



James O'Neal

March 24, 1915 - January 25, 2006

On Wednesday, January 25, 2006, Rev. James O'Neal, after suffering for many years from dementia, was called home to be with the Lord. Rev. James O'Neal the eldest son of the late Fannie and Oscar O'Neal Sr. was born on March 24, 1915 in Selma, North Carolina. He was educated in the Selma, North Carolina school system and completed his formal education at the old Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School in Baltimore, Maryland. Rev. O'Neal accepted Christ at an early age at The Spring Hill Baptist Church in Selma, North Carolina. Upon moving to Baltimore, Maryland in 1941, he joined Southern Baptist Church under the late Rev. James R. Grant. In 1942 James O'Neal was united in holy matrimony to the late Leola Mae Baker on July 18, 1942 by the late Rev. James R. Grant at Southern Baptist Church. From this union they were blessed with a son, Kelvin James O'Neal; because of their love for children, they were also blessed to raise Kenneth Green, Delphine Lewis, Towanda McCoy, Larry McCoy and Anthony Murphy. Rev. O'Neal was very interested in studying the gospel and upon being called to preach the gospel he was licensed and ordained on January 14th, 1951 by the late Rev. James R. Grant. Rev. O'Neal was an associate minister and a member of the Senior Citizens (Seasoned Saints) of Southern Baptist Church. Upon the long illness and passing of Rev. Grant in 1965, Rev. O'Neal was selected as the Interim Pastor on October 4, 1965. Rev. O'Neal along with the search committee was responsible for bringing forth the name of Rev. Nathaniel Higgs to the Southern Baptist Church congregation and on November 7,

1966, Rev. Higgs was appointed and became the third pastor of Southern Baptist Church. Rev. O'Neal was employed by The Gardner Spring Mattress Factory for eight years and then by The Baltimore Gas and Electric Company for thirty years, as a custodian and mail carrier. In the spring of 1980 Rev. O'Neal retired after many joyous years at BG & E. He was a member of The Baptist Congress of Christian Education, Lott Carey Convention, Unite Baptist Missionary Convention, The Hampton Ministers Conference and Organist Guild, The Baptist Ministers Conference, The Baptist Ministers Evening Conference, Lifetime member of the NAACP, and a member and Past Master of The Prince Hall Masons Lodge #120. Rev. O'Neal was well respected and loved in his community. He was a handyman who loved to fix and build things around the house and he also loved to garden in his spare time. The running joke in the family was that his wife, the late Leola O'Neal could almost kill a plant, and he could bring it back to life. He also enjoyed photography and reading The Bible with his best friend Rev. Robbie Morrison. He and Rev. Morrison could often be found quoting scriptures and analyzing the stories of The Bible either at church or at his home. He loved to travel especially with the Southern Baptist Church family to numerous conventions, spiritual retreats and banquets, but let us not forget the trip to the Holy Land with Rev. Higgs sitting on a camel. Lastly, because of Rev. O'Neal's love for sweets, the ladies of Southern Baptist Church would always make sure that at every occasion there was at least one coconut cake and one sweet potato pie, and because he loved sweets he could make an amazing walnut cake. He leaves to cherish in his memory and his legacy his four sons, Kelvin O'Neal, Kenneth Green, Larry McCoy and Anthony Murphy; two daughters Towanda McCoy and Delphine Lewis; two daughters-in-law, Pamela O'Neal and Sheila Richardson-Green; fourteen grandchildren, Lisa, Kevin, Dristan, Jillan, Marissa (Tarissa), Lakia, Keon, Nia, James, Shawn, Jaquenetta, Latasha, Jonathan and Jermaine; and six great grandchildren; a god daughter, Rev. Deloris Jordan; and a best friend Rev. Robbie Morrison, His Southern Baptist Church family and large host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other family

members and loving friends.

Tribute Wall



“ *James O'Neal*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *My condolences to your family for the loss of your loved one. Saddy death takes our loved ones away, and we miss them so very much. God never intended for things to be this way, and through the precious blood of his dear son Jesus he has made it possible for death and it"s effects to be erased forever. Jesus himself said this was one of the main reasons why he gave his life in our behalf. At John 10:10 he said. "I have come so that they might have life, and have it in abundance." So one day soon there will be no more sorrow, no more sickness, and no more people dying. What a joyous time that will be. May your family be comforted by God"s promises.##imported-begin##R Johnaon##imported-end##*

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ My deepest sympathy during your time of sorrow but know that the God of comfort is with you all during this time of tribulation. (2Corinthian 1:3-4) Due to the many unforeseen occurrences that brings tragedy to our lives Jehovah God promises one day soon Death will be no more (Rev 21:3-4) and his son have been given the authority to bring all those in the memorial tombs back to life. John 5:28-29 Just think there will come a time not only will death be no more but Jehovah promises that no one will have to say I'm sick according to Isaiah 33:24. I feel the need to express these words of hope because so many of us today treasure the gift of life and we do all we can to maintain it to hold on to it. That is why it hurts so badly when our loved ones die. With so many of us desiring life today no matter how good or bad it is we still want life here on earth. No one looks forward to that time of death. That is why I am under obligation by the spirit and love of God to share that hope that is in our near future that the righteous shall inherit the earth and reside upon it forever according to Psalms 37: 29 along with the above stated promises on a paradise and peaceful earth. We all can hold true to this everlasting promise because Isaiah 55:11 states all the words Jehovah have spoken WILL NOT RETURN WITHOUT RESULTS. What a wonderful prospect for our future especially enlight of the fact that Hebrews 6:18 States of God, it is IMPOSSIBLE for him to lie.##imported-begin##Carter##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ To the family and friends: Please accept my sincere condolences for your loss. I too have lost loved ones in death. Even though we know that death is inevitable, it is still difficult to accept. Death was not something that God intended for us. The thought of death is always distasteful and it always will be because Jehovah God has created within us the keen desire to live forever. We never get used to it. We feel deep down in our hearts that this should not happen because, “Even time indefinite he (God) has put in their heart,” says Ecclesiastes 3:11. One of the wonderful parts of his plan is the hope of the resurrection of dead loved ones. (John 5:25, 28, 29). Please be assured that Jehovah God loves us and wants the best for us. Take comfort in the promise that he has given us at Rev. 21: 3-5 of a new earth where there will be no more death.##imported-begin##Senita Swann##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Dear family and friends of James. I am very sorry to hear about the death of your dead loved one. Times like these can be very hard to get through. We can find comfort in the bible at Rev 21:4 were it tells us that there will come a time when there is no more death, sickness, or pain. That is such a wonderful hope!##imported-begin##A. Jones##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM