

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, Dr. James Alvin Boyd was born on July 30, 1941, in Oktibbeha County—the eighth child born to Reverend Garfield, Sr. and Mrs. Alberta Boyd; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Boyd attended Sand Creek Elementary School in Starkville, Mississippi, where he completed grades one through eight and later continued his education at the Oktibbeha Training School, now known as Henderson High School—after high school, Dr. Boyd continued his education at Stillman College, graduating in 1964, and went on to attend Iowa State University and Mississippi State University—he received his Bachelor of Theology from Mississippi Baptist Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi, and completed the requirements for a doctorate of ministry at San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, California; and

WHEREAS, he was united in Holy matrimony to the former Kathrene Peterson and was blessed with two beautiful daughters, Sandra Boyd of Atlanta, Georgia, and DeWanda (Ross) Crawford of Starkville, Mississippi—they also have three grandsons, James, Stevan and Evan; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Boyd surrendered to the call of God after his father's death and preached his first public sermon in April of 1960—he entered the pastoral field in 1965 as pastor of Zion Gate Missionary Baptist Church and El Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Mississippi—he became the full time pastor of Zion Gate Missionary Baptist Church in 1970 and his ministry has blessed the sanctity of the church, city, state, and nation for the last thirty-six years; and

WHEREAS, due to the relentless efforts of Dr. James A. Boyd and the dedication of the congregation, Zion Gate Missionary Baptist Church has prospered in her pilgrimage and continues to share God's Glory with our great nation; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Boyd's personal achievements are countless and there will be an anniversary celebration to honor his successes and his leadership at Zion Gate Missionary Baptist Church on December 15, 2002, at 3:00 in the afternoon:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim December 15, 2002, as

DR. JAMES A. BOYD DAY

in the State of Mississippi.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, December 11, 2002, in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR