



Kathleen Mallory's delightful appearance and consecrated character earned her the nickname

"The Sweetheart of Alabama Baptists"

Many Alabama Baptists of all ages look to her as a prime example of selfless devotion to Christian missions. Kathleen Mallory's prayer life and devotion to God were most evident in her everyday life and in her work. She prayed and led others to pray long and hard before undertaking any new project or making any decision. She was quick to give God the glory and to lead out in offering prayers of thanksgiving after gifts were received for missions, projects were completed, or tasks were accomplished. She thought of prayer as a Christian's deepest joy and the highest form of Christian service. Kathleen Mallory wrote that "substance and self" are all a Christian has to give and that these gifts should be "fragrant with self-denial."

Biographical Look at Kathleen Mallory

- Born January 24, 1879 near Selma, Alabama.
- Became a Christian at age 10.
- Studied at Woman's College (later called Goucher) in Baltimore, Maryland.
- Became engaged to Janney Lupton while he was a medical student. After he became a doctor and a few months before their wedding date, he died of tuberculosis.
- Felt she was too bossy for the classroom, but found solace and purpose working in missions education at First Baptist Church of Selma and in her local Baptist association.
- Felt God calling her to missions after reading a letter from a missionary in China.
- Became corresponding secretary-treasurer of Alabama Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) in 1909.
- Became executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC in 1912 and served for 36 years.
- Traveled by horse and buggy, by car, by train, and by ship as she promoted and supported missions worldwide.
- Lived frugally and sold the souvenirs of her travels so she could give more financially to missions.
- Retired from Woman's Missionary Union, SBC in September 1948 at age 69.
- Died June 17, 1954 and was buried in Live Oak Cemetery in Selma.



"The election of Miss Kathleen Mallory of Selma (Alabama) as corresponding secretary-treasurer of (Alabama Woman's Missionary Union) in 1909 was of great significance. It meant the beginning of a career of Christian leadership unexcelled in all the history of Southern Baptist women."

- A. Hamilton Reid, Baptists in Alabama (Montgomery: Paragon Press, 1967), page 186.