

Alma Mater

Thirty-Fifth Annual Garnett-Nabrit Lectures



Dr. J. H. Garnett



Dr. J. M. Nabrit

Theme
Communicating the Word of God

Sponsored by the
**AMERICAN BAPTIST COLLEGE
OF ABT SEMINARY**

(Accredited member of the American Association of Bible Colleges)

1800 Baptist World Center Drive
Nashville, Tennessee 37207

March 16-19, 1992

Dr. Odell McGlothian, Sr.
President

Robert Brown
Director, Continuing Education

Lest We Forget

GARNETT, JAMES HENRY – Clergyman, Educator b. Carter Plantation-Gordon County, Georgia 1847; s. James K. and Levina (Carter) Garnett; m. Ida Lee Drake, August 15, 1888; two children, Ida D. and James Malcom; educ. Oberlin (A.B. 1887) Mormon Park, Illinois Theological Course (B.D. 1886); Selma University (D.D. 1891); Arkansas Baptist College (LL.D. 1926); President, Arkansas Baptist College, Little Rock, Arkansas 1886-87; President and Co-founder, Guadalupe, Sequin, Texas, 1887-91; President, State University (Simmons University) Louisville, Kentucky 1891-1895; President, Houston College, Houston, Texas 1894-99; Chairman of Languages (Greek and Latin), Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Missouri for nine years; In business in Gary Indiana (real estate and insurance) until 1922; Dean of Theology and Chaplain of Kansas Industrial and Educational Institute, Topeka, Kansas, 1922-25; Teacher of Systematic Theology and New Testament Greek, American Baptist Theological Seminary 1924-38; Dean of Seminary, October 28, 1927-39; Acting President, April 8, 1930-April 12, 1932. Although Dr. Garnett was never honored with the elective office of President, it is to his credit and honor that the American Baptist Theological Seminary stands as a beacon light today, for it was through his efforts that many of the problems of administration were solved. His memory is retained through the annual Garnett-Nabrit lecture series each year.¹

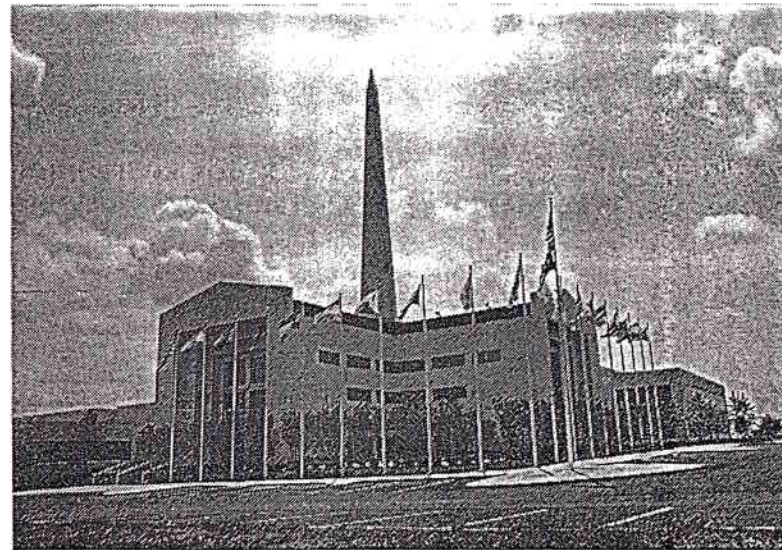
NABRIT, JAMES MADISON – Clergyman, Educator b. September 17, 1877, Atlanta, Georgia. s. J. Clarke and Margaret (Knox Petty) Nabrit; m. Augusta G. West, May 5, 1899; eight children, James M. Jr., Samuel M., Ann, Gertrude, Henry, Lois, Margaret, Cecelia; educ. Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia (A.B., D.D.), Chicago, Illinois; Pastor, St. James Church, Forsyth, Georgia 1902-07; Bethesda Church, Americus Institute 1907-12; Walker Institute 1915-20; Trustee Morehouse and Atlanta Universities, Atlanta, Georgia; General Secretary of the National Baptist Convention; Elected president of American Baptist Theological Seminary April 23, 1936. Six months after accepting this position he suffered a severe back injury which left him a half invalid; nevertheless, the school experienced its greatest encouragement and the groundwork for this institution was laid during his administration. Dr. Nabrit resigned in order to resume the pastorate in Atlanta, Georgia. He died there in 1947.²

¹Ruth Marie Powell, *Lights and Shadows* (Nashville: 1964) p. 158.

²Ibid, 160.



Dr. Theodore J. Jemison
President,
National Baptist Convention, USA Inc.



BAPTIST WORLD CENTER

The National Baptist World Center is a fulfillment of a dream of Dr. Theodore J. Jemison, President of our convention.

The building, adjacent to the American Baptist College campus, facilitates the College through the use of the classrooms, cafeteria and meeting spaces. This is a part of the continuing support Dr. Jemison is giving to the well-being of the College.



American Baptist College

of A.B.T. Seminary

1800 Baptist World Center Drive - Nashville, TN 37207
615/228-7877

March 16, 1992

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to each of you who has come to share in this Thirty-Fifth Annual Session of the Garnett-Nabrit Lectures. We highly appreciate your presence. It is our tradition to invite some of the greatest pulpiteers of our time. This is a tradition we have had the pleasure of upholding over the years.

Most of you have returned each year to make new friends and renew old acquaintances. We appreciate your support. It is our hope that this year's lectures and sermons will provide the insight and solutions to some of the problems that challenge the church today.

May God's richest blessings continually be bestowed upon you.

Sincerely,

Odell McGlothian, Sr., Ed.D, D.D.

HISTORY OF THE GARNETT-NABRIT LECTURES

"... they . . . expounded unto him 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 Missionary Conference in March, 1937.

There was also an Annual Conference on Pastoral Problems held in November, 1937, and was closed with a celebration of Founder's Day. The 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 been blessed with the priceless contributions of the speakers listed on the next page.

¹Ruth Marie Powell, LIGHTS AND SHADOWS (Nashville: 1964), pp. 6-1, 65.

GARNETT - NABRIT LECTURE SERIES 1992
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1992

7:30 P.M. MUSICAL

AMERICAN BAPTIST COLLEGE
CHOIR

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1992

8:30 a.m. Registration

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Opening Remarks:

Deacon Robert Brown
Director, Continuing
Education

Presiding:

Dr. Floyd Lacey
Dean of Chapel

Prelude

Call to Worship:

Hymn of Praise:

Praise Him, Praise Him

Invocation:

Victor Blair ('92)
President, Student
Government Association

Scripture:

Ms. LaNita Brooks, Dean
Cleveland, OH Extension
Unit

Presentation of Lecturer:

Dr. Bernard LaFayette, Jr.
(^69)
Vice President for Academic
Affairs
Pastor, Progressive Baptist
Church

Special Music:

Everett Jenkins (^94)

Lecture:

Dr. Odell McGlothian, Sr.
President, American Baptist
College
Pastor, New Salem
Missionary Baptist Church
Memphis, TN

Hymn of Commitment

Benediction

12:00 noon

Lunch

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1992

1:30 P.M.

Presiding:

Dr. Bernard Lafayette, Jr. (^69)
Vice President for Academic Affairs
American Baptist College
Pastor, Progressive Baptist Church
Nashville, TN

Prelude:

Call to Worship:

Hymn of Praise

Lift Him Up

Prayer:

Rev. L.F. Freeman
Dean, Jackson TN
Extension Unit

Special Presentation

\$100,000.00 Boddie Chair of Excellence
Endowment

First Baptist Church
Huntsville, AL
Dr. Julius Scruggs,
Pastor

Presentation of Lecturer:

Dr. Odell McGlothian, Sr.
President, American
Baptist College
Pastor, New Salem
Missionary Baptist Church
Memphis, TN

Special Music:

Ms. Judith Logan
Office Mgr. American
Baptist College

Lecture

Dr. William J. Shaw
Pastor, White Rock Baptist
Church, Philadelphia, PA

Hymn of Commitment

Benediction

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Seminars

Dr. Allen Stanley: "Communicating the Word of God through Missions"
Room A

Dr. Vincent McCutcheon: "Communicating the Word of God through the Laity"
Room B

Dr. Alfred Hill: "Communicating the Word of God through Evangelism"
Room C

Rev. Lawrence Kirby: "Communicating the Word of God through Preaching"
Room D

Rev. Forrest Harris: "Communicating the Word of God through Christian Education"
Room E

4:30 p.m.

Alumni Meeting

Room E

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1992
CONT'

7:30 p.m. Worship Service

Presiding: Dr. Negil McPherson(^58)
President Alumni
Association
Pastor, Pilgrim Baptist
Church Omaha, NB

Call to Worship:

Hymn of Praise Blessed Assurance

Prayer

Scripture: Rev. Nathaniel Calhoun,
Dean Saginaw, MI Extension
Unit

Offering: Alumni

Presentation of Preacher Dr. Odell McGlothian, Sr.
President, American
Baptist College
Pastor, New Salem Missionary
Baptist Church
Memphis, TN

Special Music Patricia Ann Collins (^96)

Sermon Dr. William Shaw, Pastor
White Rock Baptist Church
Philadelphia, PA

Benediction

Late Night Services Jefferson Street Baptist
Church

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1992

7:30 a.m. Extension Breakfast

Dr. J.V.A. Winsett, Dean
Pittsburgh, PA Extension
Unit

8:30 a.m. Registration

10:30 Worship Service

Opening Remarks:

Deacon Robert Brown
Director, Continuing
Education Division

Presiding:

Dr. Richard Lucas
Director, Division of
Church Vocations

Prelude

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise

At the Cross

Prayer

Edward McCree(^92)
President Senior Class

Scripture

Presentation of Lecturer

Special Music

Avery Blakeney (^94)
Derrick Moore (^92)

Lecture

Dr. Odell McGlothian, Sr.
President, American Baptist
College
Pastor, New Salem Missionary Baptist
Church
Memphis, TN

Hymn of Commitment

Benediction

12:00 noon

Lunch

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1992

1:30 p.m.

Presiding: Dr. Sid Smith
Director, Division of
General Education

Prelude

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise

Prayer

He Lives

Georgia Stephens (^94)

Presentation of Lecturer

Special Music

Melvin Gillard (^94)

Lecture

Dr. William J. Shaw
Pastor, White Rock Baptist
Church Philadelphia, PA

Hymn of Commitment

Benediction

2:30 - 4:30

Seminars

4:30

Alumni Meeting Room E

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1992

7:30 p.m.

Presiding: Rev. John Rouse (^62)
Pastor, Mt. Zion Baptist
Church
East St. Louis, IL

Prelude

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise

Standing on the Promises

Prayer

Scripture

Dr. N.E. Douglas (^58)
Director, Division of
Biblical Theological
Studies
Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist
Church
Nashville, TN

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1992
CONT'

Offering

Alumni

Founders Day Announcement

Rev. James Thomas, Pastor
Jefferson Street Baptist Church
Nashville, TN

Presentation of Preacher

Dr. Odell McGlothian, Sr.
President, American Baptist
College
Pastor, New Salem Missionary Baptist
Church Memphis, TN

Special Music

Choir # 3 Mt. Gilead
Baptist Church Nashville, TN

Sermon

Dr. Robert H. Wilson
Pastor, Cornerstone Baptist
Church Dallas, TX

Hymn of Commitment

Benediction

Late Night Services

Jefferson Street Baptist
Church

THURSDAY, MARCH, 19, 1992

7:30 a.m. Ministers' Wives' Breakfast

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Opening Remarks:

Deacon Robert Brown
Director, Continuing
Education

Presiding

Rev. Curtis Goodwin (^78)
Pastor, Watson Grove
Baptist Church
Nashville, TN

Prelude

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise

We're Marching to Zion

Prayer

Dennis Hudson (^94)
American Baptist College

Scripture

Professor Nelson Wilson
Vice President for
Administrative Affairs

Presentation of Preacher

ALMA MATER

A. B. T. S.

Words and Music by
C. O. INGE

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1992
10:30 a.m.
CONT'

Special Music

James Purtty (~95)
American Baptist College

Sermon

Dr. Robert H. Wilson
Pastor, Cornerstone
Baptist Church
Dallas, TX

Hymn of Commitment

Deacon Robert Brown
Director, Continuing Education
American Baptist College

Closing Remarks

Dr. Odell McGlothian, Sr.
President, American
Baptist College
Pastor, New Salem Missionary
Baptist Church
Memphis, TN

Alma Mater

Benediction

Alumni Banquet

Moderato

1. We love thee, Al - ma Ma - ter, the school we cher - ish so, Thy
2. (The) world will praise each stu - dent where - ev - er he may go, Thy
3. (The) mem - 'ry of thy teach - ers shall lin - ger in our hearts, The

world will read thy da - ta where - ev - er we may go. Thy
walls have made them pru - dent be - caus' they love thee so. They'll
words of all thy preach - ers shall bat - tle Sa - tan's darts. We'll

words we'll nev - er al - ter, we'll nev - er, nev - er fal - ter In
nev - er for - get the plea - sures, the care and pre - cious trea - sures Of
hon - or thee for - ev - er, for - sake thee nev - er, nev - er, For

show - ing forth thy faith - ful - ness, A. B. T. S. 2. The
all thy love and right - eous - ness, A. B. T. S. 3. The
e'er we'll sing thy bless - ed - ness, A. B. T. S.

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Garnett-Nabrit Lecture Speakers

Series	Lecturers	Preachers	Banquet Speakers
1958	Dr. Henlee H. Barnett Dr. Clyde T. Francisco Dr. W. Kendrick Groebel Rev. H. I. Henderson, Jr.	Rev. William Harvey, III Rev. J. Royster Powell	
1959	Dr. Robert E. Penn Dr. E. A. McDowell Dr. Wayne Oates Dr. Garland K. Offutt	Rev. Ceasar A. W. Clark Rev. I.S. Powell Rev. M.H. Ribbins ('45)	
1960	Dr. William H. Morton Dr. John W. Williams	Rev. L. Juan Burt Dr. T. J. Jemison	
1961	Rev. V. A. Edwards Dr. Foy Valentine	Dr. P. E. Henderson	
1962	Dr. Edwin T. Johnston Dr. Melvin H. Watson	Dr. T. F. Huntley Dr. D. C. Washington	
1963	Dr. John J. Owens Dr. H. Clayton Waddell	Dr. William R. Haney	
1964	Dr. John M. Ellison Dr. Samuel Southard	Dr. H. C. Nabrit	Rev. Enoch Jones ('57)
1965	Dr. Kyle Haseldon	Dr. Roland O. Hudson	Rev. W. O. Wells ('57)
1966	Dr. Dale Moody	Dr. Sandy F. Ray	Rev. William K. Richardson ('57)
1967	Dr. Victor T. Glass	Dr. Thomas Kilgore	Dr. G. Calvin McCutcheon ('50)
1968	Dr. Clarence Jordan	Dr. Edward A. Freeman	Dr. A. G. Kendrick ('41)
1969	Dr. Vivena Salley ('56)	Dr. Carlyle Marney	Rev. Bernard LaFayette, Jr. ('69) Rev. John Lewis ('61) Dr. C. T. Vivian
1970	Dr. Don B. McCoy Dr. Lucius Tobin	Dr. James B. Cayce	Dr. Harcourt W. Brown ('38)
1971	Dr. Phale D. Hale	Dr. Gene E. Barlett	Dr. Odie M. Hoover ('49)
1972	Dr. Clyde T. Francisco	Dr. Benjamin E. Mays	Rev. Solomon Gort ('62) Rev. Negil McPherson ('58)
1973	Dr. Wayne E. Oates	Dr. Odie M. Hoover ('49)	Rev. Wilbur N. Daniel
1974	Dr. George D. Kelsey	Dr. Sandy F. Ray	Rev. Walter B. Rouse ('48)
1975	Dr. Carl H. Marbury	Dr. Frederick G. Sampson	Dr. Stanley S. Hodges ('48)
1976	Dr. Samuel Proctor	Dr. Manuel L. Scott	Dr. Riggins R. Earl ('66)
1977	Dr. Bobby Joe Saucer	Rev. Raymond F. Harvey	Rev. John F. Cunningham ('65)
1978	Dr. Roger L. Fredrikson	Dr. Artis Grant Kemdrick ('41)	Mrs. Sarah R. Townsend ('57)
1979	Dr. Floyd Massey	Dr. C. A. W. Clark	Rev. John H. Rouse ('62)
1980	Dr. Samuel B. McKinney	Dr. Robert H. Wilson	Dr. Julius R. Scruggs ('65)
1981	Dr. Harvey G. Cox	Dr. Edward V. Hill	Rev. Earl M. Brown ('55)
1982	Dr. Charles W. Butler	Dr. Cameron M. Alexander	Rev. Nathaniel J. Brockman ('57)
1983	Dr. Mack King Carter	Dr. Albert Louis Patterson	Rev. Floyd Prude ('73)
1984	Dr. Gardner C. Taylor	Dr. Theodore J. Jemison	Dr. Vincent McCutcheon ('68)
1985	Dr. Julius Scruggs ('65)	Dr. Fred C. Lofton	Elder Dennis Ward ('71)
1986	Dr. William J. Shaw	Dr. William A. Jones	Dr. James Earl Garmon ('67)
1987	Dr. Charles Emerson Boddie	Dr. E. Edward Jones	Dr. Johnnie H. Flakes, Jr. ('68)
1988	Dr. Otis Moss, Jr. Rev. Negil McPherson ('58)	Dr. Vincent McCutcheon ('68)	Dr. Nehemiah Douglas ('58)
1989	Rev. E. K. Bailey	Dr. Harry S. Wright	
1990	Dr. Theodore J. Jemison	Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson	Dr. Lawrence Kirby ('76)
1991	Dr. Albert Louis Patterson Dr. William J. Shaw	Dr. Samuel Proctor	Rev. Edward McCree ('73)