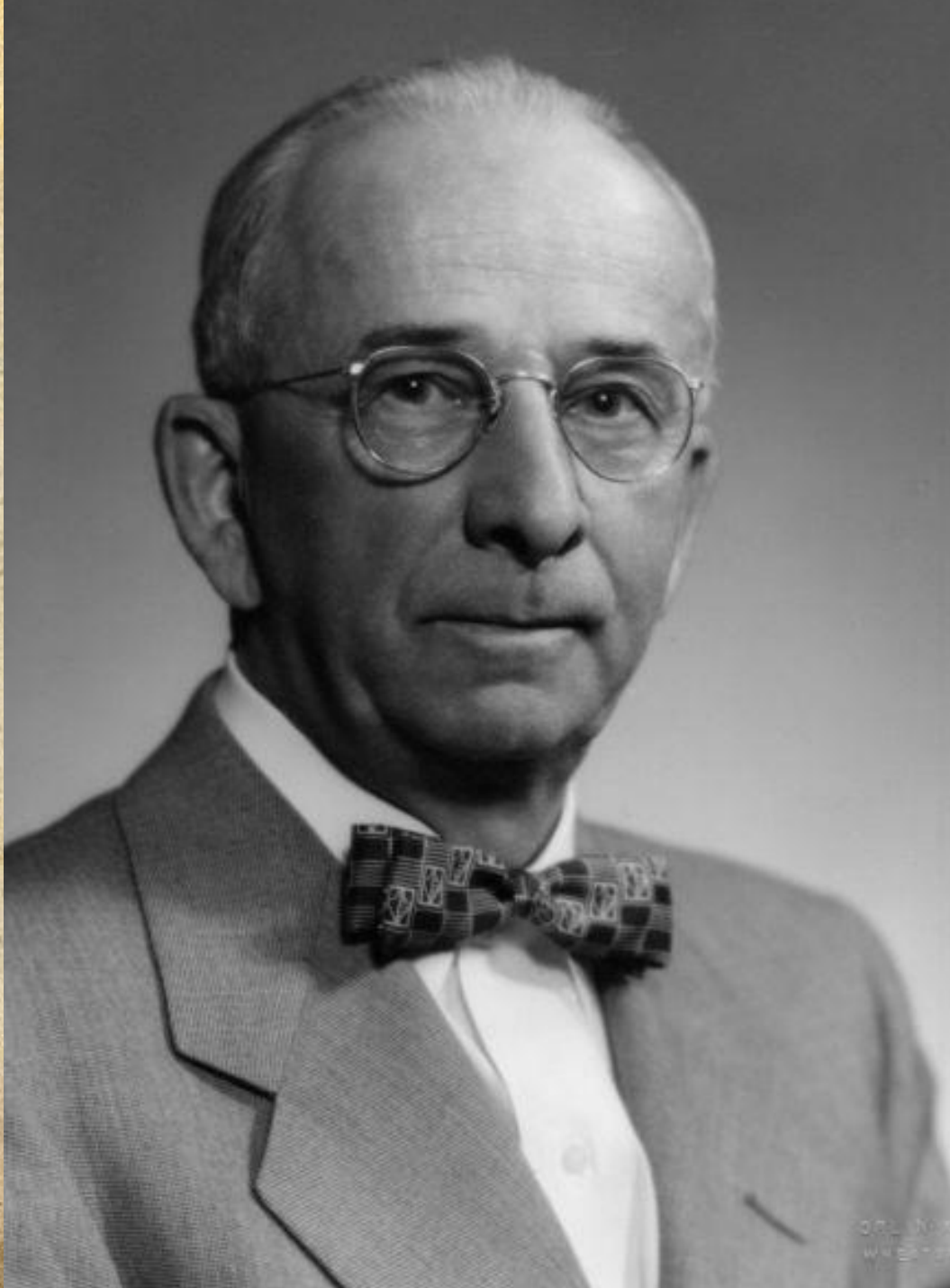
- **Billy Graham**
- **Jim Elliott**
- **Edward McCully**
- **Todd Beamer**



Wheaton College



Robert
Nicholas



Romans 12:4-11

4 For as we have many members in one body, and **all members have not the same office:**

5 **So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.**

6 **Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us,** whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

7 **Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering:** or he that teacheth, on teaching;

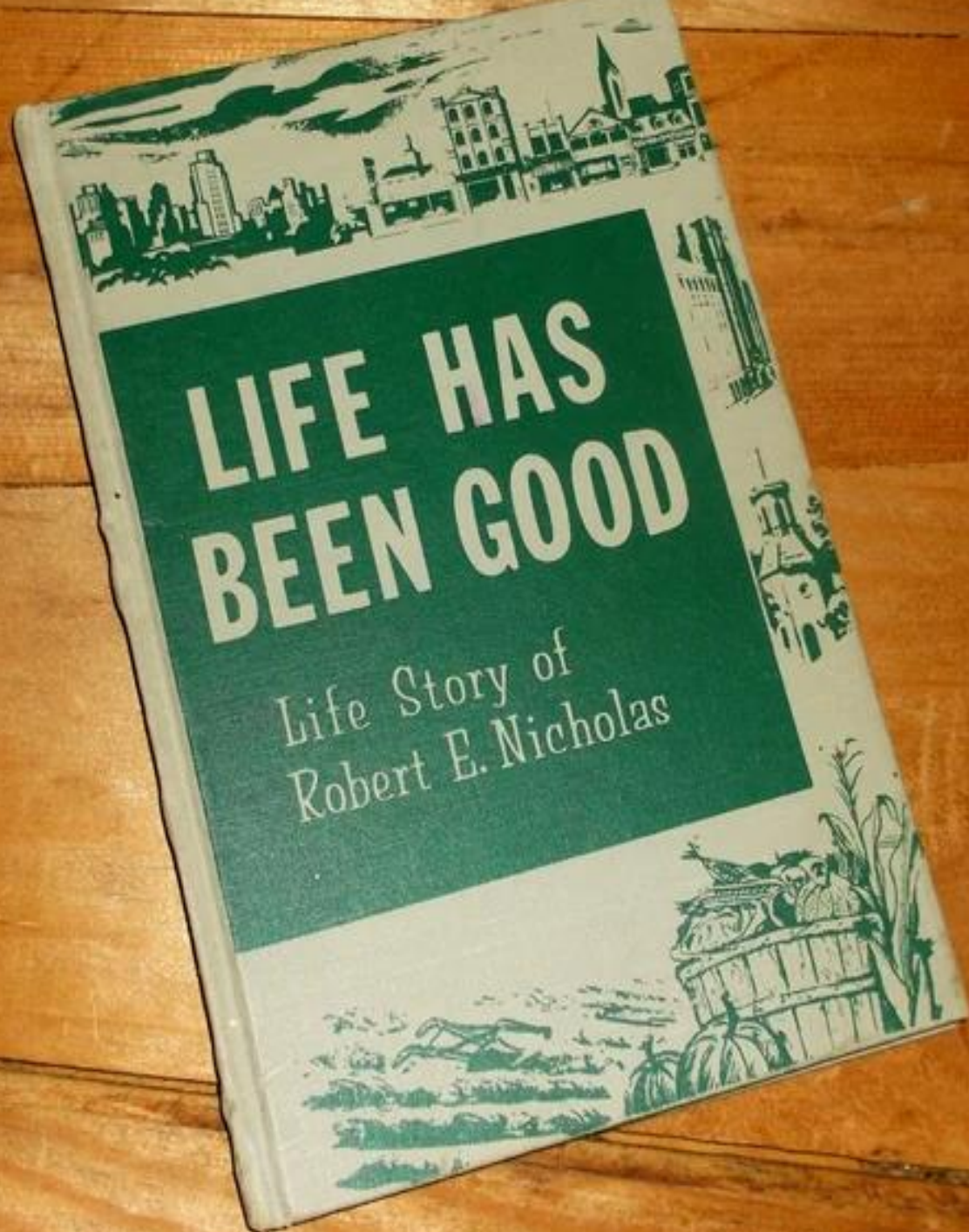
8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: **he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence;** he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

11 **Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;**

“Life Has
Been Good”





1977

