

BRIEF HISTORY OF REDEMPTION BAPTIST MISSION.

KATAKYIASE

To better understand the history of Redemption Baptist Mission (RBM) Katakyaase, we must revisit our understanding of where and how we started and where we have reached. We can then build on this to address questions of where we intend to go and how to get there.

RBM Katakyaase was started in the year 2015 by Pastor Kwesi Abotar Sey, with a small group of believers who were devoted to prayer. Pastor Sey organized both morning and evening prayers. With time, the group increased in number and later was turned into a church. Pastor Kwesi Abotar Sey became the first pastor of Redemption Baptist Mission, Assin Amoabeng.

At the time Pastor Sey turned the Prayer Meeting Group into a church, most of the members who were part of the group were also members of Redemption Baptist Mission, Assin Betwiase who could

not afford the cost of transportation to worship at RBM, Assin Betwiase every Sunday. This decision therefore became an opportunity for them to remain in and worship on Sundays at the newly formed RBM at Katakyaase.

Pastor Kwesi Abotar Sey later planted another church with his own resources in the same year, at Assin Jakai.

The believers who supported Pastor Abotar Sey to plant the church at Katakyaase included Brother Yaw Oyaa and Sister Obaa Yaa Atobra, both of blessed memory.



Sister Obaa Yaa Atobra departed from the church before she passed. Other founding members were Brother Abankwa, Brother Kojo Quansah and Charlotte Afua Wilson. Sister Charlotte Afua Wilson is the only one of the founding members who today, still remains a member of the Mission.

With time, and as numbers increased, RBM, Katakyaase moved to Nyankomasi Ahenkro. A bigger place of worship was needed. The name of the church changed again from Redemption Baptist Mission, Katakyaase to Redemption Baptist Mission, Nyankomasi Ahenkro.

The first place of worship at Nyankomasi Ahenkro was the Nyankomasi DC Basic School. Deacon Joe Mensah and his wife, Deaconess Jane Mensah were placed in charge of the church by Rev. Dr. Isaac Mills-Owoo, the Senior Pastor of the Mother Church at Cape Coast. Deacon and Deaconess Mensah worked hard and contributed in various ways to help the church grow both spiritually and in numbers.

During this time, because of the enthusiasm with which the congregation worshipped God on Sundays, Madam Comfort Adjei, together with her entire family, left their church and joined the Redemption Baptist Mission Family. Because of her commitment to the mission and her love for the LORD, Maame Comfort Adjei earned the name "Church Mother". Others who joined the Mission then included Pastor Kwakye Mensah and Millicent Ofori Mensah.

Pastor Kwakye Mensah became the first Minister in charge of the new Redemption Mission, Nyankomasi Ahenkro. He too achieved a lot in terms of the growth of the Mission. After a few years, he left from the church due to some personal issues. God later called him into His bosom. May his soul rest in perfect peace. His mother and entire family still attend the church till date.

Deacon Joe Mensah and Deaconess Jane continued to lead the RBM, Nyankomasi Ahenkro and the Mission continued to meet in the DC School until a letter was received from the District Assembly instructing the Mission to evacuate the classroom. The next place of worship was the abandoned Nyankomasi Ahenkro District Court structure. Led by Deacon Joe Mensah and Mama Jane, we were moved from one place to another but never gave up.

Soon, another letter was received from the District Assembly ordering the Mission to evacuate the structure belonging to the District Court, as there were plans to reopen the Court. The Mission's third place of worship was the 'In God We Trust Preparatory School' and it was there that the Mission hosted its first Cape Coast Baptist Association Meeting.

In the year 2021, Pastor Harry Kitson was appointed by the Mother Church as the new Minister to replace Pastor Kwakye Mensah. Pastor Kitson also took the mantle and contributed his quota toward the growth of the Mission.



We continued to worship at the In God We Trust Preparatory School until a piece of land was discovered by Evangelist Lawrence Annor Arthur at Katakyaase. Immediately, information was sent to Cape Coast and the necessary enquiries were made. An appeal was made by the Mother Church for financial assistance for the purchase of the piece of land. The Head of the Cape Coast Baptist Association at the time was Rev. John Bentum- Ennin.

The name of the church then changed back to Redemption Baptist Mission, Katakyaase.

After acquiring the land, the necessary arrangements were made and we started worshipping there. Our first Sunday Service was under a canopy so people in the town called it **"The Canopy Church"**.

It was very difficult to invite people to the church because of our situation. It was very difficult also, to worship during rainy seasons. Sometimes the rain would beat us mercilessly during church services and we would remember the scriptures in **Matthew chapter 8: 23-25:**

...and when He got into the boat, His disciples followed Him. And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves, but He was asleep. And they went and woke Him up, saying: Save us Lord, we are perishing.

Redemption Baptist Mission, Katakyaase has indeed gone through difficult times but our Mission was built upon the foundation of our Lord Jesus Christ and prayer, and so no matter how hard the winds and storms blew against the church, Jesus Christ was in control and the Mission has survived to this day.

The Mission is grateful to the many who have contributed in various ways to the growth of the church at Katakyaase. Maame Comfort donated canopies for the church to use on Sundays. Mr. Chapman Owusu donated plastic chairs to the church. Pastor Kitson, became known and called '**One Man Contractor**' - for being a Pastor, a Mason, a Carpenter and an Electrician.

The leadership of the church, planned to construct a temporary structure for a church service. However, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Isaac Mills-Owoo, the planned temporary structure turned into a proper church building. Rev. Mills- Owoo would be at the church site as early as 6:00 am in the morning, and church members would start shouting "**Reverend Aba oo !!**"

That call would bring members running to the site to work. Rev. Mills-Owoo would close at exactly 6 00 pm and drive back to Cape Coast and he made sure that the project was completed before he stopped coming.

After the completion of the church building, another dynamic, optimistic and energetic Rev. Minister was appointed to lead the Mission in the person of Rev. Richard Kyei Abrokwah. He took office on 19th November, 2017 and also contributed his quota for the growth of the church in many ways. Through Rev. Abrokwah, a lot of innovation was made in the House of the Lord. Rev. Kyei Abrokwah is the current Head Pastor of the Redemption Baptist Mission, Katakyaase.

We are grateful to God for how far he has brought us. We are also grateful for the men and women raised by God at different times, who have worked tirelessly over many years and brought Redemption Baptist Mission, Katakyaase to where it is today.



Today, August 5th, 2021, we continue to add on to our history as Redemption Baptist Mission, Katakyaase becomes **Redemption Baptist Church, Katakyaase**. For the very first time, we welcome our own ordained Deacons. We believe that this church too, will continue to grow to the glory of God and in fulfilment of Jesus' words in **Matthew 16:18**, "**... the gates of hell shall not prevail against (my church).**"

Written by:

PRINCE K. AMOAH.