

## **GRATEFUL**

by Anthony D. Simmons  
May 2020

On June 4, 1989, the Bible Way Temple, 1100 New Jersey Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. planted a small "tree" in the Hyattsville, Maryland area. The name of this little "tree" was called Overcoming Power Bible Way Church. Thirty-one years later this small "tree" has grown into a tall "tree" with green leaves and strong branches.

Though the name has changed since then to Overcoming Power Apostolic Temple, Inc., the foundation remains the same. One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism. We stand upon the apostle's doctrine--Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone. We stand firm on Acts 2:38.

We give the highest honor to our late Founder Chief Apostle, as well as my father in the gospel of Jesus Christ, Apostle Smallwood E. Williams; as well as the Mother of Bible Way, Mother Verna Lucille Williams for all of their love, and support, as well as the sanction of this ministry by our founder Apostle Smallwood E. Williams. Overcoming Power (hereafter: OCP) would like to honor as well as say thank you to all of the family of the Bible Way Temple, in and out, for all of your love, prayers and support down through the years for helping us in our success.

We certainly want to highly honor another servant of Our Lord Jesus Christ whom has since gone on to be with the Lord for his unconditional love and support on behalf of Pastor Simmons and the OCP family. That person is none other than the second pastor in the history of Bible Way, the renown Apostle James Silver and wife Mother Vera Silver.

Time would fail me to mention Elder Willie and Mother Cora Rious, Doctor Emmett F. Howard and a resounding shout out to my Mother Marie Simmons, who has since gone to be with the Lord in 2006. I want to thank my wife, The Lady Carolyn Marie (Flemister) Simmons and her mother Artilla Flemister, and all of the extended family in Columbus, OH; namely: Lois Barrett and Lewis Flemister--the sister and brother of the first lady. We highly honor Our Chief Missionary, The Lady Audeth Harris and our Assistant Pastor, Minister Frank Harris.

Many have come through and helped OCP in its success. I pray I could name all; yet if I tried to, I would end up writing a book. So please, just spare me to name a few and to all others I may miss, Pastor Simmons truly loves you and thanks you from the bottom of my heart. With that said I want to thank Elder Robert Price, Elder Franklin and Mother Grace Jenkins, Elder Ernest Gaddis, Elder Richard Morgan, Elder Shelby Willis, Dr. Leander McEwen, Mother Gertrude Juhans. Lady Priscilla Lee Rogers, Sister Wendy Armstrong, Mother Ware, Mother Jackson, Mother Turner; and the list goes on and on.

Last, but not least, I would like to mention all of my OCP family. I pray soon that I will be able to write a (personal) tribute to, and about each one that have stayed with Pastor Simmons down through the years. In the midst of many trials and tribulations--through many and very dark and stormy days when there was plenty and when there was not much at all. When it seemed like we were at our wit's end. "They toiled the field and planted the grain until we were able to reap the harvest."

I would start with Lady Mattie White, who was one of the first board directors, and has held many offices in OCP. My brother Robert (Rob) Simmons, my Sister Lady Dyana (we call her Lady Dy), my youngest sister Jacqueline Virginia (Simmons) Cador, my dynamic duo brothers-in-law the honorable Darrell Cador and Tony Corbin. Lady Anne-Marie Hickson and Brother Allan Hickson, Sr., Lady Tonia Petty, Sabrina and Timothy Rogers, Mother McNeil, Bro. Maurice (Moe), De'Andre, Jasmine, Jamia, Jenell (Nellie), Melinda (Miss All Round, Everything), Anna Hickson, Allan Hickson, Jr., Christian, Aaron Simmons, Lori, Sinaia and the list goes on; which as I said before, I pray that I will be able to write about all OCP mentioned and those whom were not mentioned.

We sincerely thank you for your continued prayers and support as we strive to finish the course, keep the faith and reach the crown that is laid up for us in heaven.

To the one whom should have been mentioned from the top:

All Glory, Honor, and Praise to Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Finally, OCP would have to sincerely thank the Chief Apostle of the Bible Way Church  
Worldwide Apostle Huie L. Rogers.

*The Story Has Just Begun To Be Written!!*

*More To Come! Stay Tuned!*