



## AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF THE SOUTH

### 2010 -2011 Regional Oratorical Contest

Dear Team Members:

The **Oratorical Contest topics** have been tweaked and are ready for distribution to youth in our churches (see next page) . Please be in touch with your moderators to determine the schedule for your oratorical contest. The 2010 manual can be downloaded from the ABCOTS website; please spread the word.

**March 1, 2011 is the deadline** for names, applications and essays of first place winners in each division. The Regional Contest is scheduled for **Saturday, April 3, 2011**, and interviews will take place on Friday, April 2, 2011 from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Awards will be given during the Awards Luncheon on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the grand winner will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship in addition to a trip to the Biennial in Puerto Rico.

I'm sure it will be hard to top the 2010 contestants; however we look forward to the challenge. The youth workers are to be applauded for the tremendous job they did in preparing our young people.

Blessings,

Lacey S. Alford  
Oratorical Contest Coordinator

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

##### Please Note

*\*The local church of any winning contestant will be responsible for assisting with expenditures. The Areas are not financially able to cover all the expenses. Each Area will cover double occupancy hotel room expenses and 50% of the transportation. The local church and parents of a winning contestant will incur the other expenses.*

*\*\*Contestants will be interviewed the day prior to the Oratorical Contest and not the day of the Oratorical Contest.*



**41<sup>st</sup> Annual Session Theme**  
*“Celebrate God’s Glory, God’s Power, God’s Way”*  
**The Scripture Reference**  
*Isaiah 35*

**Isaiah 35: 1-10 (KJV)**

- 1. The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.*
- 2. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God.*
- 3. Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.*
- 4. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you.*
- 5. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.*
- 6. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.*
- 7. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes.*
- 8. And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.*
- 9. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there:*
- 10. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

**ORATORICAL CONTEST TOPICS**

**DIVISION I**

(6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> grade)

God’s Power Unfolds In My Life  
The Benefits of Living God’s Way  
Be Strong: We Shall Overcome

**DIVISION II**

(9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> grade)

How The Glory of God Shines Through Me  
The Challenges and the Benefits of Living God’s Way  
The Joy in Knowing God’s Glory

**DIVISION III**

(Graduating Seniors)

The Power and the Glory of God in My daily Walk  
Is God in this Broken Society?  
God’s Excellency in My Life