

*Home Going Service for*



*Bishop Dr. Milton Aaron Hobbs*

Labor  
January 14, 1929

Reward  
November 10, 2011

Services

*Saturday, November 19, 2011 - 10:00 a.m.*

*Faith Temple Church*

57 Prospect Street · East Orange, New Jersey

# *Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Bishop Doctor Milton Aaron Hobbs*

After years of exemplary service, God saw in His divine wisdom to call **Bishop Doctor Milton Aaron Hobbs** from labor to reward on Thursday November 10, 2011.

## **Early Life**

Born Monday, January 14, 1929 in Clinton, North Carolina, **Bishop Hobbs** was the seventh of twelve children born to the late Hosea and Ada Hobbs.

Very early in his life, **Bishop Hobbs** displayed an enormous capacity to both love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ. He often testified how he received the gift of the Holy Ghost when he was just fourteen years old and how the Spirit often moved him to prophesy and lay hands on the sick that they may recover.

In 1952 he was drafted into the United States Army and served with distinction while stationed in Japan. Despite much ridicule and jesting from fellow soldiers and on-lookers, **Bishop Hobbs** remained a “Conscientious Objector” upholding his religious right, maintaining his integrity. **Bishop Hobbs** refused to carry arms for the use of human destruction the entire two years of his military fulfillment. While stationed in Japan, **Bishop Hobbs** also studied at Tokyo University.

**Bishop Hobbs** returned to civilian life in 1954 and soon met the young lady who would become his love and companion for life, Shirley Ann Walker. After a whirlwind romance, Milton and Shirley were united in holy matrimony in March of 1955. Their life together was filled with laughter, warmth, and service to God’s people. Together they treasured and cared for five wonderful children: Milton B., Yvette, Aaron, Daryl and Shawn.

## **Early Ministry**

In 1959 **Bishop Hobbs** was installed as pastor of Faith Temple Pentecostal Church. During those early years, the Lord established his ministry with many amazing spiritual signs and wonders. People were regularly healed and delivered from countless ailments and diseases. Sickesses and conditions from cancer to blindness were restored to health under his pastorate. In 1967 the Lord moved him, for a season, from Faith Temple Church to establish New Hope Apostolic Church where his ministry and message matured and flourished even greater. By 1975, the two churches merged to become Faith Temple New Hope Church. This unification created a need for expansion, so the church searched and found a new home. In 1982 there was a “Grand March” from the old edifice at 50 North Maple Avenue to the new and present location at 57 Prospect Street.

## **A Life of Distinction**

Within the forty plus years that **Bishop Milton A. Hobbs** pastured God’s people, he amassed scores of honors, accolades, recognitions and awards. On **Bishop’s** 35th Anniversary in 1994, the East Orange City Council passed a Resolution renaming Prospect Street at Carlton (where the church sits) “*Bishop Milton A. Hobbs Plaza.*” **Bishop** attended the New York School of Mechanical Dentistry, Eastern College and Manhattan Bible Institute in New York City. He received an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity from United Theological Seminary. **Bishop** also graduated from the International Apostolic Grace and Truth earning a Master’s in Christian Education and Doctorate of Divinity.

Under **Bishop’s** leadership, the church sponsored radio and television ministries, a Prison Ministry, a Nursing Home Ministry, the FTNH Church Federal Credit Union, the FTNH Christian School, and the FTNH Bible Institute, a division of Aeon Bible College.

In addition, **Bishop Hobbs** served as District Elder in the New Jersey District Council of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World (PAW); Dean of the New Jersey Branch of the Aeon Bible College; Dean of Faith Temple New Hope Bible Institute and Honorary Dean of the Faith Temple New Hope Christian School.

**Bishop Hobbs’s** compassionate spirit and altruistic nature made him a friend and confidant of many near and far. He was never too busy to listen, counsel, or console. His genuine sense humor and love of family mark only some of the finer facets of this precious gem. You could never remain downcast or dispirited in his presence for long. **Bishop Hobbs** took Proverbs 17:22a (*AMP-A happy heart is good medicine and a cheerful mind works healing.*) to heart, literally; and lived it every day! He was a true King of Comedy! His love for God’s people compelled him to assist in uplifting, encouraging, and restoring their joy! We are grateful and humbled to have known **Bishop Milton A. Hobbs** in this life and are gladdened to know that he is now where he wanted to be, in HIS presence.

**Bishop Hobbs** was preceded in death by his parents, Hosea and Ada Hobbs; as well as siblings, Ira, Johnnie, Emma, Junior, Freddie, Robert and Delores.

**Bishop Hobbs** leaves to cherish his memories and continue his distinguished legacy: his loving and devoted wife, Shirley, of 56 golden years; son, Milton B., Pastor of New Covenant Fellowship of Clark, NJ; his only daughter, Yvette Anderson; sons, Aaron, Pastor of Faith Temple New Hope, East Orange, NJ; Daryl and Dr. Shawn Hobbs; his Godson, Derrick Green, Pastor of Jericho City Without Walls; one son-in-law; Mark, four daughters-in-law; Kathy, Valerie, Dina, and Bieny Hobbs; his mother-in-law, Ethel Bethea and father-in-law Carl Walker; his siblings, Rosa Allen (Gilmore), Alma Hobbs, Carrie Heath, and Franklin (Carolyn) Hobbs; thirteen grandchildren: Nicole Robinson (Darnell), Milton C., Christopher, and Quentin Hobbs; Diamond and Eugene Anderson; Ahmad Morris, Alexa and Amber Hobbs; Donovan and Danyelle Hobbs; Seon (Waylon), Gianni and Dawson Hobbs; six great-grandchildren: Ayanna, Isaiah, Major, Christian, Jaylon, and Nyla; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and church family.



### Order of Service

Processional .....	Family
Prayer of Comfort	
Hymns of Comfort .....	Don Corey Washington
Opening Eulogy .....	Bishop Edgar Robinson <i>Christ Gospel Church - Whitesboro, NJ</i>
Bishop's Scripture .....	Isaiah 40:28-31
Resolution	
Selection .....	Bishop's Choir
Eulogy ( <i>part 2</i> ) .....	Dr. Odessa McNeill <i>Agape Family Worship Center - Rahway, NJ</i>
Bishop's Scripture .....	Acts 2:37-39
Resolutions	
Remarks .....	Sis. Carrie McCrae
Selection .....	Bishop's Choir
Eulogy ( <i>part 3</i> ) .....	Bishop Richard Johnson <i>Destiny Family Christian Center - El Paso, TX</i>
Family Remarks .....	Nicole Robinson, (eldest grandchild)
Musical Selection .....	Gianni Hobbs (granddaughter)
Resolutions	
Selection .....	Bishop's Choir
Recessional	
Interment .....	Graceland Memorial Park • Kenilworth, NJ

# Lives Changed Forever!



Bishop Dr. Milton A. Hobbs, my Pastor, my spiritual father, he was a giant in the Lord. Signs, wonders and miracles followed his ministry. Absent from the body and present with the Lord. He has received his crown of righteousness and the words, “Well done my good and faithful servant; enter into the joy of your Lord”!

~ **Sister Lottie M. Chambers**

During my Administration, I had the privilege to work with many of the clergy and was given the opportunity to involve the churches in the re-building of East Orange. Bishop Hobbs and Faith Temple New Hope Church were one of the most active congregations. His vision, as was mine, was whatever is good for the City and for our residents. The good Bishop’s spiritual leadership played an important part in improving the quality of life in East Orange.

I remember his sense of humor which is often so important in dealing with the public. Bishop Hobbs and I became good friends during that time and this friendship continued, “Until the 12th of Never”, as the saying goes. I will always remember my good friend, Bishop Dr. Milton A. Hobbs. May he rest in peace.

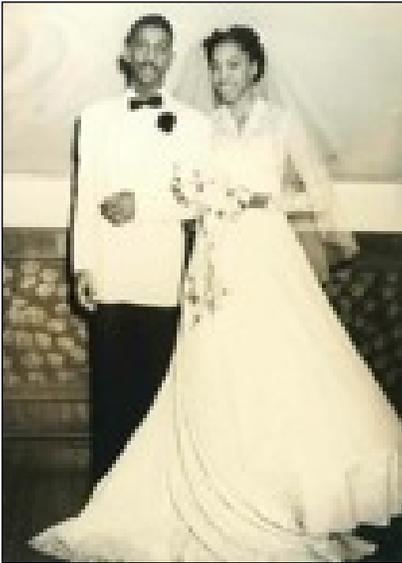
~ **Honorable Thomas H. Cooke, Jr.**  
**Former Mayor**

As a young minister who was birthed through the ministry of Bishop Hobbs, I remember a day that I received a phone call from one of the members informing me that a spirit had come over one of the other members. Before receiving the phone call, I was about to do something that I had no business doing and after getting the phone call, my direction was changed. When I got to the person the Lord used me mightily to cast the demon out of this individual. After being used in such a manner, I had to contact my Bishop and let him know to what capacity the Lord had used me and asked if he could give me clarity because that was the first time that Lord had ever used me in that capacity. After telling him the full story, he replied “What God is trying to show you is that if you surrendered yourself to Him totally, that is only a glimpse of how the Lord will continue to use you in ministry” ... From that day I have always kept a mindset that I had to always be ready for the will of the Lord and that I must live my life totally for Jesus. I could no longer half step. In the words of my Bishop “It’s Holiness or Hell” “You Cannot Serve Two Masters” “Choose Ye This Day Whom You Shall Serve” ... Because of him I can look forward to going to Heaven. Thank you Bishop. I love you always.

~ **Your Spiritual Son,**  
**Minister Keith Bellamy**



My life was forever changed when I sat in Bishop’s office some twenty three years ago and he told me about the power of the Holy Ghost and how the Lord Jesus could change my life if I only let Him in. Needless to say, I did and my life has never been the same. I used to make fun of the church and laugh at the Saints... and now God has blessed me to go from persecution to proclamation in that I am now serving as a Pastor in the Lord's service spreading the good news of the Gospel.



In short, I am a better man, husband and father because of the sacrifice of His servant Bishop Hobbs, Mother Shirley and the entire Hobbs family. May God continue to bless, comfort and keep the family always.

~ **Pastor Michael Mayes**  
**Receiving Grace Ministries**

I was about 7 yrs. old when Karen and I started attending Faith Temple Church (at that time) on 486 4th Avenue with my aunt, Elder Barbara Wood (Collins). Oh how we would love to hear Elder Hobbs preach. In the good ole days children listened for the most part. There was no playing while the man of God was speaking. When we got home we would tell my mother how this little man could preach! I was baptized and received the gift of the Holy Ghost at the age of 14 yrs. old. I have witnessed numerous miracles over the years performed by my Pastor. I Thank God for the impact that this Great Man of God had on me. I thank my God for the day that I met Bishop Elder Milton

A. Hobbs. As I reminisce about the song that the choir use to sing "I'm running for my Life" I can't help but smile knowing that my Spiritual Father ran on home.

~ **Humbly Submitted, Sis. Robyn Massenburg-Brantley**

I met Bishop Milton Hobbs when my children were little and Mother Hobbs took care of them. I admired him and his lifestyle as a man of God. It encouraged me to hold on to Jesus the rest of my life. His bible teachings lead me to be filled with the Holy Ghost. I will miss this great man of God. All my love and prayers for Sis. Shirley and her family.

~ **Mother Wiley (Gerty)**

I was having multiple emotional problems and shared them with Bishop Hobbs. He reminded me of certain Scriptures in the Bible. He talked about letting go and letting God. He then invited me to share my testimony in FTNH. This was in 1990 and I have never looked back on my problems. I loved him dearly and will never forget how he literally saved my life. My deepest sympathy goes out to his family; but I believe with all my heart that he is with Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

~ **Nancy J. Thompson**



God is our refuge and strength, a very present help at this time. We have a promise, a hope and a vision that we will all be together one day. Bishop Hobbs was a real man of God who I loved dearly. To Shirley, stand, just stand, the Lord will see you thru.

~ **Love Sis. Gwen Griffiths**



Bishop impacted not only my life, but the lives of my entire family. After enrolling my daughter in the Faith Temple New Hope Christian School; I was invited to church service that following Sunday. That was more than 20 years ago. I came to Faith Temple New Hope Church after being raised as a Jehovah's Witness. The Jehovah's Witnesses didn't work for me. I had been un-churched since I was a teenager. I hadn't been to church in years. I had given up on organized religion.



I felt something in Bishop's service that Sunday that I had never felt before. I knew that I had found the church that I needed. I soon was baptized in Jesus' name and became quite active in the church. He took an interest in me, a single working mother with a sick child.

I had no knowledge of a kind, patient and loving God. Bishop taught me the Word of God and showed me the way. My life was changed by his pastoring. He was always available to his congregation. My daughter had many medical challenges over the years; hospitalizations and surgeries. He was always there to pray with us and console me. He gave me encouragement during my most trying days. He loved me like a father. He taught me how to use my gifts and talents to serve the church and the Body of Christ. Yes; he taught me how to serve.

I will always remember him. God gave him a heart for His people. I thank God for Bishop. He changed my life.

~ ***Idrissa Uqdah***

When I was 5 years old I knew I wanted to be baptized. I was told I was too young and did not understand what baptism meant by another pastor but as soon as Bishop Hobbs became Pastor of Faith Temple he listened to the voice of God and allowed me to go down in Jesus Name and I was filled with the Holy Ghost at the age of 8 under his ministry. He was a man of great faith and I can remember crutches and canes hanging on the walls of the church, Bishop laying hands on the sick and they recovered. God brings people into your life for purpose and my family is saved today because of Bishop Hobbs being part of God's predestined plan for my life. Bishop Hobbs will always hold a special place in my heart. God bless and strengthen you Aunt Shirley and family.

~ ***Eld. Gwen Priester (fondly called "baby" by Bishop)***

Bishop Milton Hobbs was my spiritual dad, and Sis. Hobbs my mom. When I was a teen I came to Faith Temple New Hope. There I learned what true love and family really was. Bishop and Sis Hobbs took me in like a daughter; they allowed me to stay with them when I didn't have any place



to go. They owned a house right across the street from the church, they took me in. When my own mom and dad left me, God filled my life with people who truly loved me. Love and prayers

~ ***Sis Vickie Evans***

If the Captain never told me to get off the organ, I would have never kept coming back to the organ!!

~ ***Lloyd Preston Parchment***

Besides being an awesome Uncle Bishop Hobbs instilled a strong Christian foundation into me as a young child and growing up. It is because of that foundation I received I was able to become a Pastor/Captain in The Salvation Army, a different denomination from





the PAW. I believe that you can do Ministry to God's people anywhere, any denomination and any organization. The truth remains the truth. Thank you Uncle, Bishop Milton Hobbs for always preaching and teaching the truth of the Word of God.

*~ Your loving Niece Captain Felicia Flora  
of the Wilmington Delaware Salvation Army Corps.*

Bishop had the best impact on my life from being a little girl he was the grandfather I never had to the end even in death Bishop was looking out for me. He kept on telling me that the Lord was going to heal me and I had faith all six years waiting on a kidney transplant. Just a few hours after Mother Hobbs

informed us of his passing I was called and told that I had to get to Philly to get a kidney. I am in ICU waiting to be moved to a regular room tonight. I am feeling good every day. And I know Bishop had a talk with Jesus on my behalf as soon as he got to heaven.

*~ Zakia Rivers*

Before Jesus called Lazarus out of the tomb, He required someone to remove the stone from it. Then others were called to remove the grave clothes that bound him. It was a process of God that involved the service of individuals, just as my deliverance from a 13-year addiction to crack cocaine. All honor belongs to God. However, God often uses compliant and faithful individuals to manifest His glory and plans on the earth. Bishop Milton Hobbs was one of these individuals. He was the first Christian leader I met and considered to be true to life. Bishop Hobbs is my first spiritual father. He answered God's call and removed the stone from my tomb of unbelief and despair. I grew up under Islamic tradition and was very vociferous of my negative opinions of the Christian faith. God knew His plan to save me had to begin with leading me to a man of veracity, honor, faithfulness and genuine love for people.

Therefore God led me to Bishop Hobbs. Because he answered the call upon his life, with the support of his wife, I stand today as an husband for 21 years, father, Ambassador of the Kingdom of God. Teacher of the Gospel. interrupter in my bloodline. And king and priest of my home and community. I believe every life God has allowed and will allow me to touch for His glory; Bishop Hobbs will receive another jewel in his crown.

To the family, thank you so much for sharing your husband, father, brother and uncle with me. He truly helped save my life.

*~ Minister Kevin Reddick*

*New Birth Missionary Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA*



It was 31 years ago when I came to Bishop Hobbs home. It was Thanksgiving and I was strung out on drugs and just messed up. The family was having a great time laughing and just enjoying themselves. I asked how they could be so "Happy" without drugs or alcohol? They told me it was because they were saved and living for the Lord Jesus Christ. That's when Bishop Hobbs invited me to Faith Temple New Hope and told me if I didn't like it or if God didn't deliver me I "could have my money back" (or leave and never come back). Well, it has been 31 years and I don't just like living for the Lord, I truly love living and serving the Lord Jesus Christ! Thanks Bishop Hobbs for the invite and for living the life.

*~ Leon Kornegay*

*Pastor of Living Water New Life Ministries*



*My faith looks up to Thee,  
Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!  
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away,  
O let me from this day be wholly Thine!*

*May Thy rich grace impart  
Strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire!  
As Thou hast died for me, O may my love to Thee,  
Pure warm, and changeless be, a living fire!*

*While life's dark maze I tread,  
And griefs around me spread, be Thou my Guide;  
Bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray from Thee aside.*

*When ends life's transient dream,  
When death's cold sullen stream over me roll;  
Blest Savior, then in love, fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!*



*Acknowledgements*

*The family of the **Bishop Dr. Milton Aaron Hobbs** wishes to  
express their sincere appreciation for the acts of kindness  
and love shown to them during their time of sorrow.*

Professional Services Provided By

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