"The Beginning of the Charismatic Movement in the Triad"

By Minister Francine Hash Part Two



Minister Francene Hash

They Were Examples - This was a pivotal season in the life of Bishop Reuben and Mother Mildred Hash as they returned from Tulsa with renewed energy and inspiration. They heeded to their call to stand firm on what God had told them to do. There was a bright continence on Bishop Hash's face like that of Moses when he came off the mountain after spending three days hearing from God as to how to lead the children of Israel to the promise land. His beautiful thick white hair shined like a halo. Bishop Hash had

banners made that read "Growth is Impossible without Change; Cope With It So That We All Can Grow Together." Many people made mockery of them to the degree of sending them anonymous threatening letters and bomb threats all because of their stand to break tradition in the church.

Bishop Hash, in his wisdom, knew that in order for the people of the church to adapt to change, they would have to see an example of the Word in action. The first example was the COGA Annual Conference. He changed the format to include renowned men and women of God such as Dr. Frederick Price, Kenneth Copeland, Kenneth Hagin, Tommy Barnett, Myles Munroe, Benson Idahosa, Phil Driscoll, Bill and Renae Morris, Charles Capps and many more. He hired Dr. Harvey Watson, a church ministry consultant, to come each year to conduct workshops on getting the church house in order. His decision was to train the pastors and leaders on Church and Business Operations for maximum church growth. He opened the sessions

to the public by conducting conferences on neutral ground at the Benton Convention Center.

Bishop Reuben Hash often stated that "you have to "lead" sheep to change, not "drive" them to it." As a means to gradually implement change, the School of Ministry and the Ministry of Helps Departments were started at his church. This resulted in the congregation understanding the purpose for ministry operations and many began to see themselves as gifts to the Body of Christ. They began to understand God's plan for the Church and how God chooses people who are willing to yield to His Word to increase.

True Shepherds - Bishop Reuben K. and Mother Mildred demonstrated cheerful spirit-filled hearts; full of joy and happiness and were loved by not only their own flock, but by the community and people world-wide. Without fail, Bishop Reuben K. and Mother Hash labored tirelessly to teach and preach the Word of God nourishing their flock with rich spiritual food for growth and living. Mark 10:45 says, "For even the son of man did not come to be served, and give His life a ransom for many." This verse explicitly defines a servant because a servant gives, forgives, and forgets. These qualities were evident in Bishop and Mother Mildred Hash. They gave of themselves for their flock's good. They forgave others when they were wronged and sought to restore them to the fold, and often placed their flock's welfare before their own. This is the unselfish spirit that Bishop and Mother Hash displayed to their congregation daily.

Bishop and Mother Hash were true shepherds. Unger's Bible Dictionary defines a shepherd as "to tend" or "one who tends". It goes on to say that he leads his flock from the fold, going before them..., calling them;...he finds those who stray..., he supplies them with water, and finally he watches their entrance by night.

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Mother Mildred Hash

The Epitome of Excellence - Bishop Reuben K. Hash was the epitome of empowered excellence and worked to instill that concept not only into his family, church members, and friends, but within all with whom he came in touch. Therefore, every program he began or inspired demanded excellence.

Bishop Hash envisioned the church as a place that reaches out into the community, providing healing to hurting people, deliverance to the oppressed, and encouragement to the youth. Realizing the plight of many young people, especially young men, steps were taken to work diligently and intensely with them in an effort to make each young man an overcomer, while enhancing his self-esteem. As a result, The Beaux-tillion Program was established, and it represented the culmination of training designed to build strong young men who will eventually be responsible leaders in their families, churches, communities, and institutions in our society.

Because of the Godly stand Bishop & Mother Hash took, their church became one of the fastest growing churches in the Southeast to the point that it provoked them to look for land to expand. During this time, many

> schools were closing and being placed on the market for sale. Because Shiloh Baptist Church was seeking to purchase the same school as St. Peter's, Bishop Hash and Dr. J. Ray Butler formed a corporation called the Shilohian St. Peter's Family Center. The purchase of the school still did not solve the challenge of providing enough land to expand the old church building; therefore, Bishop Hash formed the Research and Referral committee to begin the search for land to build a new church. After looking at many locations, the committee finally found a place that Mother Hash had seen in a dream.

> Mother Hash told her story of a dream where she saw a great big open place that had a lot of red dirt. She said that in her dream, a group of them were

walking through this place and stumbled upon a glass case that had a beautiful woman sleeping in it. When they opened the box, the woman opened her eyes and said, "Where have you been? I have been waiting for you for so long." When the committee brought Mother Hash to see the land, she instantly knew that that was the place she had dreamed of and they began Phase I.

Resignation as Senior Pastor - Many Supernatural things began to happen. As Bishop Reuben K. Hash stood in the pulpit at the church on Highland Ave. one Sunday and began to summarize his sermon, he turned to the congregation and began to prophesy. He told how God was confirming that he was entering into a new season of his ministry and announced that he would be retiring. He turned to Rev. J. C. Hash, Sr. and announced that he would be turning the pastorship of the church over to him. This transition occurred in 1987.

Bishop Hash often told the story of a vision that he had while sitting in the pulpit of the church whereby he saw a large field of beautiful flowers and down in the flowers were thousands of babies. The Lord confirmed to him that this meant that the vision was so large it would take a lot of young people with much energy to bring it to pass.

He continued to teach this message to pastors wherever he went that they must know when it is time to pass on the mantle. He also continued his pursuit to teach and to train pastors and began his travels throughout the country.

Pioneer. Impact. Legacy. - On June 17, 1993, Bishop Reuben K. Hash, Sr. expired this life on earth and is now enjoying eternal life with the Lord. Mother Hash is still shouting, singing, and preaching with the fire of a *Continued on Page 61*