

Eighteenth Annual

GARNETT - NABRIT LECTURES

theme:

"A CHARGE TO KEEP. . ."



Dr. J. H. GARNETT



Dr. J. M. NABRIT

CELEBRATING

FIFTY YEARS

Of Training Ministers and Leaders
For The Black Church At The

AMERICAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Nashville, Tennessee

APRIL 8 - 10, 1975

Dr. Charles E. Boddie, President
Rev. Samuel W. Hale, Jr., Director

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

As touching the enlightenment of the Black Churchmen, the Garnett-Nabrit Lecture Series is now recognized as one of the five most notable events of its kind upon the American Scene.

Without endowment or glamor, this exciting lecture-preaching venture has come a long way in eighteen years. As a rendezvous experience for her Alumni, the Denizens of THE HILL could hardly have discovered a more appropriate trysting place to commune with the Muse, and for charging up the spiritual batteries. With Dr. Carl Marbury providing the oil of wisdom and Dr. Fredrick Sampson supplying the gospel dynamite, what also can be left for Dr. Sloan Hodges to do in his Alumni Address but to most certainly include the gratitude of every ABT person for the extravagance of the Father for pouring out such a blessing upon us as we close out the celebration of our fiftieth year. With the Bi-Centennial now before us, let us brace for an even more lavish outpouring of His Grace in the years ahead.

Charles E. Boddie

GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT

With so many forces of evil at work in our society today, the statement, "We are living in dangerous times," is true. Thus, it keeps us working to root out, pull down and destroy those evil forces that's destroying our society.

It is good that we have the "HOLY HILL" to ascend from the struggling valley to "mountain top" experiences that will regenerate our spirit, rekindle our faith and revive our courage, so that we may descend again into the continuing struggle in the valley.

While you are here and as we celebrate ABTS' fifty years of struggling, may your memories be refreshed, old friendships be strengthened and old acquaintances be renewed. May your interest in the school be rekindled, your commitment to the school be deepened and your giving to the school be higher so that the "HOLY HILL" will always be here to ascend for "mountain top" experiences. Consequently, the operation of the school may continue without the struggle for those who matriculate on the hill.

It is in the spirit of Thanksgiving with a challenge, that I greet you.

J. H. Flakes

GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Thanks for coming! I wish there were words adequate enough to express the depth of joy and appreciation for your presence and participation in this Lecture Series.

It is my prayer that your many occasions to revive old memories, establish new friends, renew old friendships, be challenged by the Lectures, be sharpened by the discussions, be edified by the Sermons and be nourished at the Banquet will help to strengthen and enhance your appreciation for and support of the Ministry of the HOLY HILL.

Samuel W. Hale, Jr.

HISTORY OF THE GARNETT-NABRIT LECTURES

"...They...expounded unto them the way of God more perfectly."
-Acts 18:26b

Even in the midst of learning situations, there come moments when that which is learned need be enhanced, enriched and enlightened. This concept seemingly was in the mind of Dr. J. C. Miles as he, under the leadership of Dr. J. M. Nabrit, the President of the American Baptist Theological Seminary, directed the first Missionally Conference in March, 1937. An Annual Conference on Pastoral Problems was planned and held in November, 1937, which was closed with a celebration of Founders Day. These conferences were combined at least by 1943 and continued each year until 1957.

In 1949 the conception of the Garnett-Nabrit Lectures was realized.

At the Annual meeting of the Alumni Association held, June 3, 1949, a committee (J. T. Moore, B. E. Callier, J. T. Ridley, W. N. Daniel, Charles Williams and William H. Donaldson) reported that they had polled the alumni throughout the country and received the majority of votes in favor of a Garnett-Nabrit Lectureship. This lectureship was created and named for Drs. J. H. Garnett and J. M. Nabrit. Dr. Garnett had served as Dean of the Institution and was acting President at several interims. In 1936 he was elected President-Emeritus and was retired in 1940. The other personality was Dr. Nabrit, the Secretary of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. who served as President of the Seminary from 1936 to 1944.¹

It was not until 1957 that the birth of the Garnett-Nabrit Lectures was actualized. For in the April 30-May 1, 1957 meeting of the Board of Trustees the vote was made to change the name of the Annual Ministers and Missionary Conference to the Garnett-Nabrit Lectures in honor of the former Dean, Dr. J. H. Garnett and Dr. J. M. Nabrit, the fourth President of the Seminary. The first Lecture Series was held April 30-May 1, 1958, under the co-directorship of Professor Joseph M. Conley, Director of Seminary Extension, and Dr. Maynard P. Turner, President. In 1964, the Alumni Association strengthened the Lecture Series by initiating an Alumni Banquet. Each year an Alumnus is chosen by the Alumni Association to deliver the Banquet Address. These Lecture Series have continued for eighteen years, and have been blessed with the priceless contributions of the speakers listed below.

¹Powell, Ruth Marie, "Lights and Shadows": Nashville; 1964, pp. 64,65.

GARNETT-NABRIT LECTURE SPEAKERS

SERIES

LECTURER

PREACHER

ALUMNI ORATOR

1958	Dr. Henlee H. Barnett	Rev. William J. Harvey, III	
	Dr. Clyde T. Francisco	Rev. J. Royster Powell ('44)	
	Dr. W. Kendrick Grobel		
	Dr. I. H. Henderson, Jr.		
	Dr. Robert E. Penn		
1959	Dr. E. A. McDowell	Rev. Ceasar A.W. Clark	
	Dr. Wayne E. Oates	Rev. I. S. Powell	
	Dr. Garland K. Offutt	Rev. M. H. Ribbins ('45)	
1960	Dr. William H. Morton	Rev. L. Juan Burt	
	Dr. John W. Williams	Dr. T. J. Jemison	
1961	Rev. V. A. Edwards	Dr. P. E. Henderson	
	Dr. Foy Valentine		
1962	Dr. Edwin T. Johnston	Dr. T. E. Huntley	
	Dr. Melvin H. Watson	Dr. D. C. Washington	
1963	Dr. John J. Owens	Dr. William R. Haney	
	Dr. H. Clayton Waddell		
1964	Dr. John M. Ellison	Dr. H. C. Nabrit	Rev. Enoch Jones ('57)
	Dr. Samuel Southard		
1965	Dr. Kyle Haselden	Dr. Roland O. Hudson	Rev. W. O. Wells ('57)
1966	Dr. Dale Moody	Dr. Sandy F. Ray	Rev. William K. Richardson ('58)
1967	Dr. Victor T. Glass	Dr. Thomas Kilgore	Rev. G. Calvin McGutcheon ('50)
1968	Dr. Clarence Jordan	Dr. Edward A. Freeman	Dr. A. G. Kendrick ('41)
1969	Mrs. James W. Salley('56)	Dr. Carlyle Marney	Rev. Bernard LaFayette, Jr. ('69)
			Rev. John Lewis ('61)
			Rev. C. T. Vivian ('60)
1970	Dr. Don B. McCoy	Dr. James B. Gayce	Dr. Harcourt W. Brown ('38)
	Dr. Lucius M. Tobin		
1971	Dr. Phale D. Hale	Dr. Gene E. Bartlett	Dr. Odie M. Hoover ('49)
1972	Dr. Clyde T. Francisco	Dr. Benjamin E. Mays	Rev. Solomon Gort ('62)
			Rev. Negil L. McPherson ('58)
1973	Dr. Wayne E. Oates	Dr. Odie M. Hoover('49)	Rev. Wilber N. Daniel ('49)
1974	Dr. George D. Kelsey	Dr. Sandy F. Ray	Rev. Walter B. Rouse ('48)
1975	Dr. Carl H. Marbury	Dr. Fredrick G. Sampson	Dr. Stanley S. Hodges ('48)

FOCUS

Fifty years ago, twenty-eight ministers, two women and three teachers were coming to the end of the first year of instruction at the American Baptist Theological Seminary. These thirty-three enlightened church leaders were part of the realization of a twenty-year old vision shared by National Baptists and Southern Baptists to establish a Theological Seminary for Negro Baptists for the training of Negro Ministers. And though the history of the development of American Baptist Theological Seminary is filled with "Lights and Shadows," joys and disappointments, successes and failures, there emerges at least one eternal purpose: to train Ministers and Leaders for the Black Church.

Now we seek to commemorate these Fifty Years of training by focusing on that purpose which we would dare call "A CHARGE TO KEEP...." In these fifty years, new buildings have been erected. New roads have been paved. Trees which bore on their trunks the history of human relationships have been blown down. Professors crowned with wisdom have nestled their heads in the bosom of the earth. Administrators filled with vision have passed the mantle of enlightenment on to others. Sons of slaves and kings and freemen have found a brotherhood unknown. And in the midst, the charge is still the same.

Thus we would charge you to keep in mind these focal points:

To glorify our God
 To serve this present age
 To be armed with jealous care
 To ne'er betray our trust

ORDER OF EVENTS

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 1975

- 3:00 P.M. Alumni Executive Committee Meeting, Chapel
Rev. J. Flakes, Presiding
- 7:00 P.M. Pre-Lecture Musical, Chapel ABT Seminary Chorus

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 1975

- 9:00 A.M. Registration
- 10:00 A.M. Worship Service, Tabernacle on the Hill
Dr. C. E. Boddie, Worship Leader
Dr. J. Lewis Powell, Worship Assistant
- Meditation in Music
Call to Worship
Invocation
Hymn of Praise
Observations
Memorial Sentences
Special Music Seminary Chorus
Presentation of Preacher
Scripture
SERMON: "THE FACADE OF ANXIETY"
Dr. Fredrick G. Sampson
- Hymn of Commitment
Benediction
- 12:00 Noon Lunch
- 1:30 P.M. Lecture I, Tabernacle on the Hill
Dr. Vincent McCutcheon ('68), Presiding
- Hymn
Prayer
Observations
Presentation of Lecturer
LECTURE: "THE PASTOR, THE SCHOLAR AND BLACK THEOLOGY"
Dr. Carl H. Marbury
- Interaction Session
Interactors: Dr. Richard Lucas
Dr. Don B. McCoy
Dr. P. V. Chandy
- Hymn of Reflection
Closing Prayer
- 3:30 P.M. Alumni Meeting
- 5:00 P.M. Dinner
- 7:30 P.M. Worship Service, Tabernacle on the Hill
Rev. J. F. Grimmett, Worship Leader
Rev. A. G. Jones ('58), Worship Assistant
- Meditation in Music
Call to Worship
Invocation

Hymn of Praise
Observations
Special Music

Kayne Avenue
Baptist Church Choir

Presentation of Preacher
Scripture

SERMON: "THE INTERIOR DIALOGUE"

Dr. Fredrick G. Sampson

Hymn of Commitment
Benediction

10:00 P.M.

Alumni Worship Service
Roger Heights Baptist Church
Rev. Willie D. Billups ('72), Speaker

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1975

- 8:00 A.M. Extension Department Breakfast, Holiday Inn
- 9:00 A.M. Registration
- 10:00 A.M. Lecture II, Tabernacle on the Hill
Rev. Samuel W. Hale, Jr., Presiding
- Hymn
Prayer
Observations
Presentation of Lecturer
LECTURE: "NEW WINE AND OLD BOTTLES"
Dr. Carl H. Marbury
- Discussion Groups
I. "The Christian Woman's Role"
Discussion Leader: Mrs. Dorothy C. Lewis
II. "The Contemporary Minister"
Discussion Leader: Rev. E. H. E. Gilbert
III. "The Enlightened Layman"
Discussion Leader: Mr. Cephus Haynes
- 12:00 Noon Lunch
- 1:30 P.M. Lecture III, Tabernacle on the Hill
Mrs. Annabelle Jones, Presiding
- Hymn
Prayer
Observations
Presentation of Lecturer
LECTURE: "MINISTRY FOR THE PRESENT AGE: CASE STUDIES"
Dr. Carl H. Marbury
- Discussion Groups (Same as Lecture II)
- 3:30 P.M. Alumni Meeting
- 5:00 P.M. Dinner
- 7:30 P.M. Worship Service, Tabernacle on the Hill
Dr. James A. Campbell, Worship Leader
Dr. Richard W. Gordon ('60), Worship Assistant
- Meditation in Music
Call to Worship

Invocation
Hymn of Praise
Observations
Special Music

First Baptist Church
Choir, Murfreesboro

Presentation of Preacher
Scripture

SERMON: "THE PARENTHESIS IN ETERNITY"

Dr. Fredrick G. Sampson

Hymn of Commitment
Benediction

10:00 P.M. Alumni Worship Service
Roger Heights Baptist Church
Rev. Theodore McFarland ('63), Speaker

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1975

9:00 A.M. Registration

10:00 A.M. Lecture IV, Tabernacle on the Hill
Dr. Nehemiah Douglas ('58), Presiding

Scripture
Prayer
Observations
Presentation of Lecturer

LECTURE: "A THEOLOGIZED - HUMANIZED FAITH"

Dr. Carl H. Marbury

Panel Discussion

Participants: Mrs. Dorothy C. Lewis
Rev. E. H. E. Gilbert
Mr. Cephus Haynes

12:00 Noon Lunch

1:30 P.M. Worship Service, Tabernacle on the Hill
Rev. J. H. Flakes ('68), Worship Leader
Rev. Daniel Smith, Worship Assistant

Meditation in Music
Call to Worship
Invocation
Hymn of Praise
Observations
Special Music
Presentation of Preacher
Scripture

Seminary Chorus

SERMON: "THE FORGOTTEN WORD OF GETHSEMANE"

Dr. Fredrick G. Sampson

Hymn of Commitment
Remarks
Benediction

3:00 P.M. Alumni Executive Committee Meeting

6:00 P.M. Alumni Banquet, Sheraton-Nashville
ADDRESS: "OUR CONTINUING TASK"
Dr. Stanley S. Hodges ('48)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES



DR. CARL H. MARBURY: LECTURER - A native of Leeds, Alabama, Dr. Marbury holds the B.S. Degree from Alabama A&M University, the M.A. and B.D. Degrees from Oberlin College and the Ph.D. Degree from Harvard University.

Currently on leave from Garrett Theological Seminary where he serves as Professor of New Testament Interpretation, Dr. Marbury serves Alabama A&M University as Director of the Office of Institutional Research and Professor of Philosophy. He has also taught at Concord Academy, Harvard University and Oberlin College. An ordained Baptist preacher, Dr. Marbury served in several Ministerial positions in Alabama, California and Massachusetts.

Besides his memberships in National and International Professional Societies, he has authored several articles and monographs for various Religious Educational Journals.



DR. FREDRICK G. SAMPSON: PREACHER - A native of Port Arthur, Texas, Dr. Sampson is internationally known as a pulpiteer of penetrating power. Pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan, Dr. Sampson has preached in Africa, Rome, the Netherlands, Bahamas as well as in hundreds of pulpits in America. He is a lecturer in the National Baptist Sunday School and B.T.U. Congress and Convention U.S.A., Incorporated.

Dr. Sampson holds the A.B. and B.Th. Degrees from Bishop College, the B.D. and M.Div. Degrees from Howard University, the M.A. Degree from Columbia University and the D.D. Degree from Virginia Theological Seminary and College. He also serves on several Religious and Educational Boards and Councils. Dr. Sampson lectures on at least five College and University campuses a year.



DR. SLOAN S. HODGES: ALUMNI BANQUET SPEAKER - A native of Hodges, South Carolina, Dr. Hodges received the B.Th. Degree from American Baptist Theological Seminary.

Twenty-six years of full time pastoral experience in Canada, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee attests to his ministerial preparation. Such experience validates his ability to give depth and vision to his current position as Executive Secretary of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Incorporated. Dr. Hodges has the distinction of being the first full time Executive Secretary of any Black National Baptist Convention.

Author of the monograph, "Black Baptists in America and the Origins of Their Conventions," Dr. Hodges has held many denominational, interdenominational and civic offices.

PROGRAM PERSONALITIES

- REV. WILLIE D. BILLUPS ('72) - Pastor, St. Paul Baptist Church, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.
- DR. CHARLES E. BODDIE - President, American Baptist College and Seminary.
- DR. JAMES A. CAMPBELL - Associate Professor of Biology, American Baptist College and Seminary; Pastor, First Baptist Church, East Nashville, Tennessee.
- DR. P. V. CHANDY - Associate Professor of Philosophy, American Baptist College and Seminary.
- DR. NEHEMIAH DOUGLAS ('58) - Assistant Professor of Theology, American Baptist College and Seminary.
- REV. J. H. FLAKES ('68) - President, Alumni Association; Pastor, Fourth Street Baptist Church, Columbus, Georgia.
- REV. E. H. E. GILBERT ('44) - Pastor, Pilgrim Baptist Church, Rockford, Illinois.
- REV. RICHARD GORDON ('60) - Pastor, First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
- REV. J. F. GRIMMETT - Assistant Professor and Director of Pastoral Studies, American Baptist College and Seminary.
- REV. SAMUEL W. HALE ('66) - Director, Department of Seminary Extension, American Baptist College and Seminary.
- MR. CEPHUS HAYNES ('62) - Member, Trinity Baptist Church, Bronx, New York.
- REV. A. G. JONES ('58) - Pastor, Kayne Avenue Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee.
- MRS. ANNABELLE JONES - Academic Dean, American Baptist College and Seminary.
- MRS. DOROTHY C. LEWIS ('57) - Administrator, Chamor Nursing Center, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
- DR. RICHARD LUCAS - Director, Department of Bible and Theology and Associate Professor of Church History, American Baptist College and Seminary.
- DR. DON B. McCOY - Director, Department of Philosophy; Professor of Philosophy and Education, American Baptist College and Seminary; Pastor, First Baptist Church, Dickson, Tennessee.
- DR. VINCENT McCUTCHEON ('68) - Associate Professor of Old Testament, American Baptist College and Seminary.
- REV. THEODORE McFARLAND ('63) - Pastor, Unity Fellowship Baptist Church, Chicago, Illinois.
- DR. J. LEWIS POWELL - Vice President, American Baptist College and Seminary; Pastor, Faith United Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee.
- REV. DANIEL SMITH ('75) - President, Senior Class, American Baptist College and Seminary; Pastor, Fourteenth Avenue Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee.

APPRECIATION

We are especially grateful to all our distinguished guests and to all our leaders who share their rich experiences with our many participants, for whom we are also grateful. A special thanks is extended to the many students, faculty and administrative personnel who helped to make this Lecture Series a reality.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Dr. Charles E. Boddie
Rev. J. H. Flakes
Rev. Samuel W. Hale, Jr.

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Ms. Mary W. Stegall

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Rev. Velda Rucker
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Rev. Walstone Francis
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