

CHARLES, JAMES (1846 - 1920), Independent minister and theologian

Name: James Charles
Date of birth: 1846
Date of death: 1920
Parent: Mary Charles
Parent: David Charles
Gender: Male
Occupation: Independent minister and theologian
Area of activity: Religion
Author: Thomas Eirug Davies

Born 6 December 1846 at Gelli-Fach near Llanddowror, son of David and Mary Charles. Shortly after his birth the family moved to Waunmabli farm, about three miles south-west of Carmarthen, where he was brought up with a view to the ministry. From Parc-y-felfed preparatory school (at Carmarthen) he went to the Independent college at Bala, and after four years there received a call to Llanuwchllyn. In 1883 he went to Oswestry, and in 1892 to Swan Lane, Denbigh, where he laboured assiduously for twenty-five years. He retired in 1917 and died 20 December 1920. He was recognized as a leader in his denomination. For a short time in the course of his first ministry he acted as deputy principal of Bala Independent college; he was chairman of the Union of Welsh Independents in 1916 and was one of the editors of *Y Dysgedydd* from 1918 until his death. He also took part in politics, but his main interest continued to be theology. He published *Emanuel*, 1890; *Esponiad ar Lyfr Amos* (a commentary), 1900; *Esponiad ar Epistol I Ioan*, 1900; *lawn a Thadolaeth* (Atonement and Fatherhood), 1905; *Agoriad i Ddiwinyddiaeth y Testament Newydd* (an introduction to the theology of the N.T.), 1915. In 1942 *Y Cysegr Sancteiddiolaf* (The Holy of Holies) was published; this was a collection of his writings with a short memoir. He sought in his books to reconcile the scientific pronouncements of his generation with orthodox doctrine, but his work was thoughtful rather than original.

Author

Reverend Thomas Eirug Davies, (1892 - 1951)

Sources

Y Dysgedydd, xcv, 245, xcvi, 375, c, 31

R. T. Jenkins, *Hanes Cynulleidfa Hen Gapel Llanuwchllyn* (1937), 188

H. Blackwell, [NLW MSS 9251-9277A: A Dictionary of Welsh Biography](#)

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