

## **Bio of Rev. Dr. Ecclesiastes Goodwin**

Reverend Dr. Ecclesiastes Goodwin, Sr. is a native of Meridian, MS. He is the son of the late Johnny and Yvonne Goodwin and has one (1) sibling: Yolanda Goodwin of Ridgeland, MS. Pastor Goodwin is married to Lady Christina Goodwin and they have four children: Jeremiah, Ecclesiastes, Jr., Elijah, and Ethan.

Possessing a commitment to education, Pastor Goodwin is a graduate of Meridian High School, Meridian, MS and he completed further studies at Meridian Community College, Meridian, MS. Recognizing his call to the ministry and the need to prepare himself he entered Selma University in Selma, AL where he was recognized as a Presidential Scholar. He continued his educational journey and obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Pastoral Ministries from the Southeastern Baptist College, Laurel, Mississippi. He received a Master of Education Degree from Belhaven University, Jackson, Mississippi. In 2015, he received a Doctor of Divinity Degree from St. Thomas Christian College in Jacksonville, Florida.

At the age of five, Pastor Goodwin accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior and united with the Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Meridian, MS under the leadership of Rev. Bobby R. Nichols. When he was nineteen (19) years of age, Pastor Goodwin acknowledged his call into the preaching ministry and preached his initial sermon in June 2003. He was ordained in June 2004 at the Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church.

Pastor Goodwin serves as Senior Pastor of Saint John Missionary Baptist Church in Meridian, Mississippi. He is a member of the Meridian/Lauderdale County Chapter NAACP, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity-Gamma Epsilon Sigma Chapter where he serves as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. In addition, he is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Baptist Convention, Inc and serves as President of the East Mississippi Baptist State Convention, Inc. He also serves as an Instructor for the East Mississippi Baptist State Convention Young People's Department, East Mississippi Baptist State Congress, Instructor for 2<sup>nd</sup> New Hope District Congress of Christian Education, and other districts as well. In addition, he is a Certified Dean of Christian Education under the auspices of the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. He has received several notable awards and honors to include such as Regional Instructor of the Year, National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Instructor of the Year-East Mississippi Baptist State Convention, Inc., Humanitarian of the Year-East Mississippi Baptist State Christian Education Division, and Instructor of the Year-2<sup>nd</sup> Enterprise District Convention, Dr. David L. Simmons Christian Leadership Award-East Mississippi Baptist State Convention, Inc. In addition, Pastor Goodwin has been recognized by the Meridian Queen City Optimist Club for his outstanding contributions to the city of Meridian.

A man of God who believes the Great Commission still applies to all nations, Pastor Goodwin preaches from the depth of his heart across the nation and abroad. He has a burning desire for Christian Education and travels extensively attending conferences, conventions, workshops, and seminars so that he may effectively and adequately proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This dynamic preacher has held many other positions and still actively is a pivotal icon in the spiritual and secular field.

He considers it an honor to be a vessel for Christ in Ministry. He has served in almost every capacity in the church and has adopted the saying *"I Been Running for Jesus a Long Time and I'm Not Tired Yet"*.