

*Honoring the Legacy of*



*Ferrell Charles*  
**RUCKER**

*Sunrise*

October 19, 1958

*Sunset*

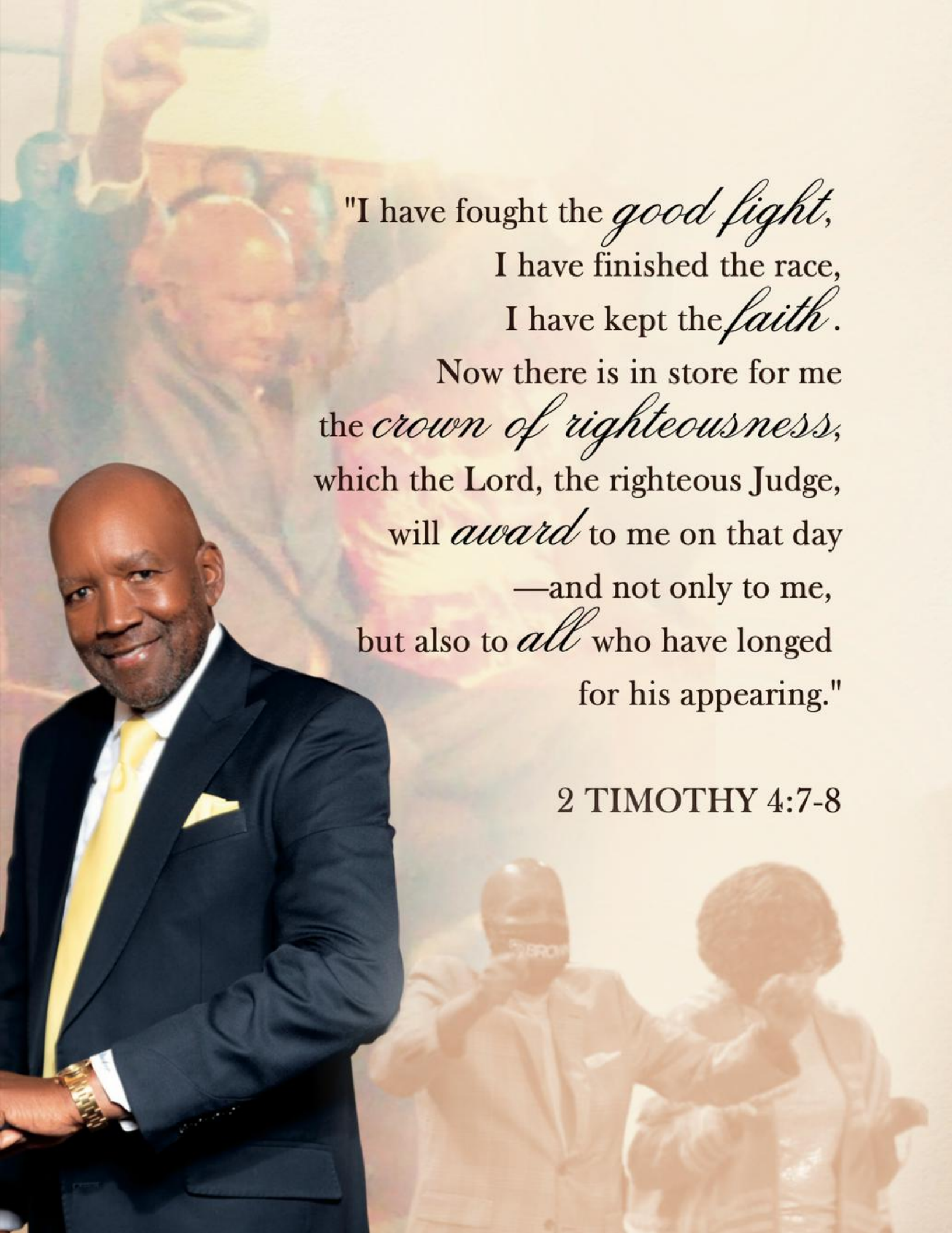
August 2, 2023

Sunday, August 13, 2023

2:30 pm

BROWN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
7200 SWINEA ROAD  
SOUTHAVEN, MS 38671

DR. BARTHOLOMEW ORR., OFFICIATING

The image is a composite. In the foreground on the left, a man with a shaved head and a goatee, wearing a dark blue suit, a white shirt, and a yellow tie, is smiling and looking towards the camera. He is also wearing a gold watch on his left wrist. The background is a soft-focus, warm-toned image of a group of people, possibly at a church service or a celebration, with some individuals raising their hands in the air. The overall lighting is bright and warm.

"I have fought the *good fight*,  
I have finished the race,  
I have kept the *faith*.

Now there is in store for me  
the *crown of righteousness*,  
which the Lord, the righteous Judge,  
will *award* to me on that day  
—and not only to me,  
but also to *all* who have longed  
for his appearing."

2 TIMOTHY 4:7-8



# Order of Service

## Processional

Old Testament Scripture.....	Pastor Willie Petty
New Testament Scripture .....	Pastor Charles Deloach
Prayer.....	Pastor Derrick Anderson
Selection.....	Jerrell C. Rucker Celebration Choir
Words of Comfort.....	Rev. Albert Smith III
Selection.....	Jerrell C. Rucker Celebration Choir
Expressions.....	Rickey Fondren, Close Friend Danita Brown, Church Member Mike Goolsby & Jesse Zellner Zellner Construction Company, LLC
Special Presentation.....	Councilman JB Smiley, Jr.
Acknowledgements.....	Dena Phillips
"My Best Friend" .....	Min. Michai Jerrell Mosby, Grandson
Selection.....	Jerrell C. Rucker Celebration Choir
Eulogy.....	Dr. Bartholomew Orr, Sr Senior Pastor, Brown Baptist Church
Recessional	

Remains will not be viewed after the eulogy.  
Repass immediately following the services.



# *You see the glory...*

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, and I have kept the faith!" Family and friends, it is Jerrell Rucker here! I wouldn't have imagined that my homegoing celebration would be this grand! I mean this is truly the kind of royal sendoff fit for a king. You know that I love a good praise party, and this is certainly my kind of party! In fact, you all are looking good, and this choir has the angels who are resting with me dancing on the clouds. It is literal when they say when all God's children get together, WHAT A TIME!

My life and legacy began on October 19, 1958, to my mother, Ora Rucker Ford and my father, AC Allen in Memphis, Tennessee. I confessed my love and belief in Christ at a tender young age at my home church King Solomon Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Rev. L. M. Morganfield. Upon his passing, our church family transitioned to the leadership of Rev. Dr. Van Ford Jr. There, I served in many capacities some of which are but are not limited to deacon, trustee, treasurer, youth advisor, and director of music where my passion lied most. When that music hit my bones, it's like it took flight and had a life of its own. I served faithfully until my transition to Brown Missionary Baptist Church under the esteemed leadership of my Pastor Bartholomew Orr in August of 2015. As a "Brownie," I faithfully participated in several ministries including the Cancer ministry, Hospitality team, and Mighty Men of Brown until my demise.

I was a 1976 graduate of Booker T. Washington High School Class where "we're tops; we lead, and others follow! Can you believe that I was voted best dressed? Well, it's true! I pride myself in wearing custom three-piece suits to school every day accessorized with my Miami stompers. Man, those were the days. I remember my prom theme "Stairway to Heaven" and look at me now!

Upon my graduation from high school, I began my career with Zellner Construction Company. I not only developed a thirst for the trade, but gained a family as well. I grew professionally in various capacities until finally retiring as a partner and General Superintendent after 45 years.





# *...but don't know my story*

You all should have seen my welcome calvary on August 2, 2023, at 10:34 pm! All my family and friends who proceeded me in death gave me quite a royal entrance. My sister Cassandra Houpe met me at the gate and had the nerve to tell me that I am following her to heaven! She said to me with that usual smirk, "you just couldn't stand to let me take my rest alone!" I never would have imagined that the by and by that we had sung about for all these years would have been this glorious. As you can see, this GREAT BY AND BY is something special!

To my parents who started me on this journey of life, I have passed down a legacy of your teachings to my own! Thank you, father, AC (Rose) Allen and mother, Ora (Van Jr.) Ford for the lifelong lessons who made me the man that I became.

To my siblings, Rod Houpe, Van (Adrian) Ford III, Arnold Allen, Ptosha (Roosevelt) Jackson, Stephanie (Nathan) Rayford, and Chris (Patrice) Ford, I pray that I was a great example for you all as your big brother.







To my beloved grandchildren, the “Michael Jackson Ice Cream Club,” who gave me another life on earth, remember that PaPa’s presence only shifted from the physical realm to the spiritual. Cadence, Jayla, Journee, and Noah, you gained a guardian angel and PaPa will forever love and protect each of you. I love you very much and that’ll never change. Continue to watch over your Gigi!


To my eldest grands, “the gifted 3M’s,” continue to make PaPa proud! Maiya Mosby, RGD1 you are it, girl! I love you! M’Kenzie Mosby, RGD2 you go girl! I got you! To my best friend, Michai Jerrell Mosby, press toward the mark, Future Mayor! You three make me smile. Your gifts will continue to make room for you. Never dim your light and always shine bright! PaPa loves you so much!

To my hearts, my gorgeous girls (Ann, we did that!), the “RGs,” remember my teachings and know that through you all, my legacy lives on. Jocelyn (Marcus) Mosby, Angelica (Michael) Johnson, Jasmyne Rucker, and Jerrica Rucker, this too shall pass. You all made me one proud “girl dad.” You gave me a reason to boldly stick my chest out! My girls were my world! Remember, “you are fearfully and wonderfully made!” Continue to walk boldly in your calling.

To my sons in love, Marcus, Michael, and D’Angelo, I pray that I have given you a wealth of wisdom in caring for my girls and being the best men that you could possibly be. I pray that I was a model for you and men everywhere! There is much strength in love and family. I am leaving you with my precious cargo, my family, to ensure that my legacy lives on for generations to come.







And lastly but certainly not least, to my beautiful *wife* of 43 years, Angela, my angel on earth. You have given me sacrificial unconditional love and an amazing family. Baby, I made it! "Weeping may endure for a night but joy cometh in the morning." I know that you will miss my physical presence but your ability to find peace in knowing that I am no longer suffering surpasses it all. We have created forever memories that you will embrace whenever you feel blue. I will forever rest in your heart my love! Remember, that through it all, we were truly blessed!

To my host of relatives and friends of whom I have touched throughout the years, I pray that my living was not in vain. I pray that my encouraging words, random acts of kindness, and gestures have inspired you along the way.

Well, my time has drawn near, and I must rest on! Here's my final thumbs up to each of you on this side!  
Farewell, until we meet again!

*~ Ferrell*





# *Acknowledgements*

The family of Jerrell Charles Rucker would like to acknowledge the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to us during our time of bereavement. Perhaps it was a card, flowers, call or text, we are so thankful for your good deeds. Words cannot express our gratitude.

May God bless each one of you as we celebrate his wonderful life.

*The Rucker Family*

*Paulbearers*

## *Honorary*

Dexter Balfour

Ernest Driver

Hosea Foster

Willie Wooten

Rickey Fondren, Sr.

BMBC Cancer Support Ministry

Zellner Construction Company LLC

## *Active*

Vantwon Ford

Mason Ford

Marcus Mosby

David Milligan

Renaldo Milligan Sr

D'Angelo Applewhite

Michael "Rico" Johnson

Jacolbie Hardy

Frank Fluker II

## *Interment:*

Monday, August 14, 2023 at 10am

Memorial Park South Woods

5485 Hacks Cross Rd, Memphis, TN 38125

*Obituary entrusted to:*



Angelic Affairs, LLC

*Services Entrusted to:*



MJ Edwards Funeral Home  
Stage Road Chapel