

Celebrating the Life of

Rev. Dr. James H. Howell

Sunrise
September 3, 1934

Sunset
June 7, 2012

Service

Thursday, June 14, 2012 - 11:00 a.m.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

221 Myrtle Avenue • Passaic, New Jersey

Rev. Kenneth D.R. Clayton, Officiating
Elder Terence Kitchings

Reflections of Life

And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Romans 10:15

The Rev. Dr. James H. Howell was born in Nansemond County, VA to the late Lottie Mae Boone and Zachariah Howell.

Rev. Howell along with his family moved to New York City when he was four years old. It was in New York City he received his primary education and later the beginning of his advanced educational pursuits.

A firm believer in the value of education, Dr. Howell studied at the City College of NY, Union Theological Seminary, Virginia Union University Seminary, New York University, Drew University, International Seminary. From each he received various degrees.

His love for education would lead him to become employed as an educator. He taught in the Paterson, NJ Public School system for almost forty years, before retiring. Although, he found that work rewarding, interesting and challenging his true love was pastoring God's people which he did for more than forty-five years.

A licensed and ordained minister Rev. J.H. Howell began his Christian journey at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, NYC under the leadership of Rev. Wardell J. Stamps. He considered Rev. Stamps his father in the ministry. He later served with Rev. Walter Pinn at the Calvary Baptist Church, Jamaica, NY. He also served several pastorates during his years of service.

Beginning first in Virginia and later in New York and New Jersey. Among the churches he served are Mt. Bethel Baptist Church Ridgewood, Second Baptist Church, Matawan, Bethel Baptist Church, Port Chester, NY and the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Passaic where he served for over thirty years. His love for churches would involve him in many active committee positions and long hours of service to pastors in training as well as duties of counseling, teaching and as an additional role of chaplain.

He was a Life Member of the Passaic Branch N.A.A.C.P. and a former Moderator of the Shiloh Baptist Association of NJ.

He traveled worldwide because of his involvement as well as far as the Orient to China, Japan and Thailand and even to Hawaii and the Caribbean where he ministered.

He will be remembered as a compassionate father, a very intelligent person who was a strong believer in Jesus Christ and His Message of Salvation.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Arlene. He exchanged time for eternity Thursday, June 7, 2012 at his home.

Rev. Dr. James H. Howell is survived by: his wife, Corrine S. (Strickland); two daughters, Lisa Howell, Joy Howell; two sisters, Evelyn Watford and Gladys Joyner as well as several nieces and nephews. He spoke of them all fondly.

Order of Service

Processional Clergy
Family
Mt. Zion Baptist Church Family
Minister Wives

Hymn “We Are Climbing Jacob’s Ladder”

Scripture Readings

Old Testament - Psalms 1:1-6 Rev. Alfred Steele
Pastor, Seminary Baptist Church Paterson, NJ

New Testament - 2 Timothy 4:1-7 Rev. Gregory C. Turner, Pastor
Christ Temple Baptist Church Paterson, NJ

Prayer of Comfort Rev. Joseph L. Napier
Pastor, New Point Baptist Church, Newark, NJ

Selection “Soon I Will Be Done”

Reflections of Life Francine Wise

Remarks



Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Passaic, NJ
Deacon John Lundy, Chairman of the Board of Deacons



Shiloh Baptist Association of NJ
Rev. Willie Wilburn, Moderator, and Pastor of the New Jerusalem Baptist Church, Newark, NJ

National Baptist Convention, USA Inc.
Rev. Dr. Calvin McKinney, General Secretary of NBC USA Inc.,
and Pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church of North Jersey at Garfield

Selection “How Great Thou Art”

Words of Comfort Rev. Kenneth D.R. Clayton, 1st Vice President of
General Baptist Convention, State of New Jersey
Past Moderator of the Shiloh Baptist Association and
Pastor of the St. Luke Baptist Church, Paterson, NJ

Recessional

“Finally, Brethren, Farewell, Be Perfect, Be of Good comfort, be of one mind; and the God of love and peace shall be with you. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

Interment
Heavenly Rest Memorial Park
East Hanover, New Jersey

Prayer In Sorrow

God of all consolation, in your unending love and mercy for us. You turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life. Show compassion to your people in sorrow.

Be our refuge and our strength to lift us from the darkness of this grief to peace and joy in your presence.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.



Acknowledgements

*The family of the late **Rev. Dr. James H. Howell** wishes to express their sincere appreciation for the acts of kindness and love shown to them during their time of sorrow.*

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To send online condolences, visit www.braggfuneralhome.com



Thursday, June 7th, 2012 8:38 a.m.

James passed on to the next level.

It is a sunny day after many consecutive days of rain, he would have liked that.

June 8th, 2012 - after a hymn singing prayer filled evening together at home on Wednesday, June 6th James went peacefully to sleep the following day and into the arms of his savior. He had told me a week before his final journey that he wanted to go and see Jesus. He had told me that Jesus was in the room with him often, along with others who came to visit with him as well. His mother and his father were among those who visited him. His mother and father did not speak to him, he told me, but only stood and looked at him a while. Another time he told me that a group of people visited him. Most of them he knew but some he did not know. He said, "They came for me", he said, "when I asked about their presence." "I'm going to go with them" he said when I asked what they wanted "you're going to leave us?" I asked. "Yes", he answered, "But you'll be alright. You'll see," was his reply. Another time when James was looking intensely in a direction in the room, I asked what he saw. He said "It's beautiful! It's beautiful!" What? I asked him. What do you see? He simply said, "It's beautiful and smiled."

James and I talked often about his visitors and he had many over time. He looked forward to going to be with them and with Jesus, he told me, when his time came. I was happy that he was able to share with me his experiences and to express his faith in his next level of his spiritual journey. For him it was not an end of life. Only a prelude to the next step, "Beautiful!" as he described it.

Many people do not get the opportunity to vividly share their final earthly experiences before the next journey begins. James was blessed to do so and gave Joy and me a tremendous sense of comfort when he told of his visiting friends in the spirit. Especially when he spoke of Jesus' presence with him often.

We, those of us - Joy and I feel certain that when the time comes we will see that beautiful place James described and he will come to guide us forward on that next journey. James had a preview of wonderful things to come. He told us to live life well as God expects us to do and follow his teachings. You, too may expect what James was blessed to see before his final earthly journey ended. You, too will say, beautiful! Beautiful! Leaving this earth for James, was peaceful and full of great expectations.

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