

Inventory to the  
Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship Collection

AR 518

**Summary**

Main entry: Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship Collection

Date span: 1973-1982

Abstract: Artificial collection of material related to the Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship, a group of conservative Baptists who organized to advocate that Southern Baptists leaders and professors affirm conservative positions on doctrinal and theological matters. The Fellowship met and incorporated in March, 1973, at the First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia. Collection includes clippings, pamphlets, publications, books, and writings.

Size: .5 linear ft. (1 document box)

Collection #: AR 518

**Historical Note**

The Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship organized in 1973 as a conservative voice concerned about liberalism within the Southern Baptist Convention. The Fellowship through the leadership of Bill Powell and the pages of the *Southern Baptist Journal*, took an aggressive path from the first publication. Powell attacked “liberal” professors and through letter and print, challenged leaders to affirm the Fellowship’s conservative positions. The *Southern Baptist Journal*, a monthly tabloid, became the voice for the organization and continued a forceful assault on college and seminary professors and convention leaders. The Fellowship played a significant role in the controversy that erupted in the Southern Baptist Convention in 1979. The Fellowship continued through the late 1980’s and ceased to exist when conservatives gained lasting control of the Southern Baptist Convention. William (Bill) Powell and M.O. Owens served as significant leaders in the organization.

**Scope and Content**

This is an artificial collection gathered from a variety of sources. The collection consists of pamphlets, clippings, books, biographical information on Bill Powell, his writings, copies of the *Southern Baptist Journal* and a document entitled, “Seminary approved orthodoxy thesis.”

**Arrangement**

The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by folder title.

**Provenance**

An artificial collection collected from a variety of sources in the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.

**Preferred citation**

Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

**Access restrictions**

None

**Subject terms**

Baptists - Doctrines  
Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship  
Controversies, Baptist  
Fundamentalism  
Southern Baptist Convention –History – 20<sup>th</sup> century  
Powell, William

**Related material**

Milum Oswell Owens Papers, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, AR 762  
Southern Baptist Controversy Collection, AR 812  
*Southern Baptist Journal* (Serials and MF 6618)  
Lindsell, Harold. *The Battle for the Bible*, 1976  
Powell, William A. *The S.B.C. (Southern Baptist Convention) issue & question*, 1977

**Container list**

Box 1

1. Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship – Promotion
2. Clippings, 1973-1979
3. Lindsell, Harold. *Battle for the Bible*, 1976
4. Pamphlets/flyers
5. Powell, William – biographical information
6. Powell, William. *The SBC issue and question*, 1977
7. *Southern Baptist Journal*, 1973-1982 (scattered issues)
8. *Southern Baptist Journal* – Promotion
9. The Seminary approved “orthodoxy” thesis positive evidence teachers destroy faith, 1976
10. Writings – Powell, William, 1977-1982