

Colorizing the Bible

Renowned theologian says Bible's interpretations racist

By YVETTE N. FREEMAN
Chronicle Staff Writer

An internationally renowned theologian will be in Winston-Salem this weekend promoting his views of the Bible in relation to African-Americans.

Dr. Cain Hope Felder, professor of New Testament Language and Literature at the Howard University School of Divinity, will be at Special Occasions, 112 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, this Saturday, Nov. 16 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., signing his book, *Troubling Biblical Waters*.

Felder is also the editor of the recently published book, *Stony the Road We Trod*, and Howard University School of Divinity's *Journal of Religious Thought*, in addition to being the founder and chairman of the Biblical Institute for Social Changes, Inc.

He is one of only 30 blacks in the United States with a doctorate of theology, and among several African-American Bible scholars who have been actively trying to make the Bible more racially diverse and less Eurocentric.

According to Felder, few scholars have interpreted the Bible as showing blacks in roles other than demeaning, unimportant, and subservient.

Those Bibles that do portray strong dominant images of such blacks as the Queen of Sheba, Moses's wife and others, are often only available in mail order catalogs or specialized bookstores.

"It is not our intention to paint all the people in the Bible black," stated Felder in a recent interview with *The Washington Post*, "but rather show racial and ethnic pluralism. To make the Bible totally black as the Black Yahwist has done would be as bad as what [white

overlooked," she said.

"And certain geographical facts. For example, where is Egypt? Egypt is not in Europe. So if Egypt is the cradle of civilization, then what is the logical assumption? That these people were black. But with a Eurocentric view of the

"It is not our intention to paint all the people in the Bible black, but rather show racial and ethnic pluralism . . . that would be as bad as what (white scholars) have done by taking us out of the Bible . . ."

— Dr. Cain Hope Felder

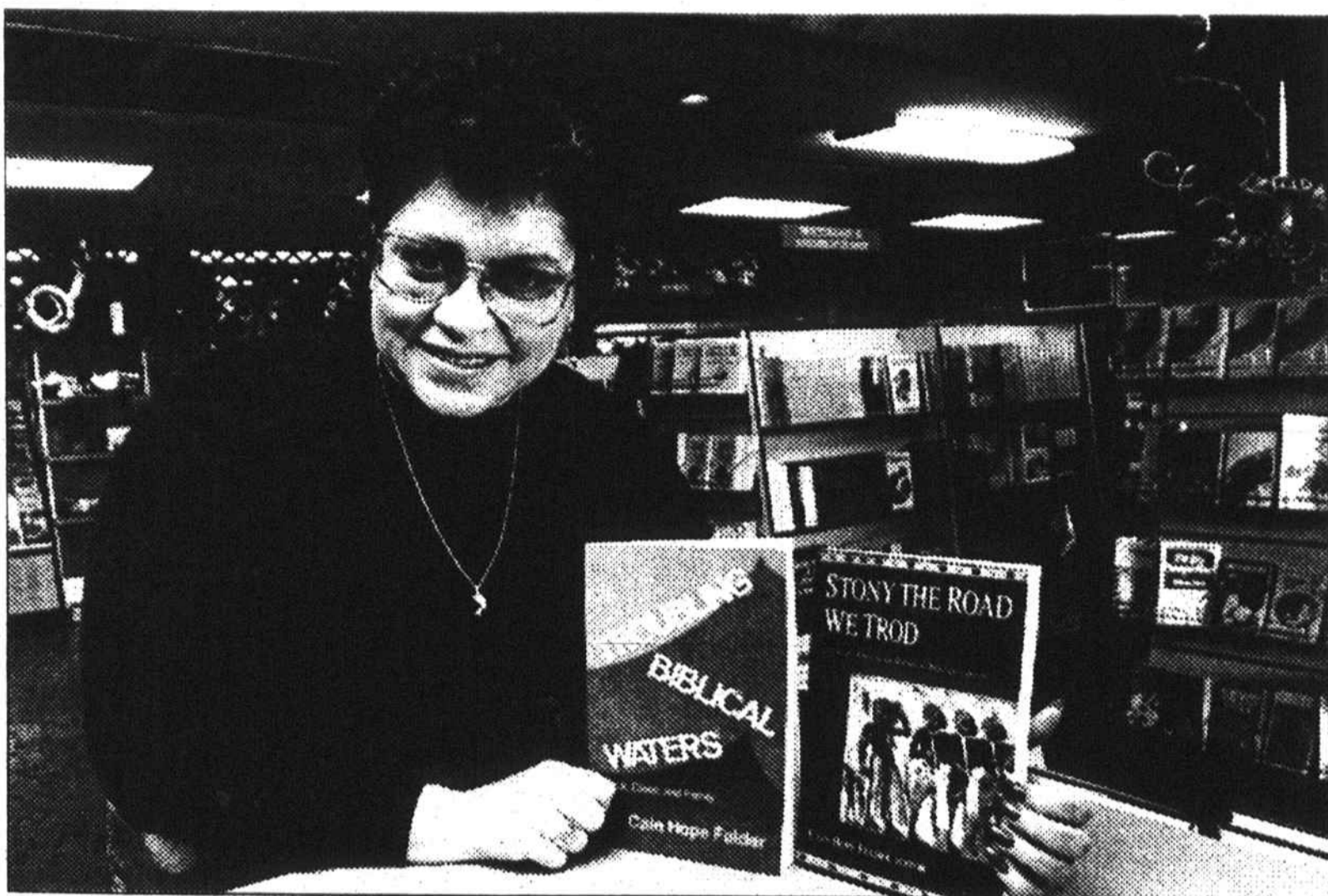
scholars] have done by taking us out of the Bible and marginalizing us."

Felder is not alone in his convictions. There are many African-Americans who specialize in Biblical analysis who also believe that the Bible's more popularized and accepted interpretations are not meant to be objective, but rather a method of maintaining the Eurocentric view.

Miriam McCarter, co-owner of Special Occasions agrees. "To me, there's certain truths that have been

Bible, it's almost as if Egypt has been pulled out of its real existence. And you just can't do it. Descriptions that are in the Bible, if you believe the Bible, those are black characteristics. So, it's just like our history books that have denied, to a great extent, the contributions and the history and the involvement of blacks."

Felder, whose book, *Troubling Biblical Waters*, is used as a text-



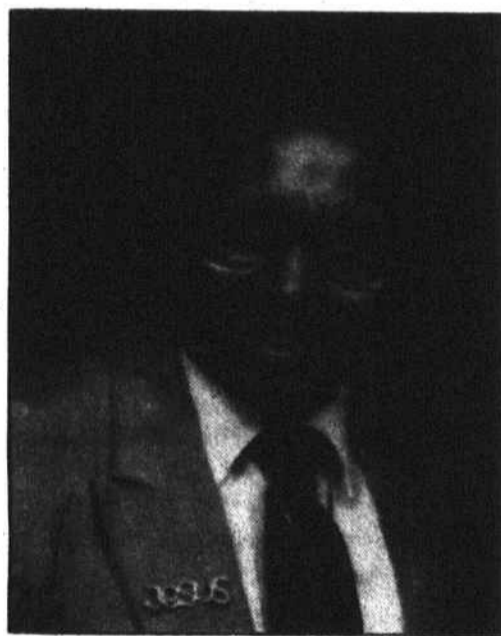
Miriam McCarter, co-owner of Special Occasions, holds up *Troubling Biblical Waters*, by Dr. Cain Felder, and *Stony the Road We Trod*, which he edited.

book in seminaries worldwide, was invited to Special Occasions after one of McCarter's customers heard him speak at a program in Washington, D.C. It was then that McCarter discovered that another of her customers is a personal friend of Felder's, who asked him, on behalf of McCarter, to extend his current

tour of North Carolina to Winston-Salem. "We've tried to open the doors of Special Occasions to quality products for the black community, whether it's books or crafts or whatever we feel can lend itself to quality merchandising," explained McCarter.

Later this month, Felder will

visit Fayetteville, but before leaving Winston-Salem, he will also be the special guest at a Theological Forum Saturday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m., at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, located at 950 File Street. The Forum will be sponsored by The Minister's Conference of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County and Vicinity.



Bishop Tony D. Williams



Dr. Lawrence S. Tate

New Faith Chapel, TVPH celebrate Convocation

New Faith Chapel Holiness Church will host its 10th District Convocation.

The Convocation will convene November 15-17. The District Overseer is Dr. Lawrence S. Tate.

The services are as follows: Friday, November 15, 7:30 p.m. — The speaker will be Tony D. Williams, pastor of Open Door Apostolic Church, 1st Administrative Assistant — Former Ruling

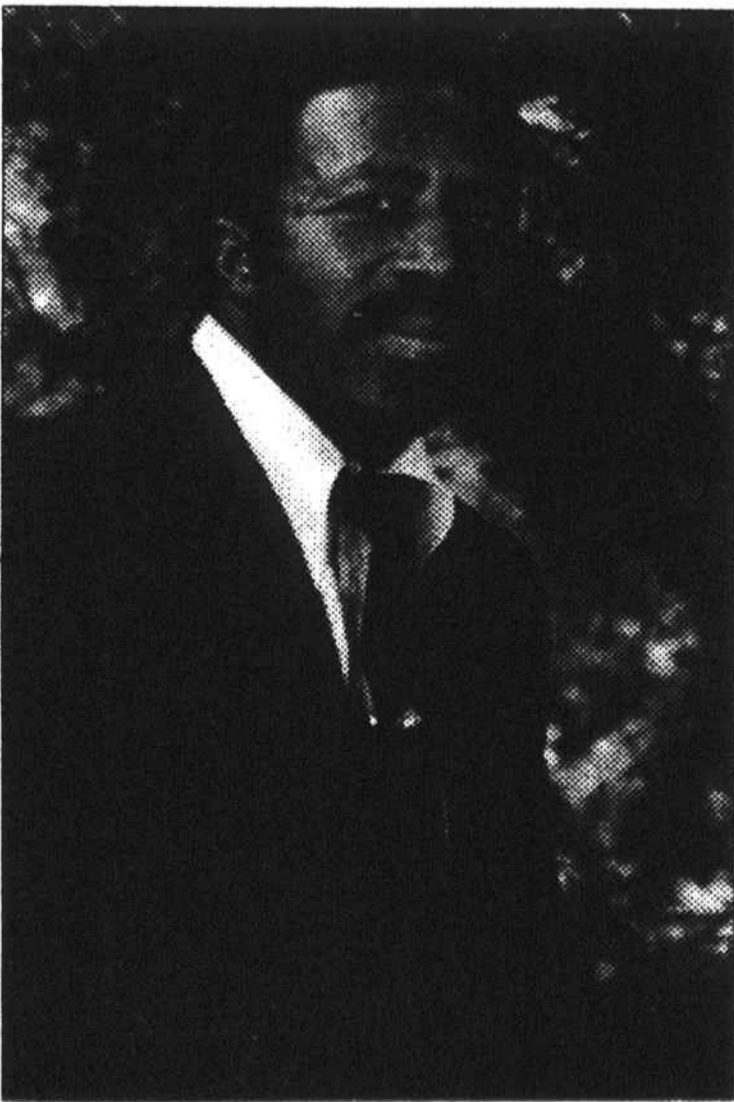
District #4; Sunday, November 17, 11 a.m. — The speaker will be Dr. Lawrence S. Tate, Jurisdictional Administrative Assistant, Founder and Overseer of New Faith Chapel, TVPH District #4.

On Saturday morning there will be a prayer breakfast held at the church at 9 a.m.

The 10 a.m. women's seminar will be conducted by Mrs. Brenda H. Tate and Mrs. Barbara M. Polite.

The men's seminar will be conducted by Dr. Lawrence S. Tate and Ruling Elder Arthur Fleming Holy Temple Church, Old Town.

The district officers are: Pastor/Jurisdictional Administrative Assistant — Dr. Lawrence S. Tate; 1st Administrative Assistant — Bishop Tony D. Williams; Ruling Elder — Elder Arthur Flemming; Secretary — Lenora McClain; Assistant — Minister Sandra Young; District Mother — Mrs. Brenda Tate; District President Women's Work — Mrs. Barbara Polite; District



Arthur Fleming, Ruling Elder

Elder of New Faith Chapel and a present member of the Board of Presbyters of District #4; Saturday, November 16, 7:30 p.m. — The speaker will be Minister Sandra Young — Associate Minister of New Faith Chapel, TVPH, Vice President — Missionary Department — Member of the Board of Presbyters of

Youth President — Minister Sharon Terry; District Missionary President — Mrs. Lenora McClain; and District Superintendent — Minister Sandra Young.

The church is located at 1419 Woughtown Street. For further information please contact the church office.

ADVERTISED ITEM POLICY: Each of these advertised items is required to be readily available for sale in each Kroger Store except as specifically noted in this ad. If we do run out of an advertised item, we will offer you your choice of a comparable item when available, reflecting the same savings or a raincheck which will entitle you to purchase the advertised item at the advertised price within 30 days. Only one vendor coupon will be accepted per item purchased.

LOW PRICES. AND MORE.

99¢
lb. U.S. Grade A (4-7 lb. Avg.) Frozen
Young Turkey Breast
Limit 2 With Additional Purchase

3 \$1
14.25-15.25-oz. Cans For Assorted Varieties Green Beans, Golden Corn or Green Peas
Stokely's Vegetables

69¢
lb. Extra Fancy, Washington Golden or Red Delicious Apples
Granny Smith Apples lb. . . 69¢

Old Carolina Sliced Bacon 1-lb. Pkg. 79¢	U.S. GOVT GRADED CHOICE GRAIN FED BEEF STEW BEEF OR Cube Steak Pound \$1.99	U.S. GOVT INSPECTED WAMPLER/LONGACRE Boneless Chicken Breast Pound \$2.69
NORMAL/DRY REGULAR/DRY SCALP OR NORMAL/DRY SHAMPOO Head & Shoulders 11-oz. \$2.49 SAVE UP TO \$1.49	ASSORTED FLAVORS Texas Gold Ice Cream 1/2-Gallon 2 \$5	HOMOGENIZED, SKIM OR Sealtest 2% Lowfat Milk 1/2-Gallon Paper Carton \$1.09
KROGER Grade A Large Eggs 18-ct. 99¢	REGULAR SCENT Kroger Bright Liquid Bleach Gallon 69¢	NONRETURNABLE BOTTLE, CAFFEINE FREE DIET PEPSI, CAFFEINE FREE PEPSI Diet Pepsi or Pepsi Cola 2-Liter 99¢