



The Burning Bush - Online article archive

Beginning of Emmaus Baptist Assembly of Oradea

by Florin Motiu

At the end of 2003, a small number of young people started a Bible study group, meeting once a month, and, after a while, twice a month. All of us were Arminian in theology, most of us members in the Baptist Union, which is Arminian in creed. As the years passed, we became more and more interested in the Doctrines of Grace. We studied the five points of Calvinism, the theology of the Puritans, the lives of Luther, Calvin, Edwards, Spurgeon.

We usually met on Tuesdays and we came to feel more and more that we longed to have on Sundays the same spiritual food as we had on Tuesdays! We felt unsatisfied in our churches. This state intensified every year and we prayed about that. So we came to understand that we had to start to meet on the Lord's Day. This we did in May 2010. We started with two meetings every month. But we still were in our Arminian churches.

God spoke to me more clearly about the need of separation from the Baptist Union. In June 2012 God sent Rev. Ivan Foster to Oradea and he preached for us. I asked him to preach about separation. He did so, and, at the end of the sermon, I confronted those present about the need for separation.

The next Lord's Day after Rev. Foster's departure we met for two meetings. We separated from the Baptist Union, having our meetings every Lord's Day. God continued to speak to us and to show us the compromise in the Baptist Union. Preachers in the Baptist Union participate every year in ecumenical prayer meetings, heresy is tolerated in their midst, worship is centered on man and many things are not biblical. Decisionism is present everywhere, pictures with Jesus are used at children's meetings and movies with the life of Jesus are used.



**Rev. Ivan Foster with Mr. Florin Motiu,
June 2012**

We started to pray that God would help us to constitute our group as a church. God heard our prayers, so on May 11th 2014 we constituted as a church: Emmaus Baptist Assembly of Oradea, with four members. We are separated from the Baptist Union and from the New-Calvinist movement. We signed a Confession of Faith and a Covenant of membership.

After prayer, we chose this name for our assembly, asking the Lord to make us a group of people to whose eyes He will open the Scriptures. We pray that God may open the eyes of others amongst us, making them to see that Jesus Christ is present with us.

Twice a month we have a prayer meeting, on Fridays, in which we invite people from outside. Those who will not come on Sundays (because they go to their churches) are ready to come to these meetings. We have a special message for each of these meetings. In this way we can serve others who come.

I want to thank all those from other countries who in these years prayed for us. God heard our and your prayers and God has blessed us very much here.

May God bless you as well!

Editor's note: You can view a gallery of pictures from this 2012 Romanian preaching trip [here](#).