

Celebrating the Life of



Pastor Reginald O. Robinson

"The Preacher"

"Well done thou good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of the Lord."—Matthew 25:21

Sunrise: October 20, 1942 ~ Sunset: October 22, 2009

CELEBRATION SERVICE

Monday, November 2, 2009 ~ 11:00 AM
White Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church
1720 Cesar Chavez Avenue ~ Los Angeles, CA 90033

INTERMENT SERVICE

Tuesday, November 3, 2009 ~ 11:00 AM
Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Hollywood Hills

Pastor Benjamin McPhaull, *Officiant*



Life Profile of . . . REGINALD O. ROBINSON

"The Preacher" . . . consummate pastor . . . vocalist . . . and valiant soldier on the battlefield for his Lord.

"THE voice of one crying in the wilderness." This spiritual moniker, ascribed to John the Baptist over two millennia ago, could be rightly conferred upon God's servant, Pastor Reginald O. Robinson, who was a powerful voice for the prophetic message for these end times in the urban wilderness. For over four decades, he was firmly committed to the gospel ministry and to preaching God's undiluted, uncompromising, and straightforward truth with clarity, conviction, and passion.

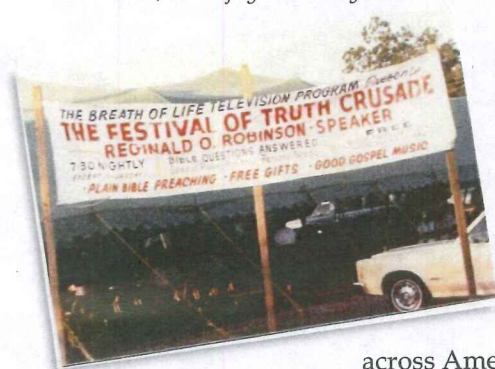
This extraordinary messenger was born Reginald Orealus Baker on October 20, 1942 to Verdell Baker and Temple Robinson. He was raised by his grandmother, Fannie Jacova Horne Baker, in Huntsville, AL and in the Washington, D.C. area. One could say that he was a "preaching prodigy" — displaying early signs of this spiritual gift at age 8 as he preached to classmates during recess. What a sight to behold! It was then that young Reggie began developing his charismatic speaking manner and winning souls to Christ. He accepted God's salvation in his early teens one day while cleaning his grandmother's bathroom. The Holy Spirit convicted him that his soul could be cleansed of sin just like those freshly cleaned tiles that sparkled back at him. He was overcome by the Spirit and accepted the Lord that afternoon.



In his early 20s, Reggie caught the eye of Patricia M. Rice while having lunch one day in the Smithsonian. The young bold "messenger" sent a not-so-subtle message (peppered with "holy smack") that got her attention. They dated, courted, and eventually married on November 22, 1964. Just prior to the wedding, Reggie took on his father's surname, Robinson, so that their children would carry on his paternal legacy. During those early years of marriage, Reggie attended Columbia Union College (now Washington Adventist University) and was formally called to the gospel ministry as youth pastor at the First Seventh-day Adventist Church in Washington, D.C. Elder Robinson would go on to be known as "The Preacher" with a vibrant and fruitful ministry spanning nearly 45 years. Initial pastoral appointments took him to Prince Frederick and Baltimore, MD and Montclair, NJ. Over time, he became the consummate pastor in that he was an ardent student of the Word, a dynamic preacher with a passion for soul winning, a wise and compassionate counselor, a nurturer of the flock, and he was immersed in every aspect of the life of his churches. He was indeed a valiant Christian soldier on the battlefield winning souls for his Lord.



Not only was Pastor Robinson a powerful preacher, but he was also a gifted singer. He had a strong tenor voice and carried the tenor section in several different choirs over the years. One of his greatest joys was to sing Handel's *Messiah* with choirs during the Christmas season. Quartet singing was his other musical love. In the '60s, he sang in a popular quartet, "The Chambermen," with the late Dr. Joseph A. Rhyne III, Bob Bradley, and Shelton Kilby at the Dupont Park SDA Church. On many occasions, Pastor Robinson would sing his own appeal after preaching a full sermon. And when consoling the congregation during a funeral, he would often break into a comforting hymn like: "Until then, my heart will go on singing. Until then, with joy I'll carry on. Until the day my eyes behold the city, until the day God calls me home!"



In 1981, Pastor Robinson entered a totally different format of ministry by accepting the call to the *Breath of Life* telecast in California to serve as evangelist as well as Director of Field Services, Public Relations, Development, and the Bible School. In 1985, he became the Associate Director/Speaker and Crusade Coordinator for *Breath of Life*.

Clearly evangelism was in Pastor Robinson's blood. He inspired and baptized thousands of people around the world through evangelistic crusades and revivals that he either headed or assisted in—from Australia to Great Britain, throughout the Caribbean, Canada, and all across America. Many churches in various places were organized as a result of his

crusades. If Reggie wasn't running a revival, he sure was hosting one at his church, bringing in noted evangelists to spiritually energize the saints. And he unabashedly "helped" them preach with his passionate outbursts: "Yes, sir!" "Preach the Word!" His voice was also published in Christian journals, and the late Roger J. Morneau cited this great preacher's ministry as his inspiration for writing the book, *Beware of Angels*.

After many years of evangelizing, Pastor Robinson accepted his final pastoral call, this time to the Pacoima SDA Church (purposefully renamed Valley Crossroads SDA Church.) He would serve this congregation for 12 years. Over that time, the church became his heart — reflecting his very spirit and soul. He thoroughly enjoyed the lasting relationships he developed with his church family and was very proud of Valley Crossroads and its growth.

The impact of Pastor Robinson's life certainly was not confined to the pulpit or the walls of the church. It transcended to a much broader arena and touched various causes, ranging from Christian education to health and human services. He served tirelessly on the Board of Trustees of Oakwood University and the Drug Alternative Program, and he chaired the Advisory Board of the Black Infant Health Program for Mission Cities Community Network. Through his many affiliations, he touched so many lives and made such personal connections with everyone he met, whether it was in a hospital, in the grocery store, in the bank, at an airport, or in a church. His personality was so positive and infectious. To know Reginald Robinson — or even just to meet him — was to love him. His love for his family, his congregation, his people, and the Lord's work defined the very hallmark of his ministry.



That charisma and love flowed into the Robinson home as well, as he was a devoted family man. He simply adored his wife, Pat, and their three talented daughters, Lisa, Tia, and Kelli — all of whom inherited his musical gifts. Reggie used to joke about being "constantly outvoted by the female majority" at home. He treasured his paternal role as "Daddy" and cherished the joy of grandfatherhood, which he claimed was "God's reward to dutiful parents."

In September 2009, Pastor Robinson took a medical leave from the senior pastorate at Valley Crossroads to focus on his health issues. It was at this loving church where he was prayed over and anointed in a very moving worship service. And in true-messenger form, he never stopped encouraging and witnessing to people as his health declined — even to the nurses who cared for him in the hospital.

Our beloved Reginald O. Robinson peacefully went to sleep in the Lord on October 22, 2009 — just two days after his 67th birthday. Left to cherish his memory are his loving wife of nearly 45 years: Patricia M. Robinson; daughters and sons-in-law: Lisa L. (& Charles) Vaughn, Tia M. Robinson, and Kelli R. (& John) Collins; brother Pastor Ronald O. Baker; sisters and brothers-in-law: Ernest & Claudette Yancy, Archie Rice, David & Alfreda Rice, Yvette Rice, and Brad Ray; eight grandchildren J. Ryan Robinson-Jones Vaughn, Danielle R. Vaughn, Alysa Raye Vaughn, Olivia K. Hunter, Amber V. Hunter, Mykel I. Collins, Zoie E. Collins, and J. Solomon Reginald Collins; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, a global church family, ministerial colleagues from around the world, countless friends, and "adopted" children.

While God's messenger is now silent, his message of a soon-returning Lord continues on with even greater vitality. May we honor Reggie's life and ministry by witnessing to others, being kind and loving, and rededicating our lives to God so that we can reunite in that *great gettin' up mornin'!* ☞

— KELLI & CB



The Service of Celebration

PASTOR BENJAMIN MCPHAULL, *Officiant*

Musical Prelude		Recorded Selections by <i>The Chambermen</i> Hymn Medley by <i>Clarence Brown</i>
Processional		Family & Ministers Dr. Emil D. Peeler
Invocation		Pastor Ronald O. Baker
Scriptures of Comfort & Promise	<i>Psalm 121:1-8 ~ 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17</i>	Elder Benjamin Del Pozo <i>Senior Pastor, White Memorial SDA Church</i>
Welcome		Fred Settle
Hymn of Celebration	<i>"Marching to Zion"</i>	Stephanie Baker
Life Profile		Beverly Ward-Gregg
Acknowledgment of Condolences		Valley Crossroads Chorale
Choral Tribute	<i>"Oh, Glory!"</i>	Dr. Delbert Baker <i>President, Oakwood University</i> Elder Larry Caviness <i>President, Southern California Conference</i> Elder Adolphus Garnett <i>Director, Greater Los Angeles Region SCC</i> Dr. Calvin B. Rock
Conference & Oakwood Reflections*		Pastor T. Marshall Kelly
Vocal Tribute	<i>"God Leads His Children Along"</i> <i>"It Takes Everything to Serve the Lord"</i>	Elder Louis & Dr. Janice Preston Godfrey Beckett George Sampson Shelton E. Kilby, III Shelton E. Kilby, III
Friends & Colleagues Reflections*		David & Candia Perkins Lloyd Mallory Ensemble Clifford & Freddie Harris
Instrumental Tribute	<i>"Marching to Zion"</i>	Dr. Ricardo Graham <i>President, Pacific Union Conference</i> Elder Alvin M. Kibble <i>Vice President, North American Division</i> Pastor Kenneth L. Manders <i>Secretary, Bermuda Conference</i> Pastor James Clements Pastor Harry Cartwright
Valley Crossroads Reflections*		
Choral Tribute		
Drug Alternative Program Reflections*		
Conference & Colleague Reflections*		

* In the interest of time and consideration for the Eulogist, all speakers are urged to limit their remarks to two minutes.

Choral Tribute	Lloyd Mallory Ensemble
Adopted Children Reflections*	Joya Follette ~ Marvin Hugley ~ Lawrence Bryant
Extended Family Reflections*	Clarence Sturdivant Ray Family
Grandchildren Reflections*	J. Ryan Robinson-Jones Vaughn
Daughterly Reflections*	Tia Monique & Kelli Rai
Vocal Tribute by the Firstborn	Lisa Lené
The Eulogy	Elder Charles D. Brooks
Choral Tribute	Valley Crossroads Chorale ~ Mt. Rubidoux Choir ~ Breath of Life Singers <i>"Total Praise"</i>
Hymn of Celebration	<i>"When We All Get to Heaven"</i> Fred Settle
Benediction	Pastor Helvius Thompson
Recorded Recessional	Pastor Robinson & the Valley Crossroads Chorale
Organ Postlude	Clarence Brown

Hymns of Celebration

MARCHING TO ZION

Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
Join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord,
And thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

Refrain

*We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;
We're marching upward to Zion, that beautiful city of God.*

2

Let those refuse to sing, who never knew our God;
But children of the heavenly King, but children of the heavenly King,
May speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad.

3

Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry;
We're marching through Immanuel's ground, we're marching through Immanuel's ground,
To fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high.

WHEN WE ALL GET TO HEAVEN

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus, sing His mercy and His grace;
In the mansions bright and blessed, He'll prepare for us a place.

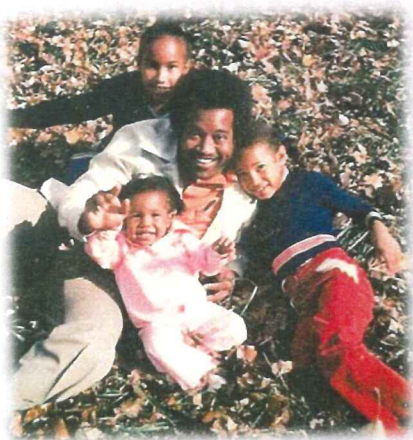
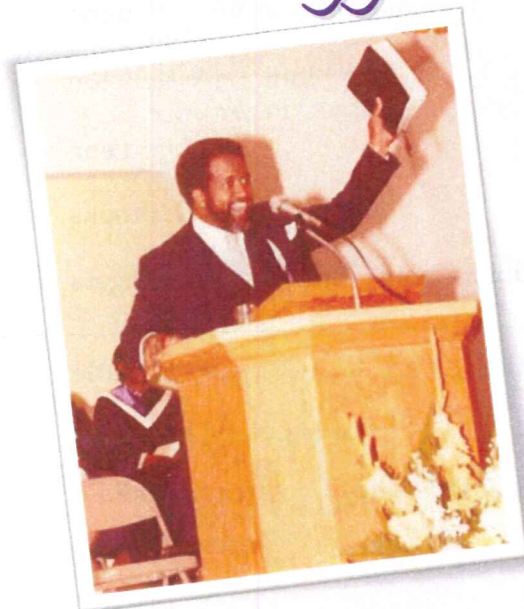
Refrain

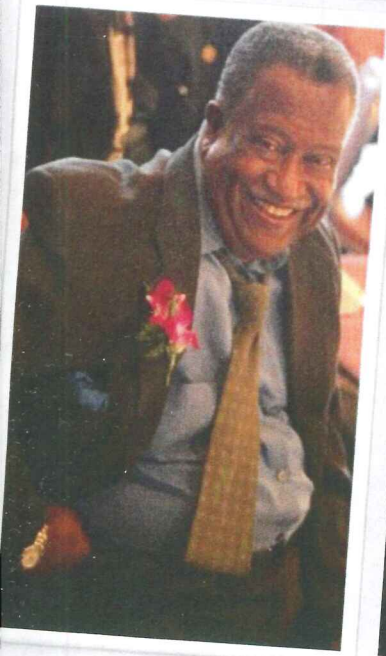
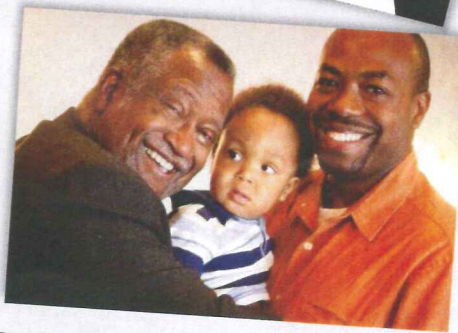
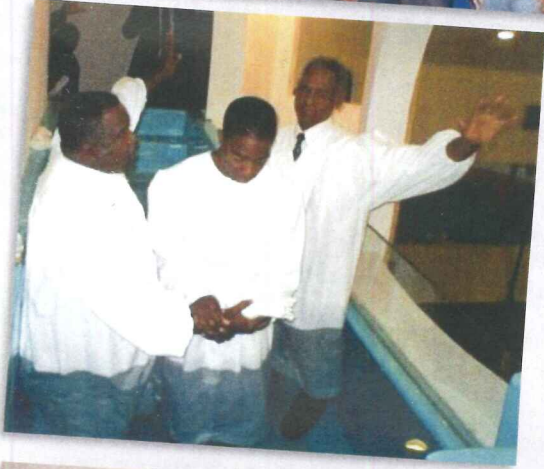
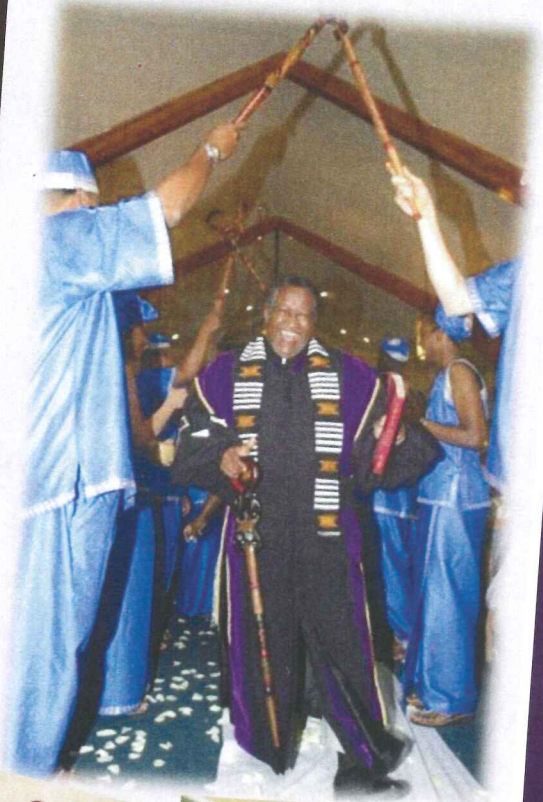
*When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus, we'll sing and shout the victory!*

2

Onward to the prize before us! Soon His beauty we'll behold;
Soon the pearly gates will open, we shall tread the streets of gold.

Pictorial Reflections
of the life and passions
of *Reggie Robinson*







From the Family . . .

*We, the family of **Reginald O. Robinson**, extend our heartfelt appreciation to our many friends and loved ones for their various expressions of love and support during this time of profound loss. We particularly thank Reggie's personal and attending physicians and the medical staff at Los Robles Medical Center for the quality of care he received. We also express special appreciation to all participants in today's life celebration – particularly our beloved friend and mentor, Elder C.D. Brooks – and to all of you who rearranged your busy schedules and traveled from around the world just to comfort us with your presence. Please continue to remember us in your thoughts and prayers. We love you! ❧*

A repast has been prepared for the family and their special guests immediately after the service in the White Memorial Church Fellowship Hall.



Pallbearers

A C T I V E

Anthony D. Bailey ~ Lawrence Bryant ~ John B. Collins ~ James Ellerby ~ Greg Spence
J. Ryan Robinson-Jones Vaughn

H O N O R A R Y

Pastor Ronald O. Baker ~ Elder Howard L. Cush ~ Elder Richard Davis, Sr.
Clifford Harris ~ Charron Ricks ~ Frank Ruiz ~ Clarence Anthony Sturdivant
Dr. Charles R. Vaughn



*Funeral Arrangements Entrusted to
Rucker's Mortuary ~ Pacoima*