

ANNUAL MEN'S DAY

Emanuel's 2012 Annual Men's Day was simply spectacular. The men of Emanuel came together with one agenda and that was to glorify God. Men came in early to make their presence known in the Sunday School and then gathered enthusiastically in their black suits, white shirts and purple bow ties for morning worship. The men participated in every aspect of the service, which included prayer, scripture reading, praise and worship, announcements, greetings, master of ceremony and receiving the offering. They were out front, on top and in charge!

The highlights of the service included a soul stirring testimony by Brother David Alexander who thanked God for taking him off the streets a year ago and turning his life around through salvation and the love of his new church family. Brother Will Brookins wrote, directed and performed along with others, a brief skit entitled "The Battle Between Trusting God and the devil's schemes" that depicted the life of a young man whose world was devastated through a series of unforeseen events that God used to test his faith. Though perplexed, he persevered through prayer and trusting God and the Lord gave him back what he lost and more. This skit also included an awesome mime presentation from Bro. Phillip Brooks, "Run Til I Finish".

The Emanuel Male Chorus was phenomenal. Under the tutelage of Minister Cornelius Dole from the New Original Church of God in Christ, the Male Chorus marched to their designated places on the altar of the church and glorified God in two powerful selections: "Jesus What a Wonder you Are" and "God is My Everything". After the male chorus belted out the last note of their last song, the congregation erupted in celebration and praise.



The main highlight of the service was the powerful preached Word from our guest speaker, Elder Michael Payton from the New Birth Church of God in Christ. Elder Payton was simply at his best.

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Elder Payton directed us to 2 Chronicles 20:1 - 12 and emphasized the 12th verse "O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee." His subject was in the form of a question "What Are you looking At?" Elder Payton gave us a brief summary of life of Judah's King Jehoshaphat and how he almost lost his life by being manipulated by Israel's King Ahab to participate in a battle that was not his to participate in. God spared his life, in which he expressed his gratitude by initiating reforms to get Judah back on the track with God. However, it was in the midst of this revival that God allowed his enemies to come up against him all at the same time. It was then that Jehoshaphat sought God for the help that only He could provide. Elder Payton encouraged believers, who made mistakes, repented and came back to God to be revived and restored only to find that your problems have escalated and gotten worse, to seek God for His help like Jehoshaphat did. He assured us that God is waiting to help us so that He can get the Glory out of our adverse situations.

After the message men came to the altar to seek God for more of His help, strength and direction. It was an awesome experience of healing and restoration among men.

We wish to extend a special thanks to Pastor Michael Hill and members from the Word of Truth Church of God and Christ as well as Deacon Larry Madget and a number of men from the Zion Temple Church of God in Christ, who came out to support this service. You can enjoy the message on our website (www.emanuelcogic.com) under our pictures and sermons page.

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Space will not allow me to share of all the thought provoking nuggets that she left with us, but you can listen and enjoy the entire message on our website (www.emanuelcogic.com) under our pictures and sermons page, I know you will be blessed!

Thanks to all the First Ladies (and Pastors) that were able to take time out of their busy sched-



ules and join us this year. I would like to give special thanks to our Emanuel family for all of your help and support in making this day a success. Even in the midst of sickness and bereavement you championed the cause. We never could have done it without you. The saying rings true; we need each other to survive!