

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with John Standard
Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
People of Faith Oral History project

Interview # PFM-A-L-2021-015

John Standard, a minister at the Springfield Bible Church, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *People of Faith-Mosaics of Faith* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Dates: May 20, 27 & Jul 20, 2021

Location: Pastor's office, Springfield Bible Church

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Newlyn Hosea, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Transcript being
processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:26 + 1:08 + 0:41 / 1.43 + 1.13 + 0.68 = 3.24 hrs.

Session 1: Family life, college and his years at the Dallas Theological Seminary

Session 2: Career at Springfield Bible Church

Session 3: Discussion on Contemporary issues

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on November 16, 2021.

The interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

John Standard, *People of Faith*, PFM-A-L-2021-015

Biographical Information/Overview of Interview: John Standard was born in 1957 in Peoria, Illinois. He was adopted by John and Idelle Standard as an infant and taken to Springfield, Illinois to live. It was there he grew up until leaving for college at Louisiana State University. He met his future wife, Grace, at the university and graduated in 1979. John and Grace married in 1979 and John enrolled at the Dallas Theological Seminary. Graduating from the seminary in 1983, he immediately became the pastor (he prefers not to use that title) at the Springfield Bible Church, Springfield, Illinois where he continues in that role at the time of this interview in 2021. Springfield Bible Church is an independent congregation not affiliated with a specific denomination. They believe that the Bible alone is the authoritative source for their faith.

The interviews cover his life of faith during childhood and his coming under the influence of a strong Christian mentor while at LSU. He talked about his married life at Dallas Theological Seminary and theological views, which have remained consistent throughout his life. Special attention was given to his accepting a position at Springfield Bible Church and the story of that church during his tenure there. We explored the church's organization which differs significantly from the organization of other churches. Extensive time is devoted to his view of the Bible and its interpretation and application.

The final interview concentrated on current issues of controversy including abortion, the role of women in the church and race.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Springfield Bible Church, Springfield, Illinois; Dallas Theological Seminary; Church organization; Word of Life, Hungary; dispensationalism; race relations; family life; prophecy

Notes to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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