

The Dr. J.L.S. Holloman Award for Excellence in Alumni Service and Leadership

Reverend Dr. John W. Davis, Pastor Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Washington, DC



Pastor Davis was born in Ghent, Kentucky on April 7, 1922. His parents had seven sons and a daughter who passed away at a very early age. After completing school, he joined the United States Army where he served twenty-one years. He served as a Sergeant during WWII and the Korean War and was honorably discharged in 1962.

Pastor Davis received the calling and the anointing to preach the gospel in 1972 and was ordained in 1976. He immediately set out to prepare himself. In 1973 he enrolled in the Washington Baptist Seminary to prepare himself for the work ahead. During his years at the Seminary, he served for three years as Student Council president and graduated in 1977. He continued to study and make preparation for whatever the Lord had in store for him. In May 1979, he graduated from the Liberty University Bible College, Lynchburg, VA. He received his Bible Theology Degree from the International Bible Institute and the Washington, Baptist Seminary in 1984 and 1985, respectively. The International Bible Institute and Seminary bestowed an honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree upon him.

Reverend Davis is affiliated with many religious organizations throughout the metropolitan area. He is a member of the Missionary Baptist Ministers Conference of Washington, D.C. and Vicinity, the Hearing Committee and is a member of the Wednesday Morning Prayer Breakfast.

Pastor Davis is punctual, humble, kind and loving to his family and Church Family. He constantly talks about the wife that the Lord gave him and how much he loves her. He is a man of love and always greets people with a holy kiss. He lives by what he preaches and teaches. He gives all the glory to God. Mt. Zion members thank God for sending him to them.

Reverend Davis is 95 years old and the Oldest Living Active Minister in the Metropolitan area.

Reverend Davis and his wife, the former Ruth Burns, of Burnsville, North Carolina, have been married for 58 years. They had two daughters, the late Lanie Frazier and the late Helen Young, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.