

## Essay from the bold pastor

### #97 - Harley-Davidson -

Time flies. It's already been ten years since Harley-Davidson lavishly celebrated their 100-year anniversary in 2003. This year, they're going to host a 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary event starting on the Labor Day weekend. As its name suggests, Harley-Davidson (H-D) was established in 1903 by the then 23-year-old William Harley and Arthur Davidson, who was a year younger, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They were soon joined by Arthur's older brother, Walter, who was working as an apprentice at Kansas Railway. The three created the prototype using the railway company's foundry and machines.

Subsequently, Davidson brothers' father, William C. Davidson, who was a carpenter, built a shed in the back of his house and set up a lathe and a drill press. With the completion of their second machine by Arthur, the shed became the place where the first official Harley-Davidson was born. After the company got incorporated in 1907, the oldest of Davidson brothers, William A. Davidson, joined the team. He was considered the most "grown-up" of the four, being 37 years old and having worked at Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway as the tool room foreman in the garage. There is a famous picture of the four founders standing in front of the shed. This marked one of the American history moments.

Despite the fact that the three of the four founders were Davidson, Harley's name was placed before theirs. The reason was not just because it's easier to pronounce but because Harley invented the engine, the heart of Harley-Davidson. However, he lost interest in motorcycles after a while and spent most of his time fishing. Furthermore, nobody else from the Harleys has been involved in the management of H-D even to this day. On the other hand, William's grandson, Willie G. Davidson, is one of the executives, and his daughter, Karen, is also a part of the firm. Yet, the Davidsons doesn't seem to mind "Harley" coming before "Davidson." Not only does it reflect the amicable relationship between the founders, but it also reveals how H-D has stayed fine labor-management relations to be compared with other U.S. corporations throughout its long history. They've always had "love" for each other.

Jesus says;

***My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.***

**John 15:12**

In short, love is self-sacrifice, meaning that you put others first. Jesus Christ followed the teaching and so did the four founders who were typical Christian workers. The bible indicates that such person will lead the world, and H-D's unchanging success is a living proof. The love of Jesus is the most powerful and forever unchanging.

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