

Henry H. Mitchell

The Rev. Dr. Henry H. Mitchell is a native of Columbus, OH, and holds earned degrees from Lincoln University, PA (B.A.); Union Theological Seminary, NY (B.C./M.Div.); California State University at Fresno (M.A., Linguistics); and Claremont School of Theology (Th.D., Black Church History and Theology). He holds honorary degrees from The American Baptist Seminary of the West, Berkeley, CA (D.D.); as well as Lincoln University, PA, and Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, IN (L.H.D.).



Dr. Mitchell is the author of **Black Preaching** (Harper & Row, 1979; Abingdon, 1990), **The Recovery of Preaching** (Harper, 1977) based on his 1974 Lyman Beecher Lectures at Yale; and **Celebration and Experience in Preaching** (Abingdon, 1990 & revised 2008), which was designated by the American Academy of Parish Clergy as one of the top ten clergy books for 1991. He co-authored two other books: **Soul Theology** (Harper, 1986; Abingdon, 1991) with Dr. Nicholas C. Cooper-Lewter, and **Preaching for Black Self Esteem** (Abingdon, 1994), with Dr. Emil M. Thomas. He and Dr. Ella re-released **Together for Good** (Judson, 2007), and **Fire in the Well** (sermons) in 2004. He released **Black Church Beginnings**, a Church History text, in 2004 (Eerdmans). His latest book, **A Word for All Seasons** (Judson, 2012), consists of a collection of Dr. Mitchell's sermons celebrating many of our national holidays, and traditional church observances.

Henry H. Mitchell and the late Rev. Dr. Ella Pearson Mitchell, taught as Visiting Professors of Homiletics at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia from 1988-2000, while co-mentoring in the D. Min. Program at the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio for 10 years. Prior to semi-retirement, Dr. Mitchell served as Academic Dean and Prof. of History and Homiletics at Proctor School of Theology, Virginia Union University (1982-1987). He went to Proctor after serving as founding Director of the Ecumenical Center for Black Church Studies, in Los Angeles, and briefly serving as Professor of Religion and Pan African Studies at California State University in Northridge. Prior to this, he was the first Martin Luther King, Jr. Professor of Black Church Studies at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School (1969-1974). He was appointed Professor emeritus by CRCDS in 1992. From 1945 to 1959, he served as an American Baptist regional staff person in Northern California (Church Extension and Building, Black Church Ministries, Bilingual Ministries, and Editor). He served as Pastor of Second Baptist Church in Fresno, CA from 1959 to 1966, and Calvary Baptist Church, Santa Monica, CA from 1966 to 1969.

Married for 64 years, he and his schoolmate Ella (now deceased) have three living children and six grandchildren. Dr. Mitchell currently resides between Atlanta, GA and Ewing, NJ, and continues to entertain speaking engagements nationwide.