



BISHOP ALEXIS A. THOMAS
Senior Pastor, Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church

BISHOP ALEXIS A. THOMAS was born in Phoenix, Arizona on November 9, 1967 to Reverend and Mrs. Hubert Thomas. He is the third of four sons. In 1975, at the young age of seven, Bishop Thomas received his license to preach the gospel. After serving as an Associate Minister at the Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, he was named Senior Pastor at the age of 16 in an historic event in the state of Arizona. Under the leadership of Bishop Thomas, Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church grew from 250 to over 3,000 members, which initiated the need for a new sanctuary.

Bishop Thomas' vision for Pilgrim Rest was a three-pronged campus which included a Worship Center, a Word Center and a Wellness Center. Phase I of that vision came to fruition on Palm Sunday (April) of 2000, when the saints of Pilgrim Rest prayed and marched into their new, state-of-the-art Worship Center. Phases II and III came to fruition with the additions of the Word Center in 2003 and the Wellness Center in 2007.

Bishop Thomas holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biblical Studies from Southwestern Bible College in Phoenix, Arizona, and is currently attending The Graduate School of Episcopal Studies. Bishop Thomas authored and published his first book entitled, "A Child Shall Lead Them" in 2005. This book chronicles the journey God has led him through in the first 36 years of his life and leaves the reader waiting to read the rest of his journey.

Having served in the capacity of Senior Pastor of Pilgrim Rest since 1985, Bishop Thomas was ordained as the Bishop of the State of Arizona in the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship in New Orleans, Louisiana in November 2003. He serves the Arizona community in various capacities. Bishop Thomas serves on the Board of Directors of the Greater Phoenix Black Chamber of Commerce.

He is the General Chairman of the African American Christian Clergy Coalition which he founded in 2001. He is also the co-founder of the African American Strategic Alliance Coalition in Phoenix.

Bishop Thomas is married to First Lady Dr. Michele Thomas, a retired Major in the United States Air Force. He is the proud and loving father of five boys Shimond, Remone, Jamell and twin boys, Micah and Micaiah. He is a dynamic preacher who is passionate about proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ to the masses. He is a charismatic leader who has committed his life to serving God, to serving his people and being led by the Holy Spirit to carry out the vision God has placed in his heart.