

Nineteenth Annual  
GARNETT - NABRIT LECTURES



Dr. J. H. GARNETT



Dr. J. M. NABRIT

theme:

"MOTIVATIONS FOR CHRISTIAN MATURITY"

Sponsored By The

AMERICAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

1800 Whites Creek Pike

Nashville, Tennessee

April 6 - 8, 1976

Dr. Charles E. Boddie, President

Rev. Samuel W. Hale, Jr., Director

#### GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

In this day of tape recordings, the words from contemporary greats are preservable with ease and dispatch. What our prayer always turns into when contemplating our Annual Lecture Series is a plea that the sure enough WORD will find expression by becoming flesh among us. Dr. Samuel DeWitt Proctor, Dr. Manuel Scott, Sr. and the Rev. Riggins R. Earl, Jr. should prove to be adequate catalysts of that Eternal Word for this Bicentennial series-year. As we contemplate the past, enjoin the present and project the future, may the song of the Psalmist hover over it all: "Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in ALL generations."

Welcome to each and all alumni of our beloved school! Keep the "Garnett-Nabrit" habit and return next year.

Dr. Charles Emerson Boddie

#### GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT

This is the year our country will celebrate its Two Hundredth Birthday. Many people will pause to look back. One has only to look back and at one glance, he can see that inspite of his achievements, there is still much immaturity in this country: immature justice, immature Christians, immature honesty, immature integrity, etc. Therefore, Christians must not look back too long. Our backward glance must only be in retrospective in order to get our bearing for tomorrow and toward Christian Maturity.

While we are here these days, let us pray for and search for a new start toward Christian Maturity, so that we may return to our fields of labor and plant the seeds that may sprout in every valley, on every mountain, and on every hamlet, so that the day will be hasten when this country will grow up and live up to its full meaning of its pledge, "One nation, under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all."

Rev. J. H. Flakes

#### GREETINGS FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome back to the HOLY HILL! Another year has passed and you have returned to share another challenging Garnett-Nabrit Lecture Series. Thank you for responding to our invitation.

This week's sessions are designed to challenge, provoke thought, provide opportunities for dialogue, enrich and spiritually nourish each of us. So as the Bicentennial mood pervades the nation, we pray you will join us Today in striving to lay the proper foundation for God's people of Tomorrow through Christian Maturity.

Rev 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 Missionary Conference in March, 1937. An Annual Conference on Pastoral Problems was planned and held in November, 1937, which was closed with a celebration of Founder's 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.<sup>1</sup>

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 nineteen years, and have been blessed with the priceless contributions of the speakers listed below.

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

ORDER OF EVENTS

MONDAY APRIL 5, 1976

3:00 P.M. ALUMNI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, Chapel  
Rev. J. H. Flakes ('68), Presiding

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 1976

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  
Special Music  
Presentation of Preacher  
Scripture  
SERMON  
Hymn of Commitment  
Benediction

Dr. Manuel L. Scott

12:00 Noon LUNCH

1:30 P.M. LECTURE I, Tabernacle on the Hill  
Rev. Samuel W. Hale ('66), Presiding

Hymn  
Prayer  
Observations  
Presentation of Lecturer  
LECTURE  
Interaction Session

Dr. Samuel D. Proctor

Interactors: Dr. Vincent McCutcheon ('68), Moderator  
Dr. Robert Williams  
Dr. Levi Jones

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. Daniel T. Smith ('75), Worship Assistant

Meditation in Music  
Call to Worship  
Invocation

Hymn of Praise  
Observations  
Special Music

Fourteenth Avenue  
Baptist Church Choir

Presentation of Preacher  
Scripture  
SERMON  
Hymn of Commitment  
Benediction

Dr. Manuel L. Scott

10:00 P.M. ALUMNI WORSHIP SERVICE  
Roger Heights Baptist Church

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1976

8:00 A.M. EXTENSION DEPARTMENT BREAKFAST, Holiday Inn, North  
Rev. W. O. Jones, Speaker

9:00 A.M. REGISTRATION

10:00 A.M. LECTURE II, Tabernacle on the Hill  
Dr. Richard Lucas, Presiding

Hymn  
Prayer  
Observations  
Presentation of Lecturer  
LECTURE  
Discussion Groups

Dr. Samuel D. Proctor

- I. "Maturing In My Preaching"  
Discussion Leader: Rev. Julius R. Scruggs ('65)
- II. "Maturing With My Family"  
Discussion Leader: Rev. Otis O. Pickett ('58)
- III. "Maturing As A Pastor"  
Discussion Leader: Rev. Frank O. Hockenhull

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 ~~The Price of Immaturity~~  
Discussion Groups (Same as Lecture II)

Dr. Samuel D. Proctor

3:30 P.M. ALUMNI MEETING

5:00 P.M. DINNER

7:30 P.M. WORSHIP SERVICE, Tabernacle on the Hill  
Dr. Nehemiah Douglas ('58), Worship Leader  
Rev. James Vann, Worship Assistant

## PROGRAM PERSONALITIES

- DR. CHARLES E. BODDIE - President, American Baptist College and Seminary.
- REV. LEROY BURGESS - President, Senior Class, American Baptist College and Seminary; Pastor, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Clarksville, Tennessee.
- 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. J. F. GRIMMETT - Assistant Professor and Director of Pastoral Studies, Coordinator of Student Affairs, American Baptist College and Seminary.
- REV. SAMUEL W. HALE ('66) - Director, Department of Seminary Extension, American Baptist College and Seminary.
- REV. FRANK O. HOCKENHULL - Pastor, First Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, Flint, Michigan.
- DR. LEVI JONES - Chairman, Department of Sociology, Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee.
- REV. W. O. JONES - Dean, Chattanooga Extension Unit, Chattanooga, Tennessee.
- 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. OTIS O. PICKETT ('58) - Pastor, Rocky Mount Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina.
- REV. JULIUS R. SCRUGGS ('65) - Pastor, Antioch Baptist Church, East Chicago, Indiana.
- REV. DANIEL T. SMITH ('75) - Pastor, Fourteenth Avenue Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee.
- DR. ROBERT C. WILLIAMS - Associate Professor of Philosophy, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee.
- REV. JAMES VANN ('74) - Pastor, Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, 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.

### SECRETARY

Ms. Mary W. Stegall

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