



Diocesan: Bishop Sherman L. Merritt



Dr. La Monte McNeese, Publisher | Managing Editor: Deacon Antonio Jones | Editor-in-Chief: Simone Cuarino, A.A.

EX CATHEDRAI

WITHOUT A PASTOR

YOU'RE A SPIRITUAL DISASTER!

Pastor La Monte McNeese

<u>Disaster</u>: out of order, disobedient, underprivileged, failure, disorder, in shambles, fiasco, mischance, trouble, unbiblical, identity crises, failure, problematic, ruination, ungodly.

ho is your pastor? Sadly, many people cannot answer this simple question confidently. Truth be told: If a pastor doesn't know your name, that person is NOT your pastor. And just because you admire some TV preacher doesn't mean YOU get to choose them as your "pastor". There is a big difference between a pastor and a preacher. Every pastor is a preacher, but not every preacher is a pastor. The New Testament presents the pastor (the under shepherd) as the head, the chief servant above all other church leadership.

The word *pastor* comes from a Latin word which means, "shepherd." And unless you think you're smarter than God, you need one! It's not optional.

And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Jeremiah 3:15 (1599 Geneva Bible)

Why would God give it if you didn't need it? Apparently, God doesn't feel like you can feed yourself the way a pastor can. The Bible teaches us that the pastor is given to the church as a gift. And it's a gift that keeps on giving!

There is no person on the face of this earth that is more important in the life of the believer than the pastor. Every child of God must of necessity be under the direct leadership of a pastor. Even pastors must be able to depend, receive needed advice from and even be amenable to someone.

According to the word of God, your pastor is the Leader, Feeder, Preacher, Teacher, Prophet, Priest, Shepherd, Servant, Steward, Watchman, Governor, Minister, Messenger, Tutor, Chief Presbyter, Bishop & Overseer in the local assembly.

It is the height of arrogance to believe that YOU can be all of that for yourself. And even if you could, (and you cannot) the Bible teaches us that GOD will *give you* a pastor. It's unlikely that you could have picked your own. And it's impossible that you ARE your own. You may think you did, and you may think you are, but you did not; you have been deceived! You may not like God's choice, but obedience is better than sacrifice. He alone is God, and He will do all of His pleasure!

To read the rest of the article visit www.fackytn.org (District 3 News)



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THE POET'S VOICE

Min. Frandrea Neal

I "MINT" to call and thank you, But my time is in demand.

I "MINT" to say I love you, But I knew you'd understand.

I "MINT" to send you flowers, But they cost so much you know.

I "MINT" to pray for you this morning,
But I had some place to go.

I "MINT" to say, "Forgive me," But that's so hard to do.

Then heard I the Lord to say, "Bless You My Child," I hope HE MINT me too!

Submit your poem to the Poet's Voice to news@fackytn.org



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Bishop Merritt Said ...

"We've got to be careful with putting things and equalizing God with things, that's why you can't worship the creature more than the creator. I don't care how good a man, he is not God. I don't care how blessed he is, he is not God."

Excerpt from a sermon entitled:

"You'll Be Delivered from There"

For your copy of Bishop Merritt's sermon, contact:

Deacon Antonio Jones lmcaj19@lmcneese.com 931-561-4898





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