

CHURCH SERVICES



Benjamin L. Hooks
FCC
COMMISSIONER

"Memphis Revisited"

I had the occasion recently to listen to one of the most moving introductory speeches I have heard in a lifetime of hearing outstanding speeches.

The occasion was a magnificent program sponsored by the Washington, D.C. public library at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Central Branch the end of March. The program was entitled, "Memphis Revisited," at which time I read Dr. King's famous and portentous last sermon, "I've Been to the Mountaintop," that was delivered before 3,000 folks at the Mason Temple Auditorium, Memphis, April 3, the day before he was brutally assassinated on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel.

Dr. Wendell P. Russell, President of Federal City College and the District of Columbia Teachers College delivered the opening speech that moved an audience of more than 1,500 and it transported me back in time to that weird, enchanting and sometimes frightful night.

I was among the audience that was comprised as Dr. Russell pointed out, "of a cross section of Memphis black leaders, and the civil rights community, not of Memphis sanitation workers as some might have thought."

Tornado warnings were in the air. The streets were hot and sultry. Memphis on that eve was a ticking time bomb. Repressive conditions had set the stage for a riot almost a year before the sanitation workers' strike. Wild rumors of armed black militants building a war arsenal in the heart of the city were rife that week.

The earlier march of sanitation workers led by Dr. King that culminated in rock throwing violence had inflated the atmosphere with suspicion and crackling electricity. King, said Dr. Russell, "was shocked by the scenes of violence he saw on TV."

According to the Rev. (James) Lawson and a few other friends... Dr. King's soul was tormented by these incidents of violence, and he contemplated the cancellation of his Poor People's Campaign scheduled for Washington that summer. Two of his closest advisors, Bayard Rustin and Marion Logan, counseled him to cancel the campaign. Dr. King was scheduled to address a rally at the Mason Temple at 7:30 p.m. It had been an oppressively hot day. In his room at the Lorraine Motel, Dr. King was restive. He asked the Rev. David Abernathy, his closest aide and friend to go in his place to address the rally. Abernathy knew Dr. King had been suffering from a persistent insomnia for months and that he was worn out from the pressure he was under -- the hard work, sleeping pills, and sleepless nights. King had said to one of his friends "I can't sleep. I fall off and I wake up suddenly, in fear...fear, unfocused fear, the sense of impending doom."

"...This last speech of Martin Luther King was...full of apprehensions, premonitions of death; it was bloody in its historical allusions. He referred to the demented black woman who stabbed him while he was autographing his autobiography in New York City years before. He referred to the 'Bloody Pass' of Jericho and gave a vivid description of the winding, meandering road to Jerusalem that was conducive (of) ambushing." Martin sensed "a sick white brother" might be lying in ambush for him somewhere in the city.

But he expressed humor too. "He carried the audience when he mentioned how he and the civil rights fighters 'ended up transforming Bull (Connor) into a steer.' He berated the mass media for not recognizing the rights of 1,300 sanitation workers. He preached the efficacy of black economic power, selective boycott of services and products of employers that discriminated against the blacks in employment and wages."

And he declared that "given a choice, he would pick this time above all others. He would pass by all the great periods in the history of civilization...to live in the latter part of the turbulent Sixties."

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH 1720 North J St., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM H. Vanderberg, Minister	PRAYER HOUSE CHURCH of GOD IN CHRIST 1341 W. Blankenship, LV S.S. 9:45 AM - Wor. 12 NOON C.J. Johnson, Minister	THE FULL GOSPEL DELIVERANCE CENTER 603 Van Buren, LV S.S. 10:00 - Wor. 12 NOON Mother Ladd, Minister
TRIED STONE BAPTIST CHURCH 1200 Lawry Ave., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM C.C. Smith, Minister 648-8252	FIRST A.M.E CHURCH 2450 Revere Ave., NLV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM Charles Wyatt, Minister 648-8730	PILGRIM CHURCH OF CHRIST HOLINESS U.S.A. 1515 North D Street Church-Study-Parsonage Elder Lawrence Young, Pastor 648-3648
GOODWILL CHURCH of GOD IN CHRIST 990 Hassel Ave., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - 12 Noon C. L. Murray, Minister	ST. JOHN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 1439 Lawry Ave., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM Jenkins, Minister 648-2382	ST. PAUL CHURCH of GOD IN CHRIST 911 North G St., LV S.S. 10:00 - Wor. 12 NOON C. Hall, Minister 648-4230 -648-2545
THE CHURCH of SCIENTOLOGY CHURCH SERVICE 2108 Industrial Road Sunday 8:00 P.M. 382-3561	TRUE LOVE MISSIONARY CHURCH 1941 North "H" Street S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM I.W. Wilson, Pastor 642-0219	ALLEN CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH 900 West Bonanza Su. F S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM Albert L. Dunn, Minister 647-1642
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 313 Madison Avenue S.S. 10:00 AM - Wor. 11:30 AM M.L. Carroll, Minister 648-4981	GRACE IMMANUEL M.B. CHURCH 815 Bartlett Street S.S. 9:45 AM - Wor. 11 AM C.L. Alexander, Pastor	CHRIST HOLY SANCTIFIED CHURCH 316 W. Madison Avenue S.S. 9:45 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM Elder, Herman Ishmael 648-9944
GREATER NEW JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH 1100 North D St., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM 648-9958 Rev. F. N. Addison, Pastor	GREATER FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH 2736 Chamberlain, NLV S.S. 9:45 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM Prentis Walker, Minister 648-1020	BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH LV AM S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM Jesse Wesley, Minister 648-9838
MT. OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 621 Carey Ave., NLV S.S. 9:45 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM Raymond Harris, Minister 642-5663	PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH 1189 Hassel Ave., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM J. Kemp, Minister	ST. JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH 311 Madison Ave., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM Rev. T. Cuveston., B. Th., D.D. 648-9690
ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH 821 North H. St. LV. Sun. Mass 10:30 AM-7:30 PM Holy Days 7:30 AM- 5:45 PM Father Larry Dunphy, O.F.M	MISSIONARY VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH 1305 North E. St., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM A. J. Thompson, Minister 648-9918	SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH 1209 North E. St., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM V.C.L. Coleman, Minister 648-6155
MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH 2610 Clayton St., NLV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM J.E. Richardson, Minister	THE NEW MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH 1221 J St., LV S.S. 9:45 - Wor. 11:00 A.B. Carr, Minister	COX UPPER ROOM CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST 1117 North F St., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:45 AM E.N. Webb, Bishop 648-6856 -648-4875
NEW LIGHT BAPTIST CHURCH 1165 Lawry Ave., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM John Henry, Jr., Minister	ST. ANTHONY SPIRITUAL TEMPLE 304 Madison Ave., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 7:30 PM B.J. Jackson, Minister 648-1843	CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST 1216 Adams LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:30 AM J.W. Logan, Minister 684-9992 - 648-1256
MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH 977 Hassell St., LV S. S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM E.T. Peterson, Minister	VEGAS VIEW CHURCH of GOD IN CHRIST 1906 Glider, NLV S.S. 9:30 - Wor. 12 NOON C.H. Parson, Minister 642-6211	ST. JOHN CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST 2301 Comstock Dr., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 12 NOON O.L. Jefferson, Minister
PALESTINE BAPTIST CHURCH 1425 Balzar Ave., LV S.S. 10:00 AM - Wor. 11:30 AM Frank Davis, Jr., Minister	PILGRIM REST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 1240 W. Adams Ave., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM E. C. Kline, Minister 648-5666	HOUSE OF HOLINESS CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST 2301 F St., LV S.S. 9:45 AM - Wor. 12 NOON M. Saunders, Minister
BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH 1300 Gold Ave., LV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM H. Atkinson, Minister 648-1154	THE MOST HIGH CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST 2717 York St., NLV S.S. 9:45 - Wor. 12 NOON James Washington, Minister 648-3464	KINGDOM HALL 1025 Balzar, LV Sun. Public Talk 2:00 PM Watchtower Study 3:00 PM
CHURCH OF CHRIST 2626 N. Highland, NLV Bible Study 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM 642-8282	MUHAMMAD'S TEMPLE of ISLAM NO. 75 615 Van Buren, LV Wed. 8:00 PM - Fri. 8:00 PM Sun. 2:00 PM Amos Muhammad, Minister	ZION METHODIST CHURCH 2108 North Revere, NLV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM Marion Bennett, Minister 648-7806
FIRST CHURCH of GOD 827 Balzar, LV S.S. 9:45 AM - Wor. 11:00 J.L. Daniels, Minister 648-5248	DIRECTORY of CHURCH SERVICES	GOLDEN VALLEY APOSTOLIC CHURCH 300-D E. Lake Mead Blvd., NLV S.S. 9:30 AM - Wor. 11:00 AM Elder C.E. Gamble, Pastor 870-2490