



PASTOR AMOS FOLORUNSHO AKANBI OLOYEDE.

(FEBRUARY 16, 1930 – AUGUST 19, 2010)

FAMILY BACKGROUND/EARLY LIFE:

Pastor Amos Folorunsho Akanbi Oloyede was born on February 16, 1930 at Oke Olode's Compound, Apomu in Osun State, to late Elder James Adigun Oloyede and Madam Alice Olaore Abike. As a young lad growing up he was struck with measles in 1936. As a result, he was isolated from his compound, (due to the contagious nature of the disease). His mother had to take him to the farm until he was healed. He worked briefly as a carpenter in his father's carpentry workshop. He was an Anglican, where he served the Anglican Church as an organists, lay reader and Catechist.

Pastor Amos understood early in life the principle of dignity in labor. It was with this understanding in mind that in 1946, he went into bicycle repair. This venture could not fetch him enough money, so he decided to switch to tailoring. He was able to save some money from his tailoring work, which he used in purchasing a camera. From 1948-1955, he worked as a photographer. In 1956, Amos learnt the art of selling drugs/medicine and eventually became a chemist. He opened and operated a chemist store which he named “AYEMOJUBA PATIENT STORE”, at Ife-Obe Ikoyi.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Pastor Amos started his primary education at St. John Anglican Elementary School, Ikire. In 1936, he was attacked by measles, which caused a temporary setback in his educational pursuit..... he qualified as an auxiliary nurse in 1946, under J.J. Wahehe. In 1964, Pastor Amos attended the Adventist College of West Africa (ACWA), where he obtained a Diploma in Theology.

MARRIAGE:

CONVERSION INTO THE ADVENTIST CHURCH:

Pastor Amos was born into the Anglican, where he served the Church as an organists, lay reader and Catechist. In 1958, Pastor Amos after reading John 3:3, decided to look for where he could be baptized by immersion. One Sabbath morning while riding on his bicycle, he saw a group of people praising and worshipping God, singing “Trust and Obey” under a tree at Modern School, Ikire. The Holy Spirit directed him to that church where the late Pastor D.B Alabi was the church pastor, while Elder S.O Fadare was the church leader. That day, he played the organ for the church. After worship that day, he asked whether he could be baptized by immersion. He got a yes answer, but was told he had to undergo a two-year bible study.

Interestingly, Amos was into politics under the then “Action Group”. He was nominated as the sole candidate for councillorship position in his ward. However, the day of the election clashed with the day he was billed for baptism. He stepped down for another candidate and on that day, he went to the river and “voted” for Christ. In other words, Pastor Amos was baptized into the Seventh Day Adventist church on July 1, 1961 at “Odomogimogi river”, by the late Pastor D.B. Alabi.

CALL TO PASTORAL MINISTRY:

In 1962, Amos was nominated as one of the delegates to Arandun for constituency meeting. On Sabbath February 11, that year while Pastor O.D. Jordan from the General Conference was preaching, that he received the call to gospel ministry. He was interviewed on February 26, 1962 at Oke-bola, Ibadan, and in March 1962, he became a Seventh Day Adventist Church Pastor with

a passion to win souls for Christ. He was ordained into the gospel ministry on July 24, 1971 together with Pastor J. O Eregare. He began a radio program in the then Western Nigeria Broadcasting Service (WNBS) called “Bayi lanse,Akiise baunni”.

MINISTRY/WORK EXPERIENCE:

Pastor Amos started his ministry in Owobaale from March 14, 1962-1964, with an initial salary of 6.5shillings. He was sent to Abeokuta in 1966 where his ministry marked the beginning of a rapid church growth there. In 1968, five (5) souls were baptized into the church. On May 20, 1969, twelve (12) more souls were baptized.(by Pastor Bauman from ACWA). Through the ministry of Pastor Amos, an additional eight (8) persons were added to the church in November 30, 1971. These are among several baptisms.

Pastor Folorunsho Oloyede made friends with a lot of people, including the then Alake of Egbaland; the late Oba Samuel Gbadebo II. The Oba was in the process of taking a decision for baptism when death took him. Pastor Oloyede predicted the ascension of the former Olu of Iaro, late Oba Adekanbi Tella to the throne of his fathers. He labored for eight years in Abeokuta. He began a radio program in the then Western Nigeria Broadcasting Service (WNBS) called “Bayi lanse,Akiise baunni”.

Pastor Amos Folorunsho Oloyede was transferred in 1974 to Otun-Ekiti, where he superintended over so many in churches Ekiti, Ondo and parts of Osun States. He laboured in Igogo, Isaoye, Ora-Igbomina, Oke-Ila, Ikun, Erinmope, Ise-Ekiti, Ipoti, Aramoko and several other places. He left Otun-Ekiti to Osi in 1981, where he spent three (3) years (1981-1983). He was later transferred to Akure, Ondo State during the political war. After the war, he made friends with so many people, including the then Governor of Ondo State Mr..... God blessed him so much to the extent that he was part of the State Religions Council, and popularly known as “Baba yoo d’itan”.

While in Akure, he started a program on Radio Nigeria called “Gbogbo re ni yoo ditan”, but later changed the program title at OSBC to “Bayi lanse, Akiise baunni”. He also conducted a program “Eko Bibeli” with NTA Akure. He worked at Ogbese, Ise, Ondo, Ado-Ekiti, Ilara, Idanre, Owo, Emure, Igbara-Oke, among other places while in Akure. Pastor Amos was transferred to Iwo in Osun State in 1986 where he labored for God, till his transfer to Erunmu in 1990. He worked at Erunmu and its environs from 1990-1998.

It is worthy of note that Pastor Amos wrote two books while in Akure. The first book “Gbogbo re ni yoo d’itan”, which is being used currently for Adult Continuing Education by the University of Ibadan, and his second book “My Prayers are Answered”.

RETIREMENT DAYS:

Pastor Amos Folorunsho Akanbi Oloyede retired back home.....in January of 1998. Even in retirement, he continued to serve God. This he did by establishing a Sabbath school branch in his residence at Ikoyi-Ile. One of the souls won by Pastor Amos during his ministry is

now a Pastor (.....) of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. He was a music lover. And has composed so many songs during his lifetime, some of which are: I will not be lazy in Thy work, O lord, I surrender all my life to Thee , O Lord, Ewa, ewa, ewa gba, omo eniyan, ewa gba, Jesu Kristi omo olorun, ran mi lowo laye mi, Jesu Oluwa n bo laipe, Mo gbogbo pe, Jesu Kristi omo Olorun ni, Awon Angeli daabo bo mi, mo dupe lowo Olorun, Je Olotito, Bi mo b tete de sile Oluwa, Jesu loba to n ran mi lowo, Oku, oku lori agbelebu, Somana wa Jesu and Yoo d'itan lola.

Pastor Amos Folorunsho Akanbi Oloyede died on August 19, 2010.

From the tributes that flowed in from family members, friends, relatives, the church and well wishers, it is clear that Pastor Amos lived a life worthy of emulation by all who came in contact with him and those who heard him. To some of these people, Pa Oloyede was a man of approving integrity, a generous giver, a philanthropist, a man full of hope and encouragement, sincere and faithful. Others will remember him for the eternal impact he has made in their lives, for his love, can-do spirit, zeal, forthrightness, fair-mindedness, great advice and hard work.

One of his sons, Bambo Oloyede aptly described his late father thus “..... You are the embodiment of faith in King Jesus Christ, the embodiment of practical theology, peace and unification of our people. You will be remembered for your care and sincere love....”

Pastor Oloyede had a philosophy and believed that “**the deeds of today are history of tomorrow**”, a philosophy his grand children (Siji, Seyi, Femi & Jimi Mojolagbe) have believed in and cherish.

Source: Retrieved from Biography (burial program November 25, 2010) as written by the Children; Edited and arranged by (Chinanu- Akpuh, Chinwe Comfort and Stephen Victor)

Published

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