

# The 2005 Gardner C. Taylor Distinguished Lecturer

## Dr. Kwame Bediako

Rev. Professor Kwame Bediako, Fellow of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences, is a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana. After secondary education, he read French Honours at the University of Ghana, Legon, and pursued postgraduate studies in French Literature and African Literature in French, in the University of Bordeaux, France.

During his studies in France he came to a deep conviction regarding the spiritual and intellectual coherence of the Christian Faith, and discovered the crucial significance of personal faith in Christ in the pursuit of the intellectual life. Subsequently, he studied Theology at the London School of Theology, England, and later undertook doctoral research in the University of Aberdeen, Scotland.

He holds doctorate degrees in French Literature from the University of Bordeaux, and in Divinity from the University of Aberdeen.

From 1984, he served for three years as Resident and Presbyterian Minister at the Ridge Church, Accra, an international, interdenominational English-speaking congregation.

In 1987, he became Director of Akrofi-Christaller Centre for Mission Research and Applied Theology in Akropong-Akuapem, Ghana, an initiative of the Presbyterian Church of Ghana in research and advanced studies in the fields of Christian Faith and Thought and in the relationship of the Christian Church to society. His main task since that time has been to establish the Centre as an academic and pastoral institution serving the churches in Ghana, Africa and further afield through research and Christian scholarship, and to help develop a network of similar institutions elsewhere in Africa through the African Theological Fellowship (ATF), in which he serves as General Secretary.

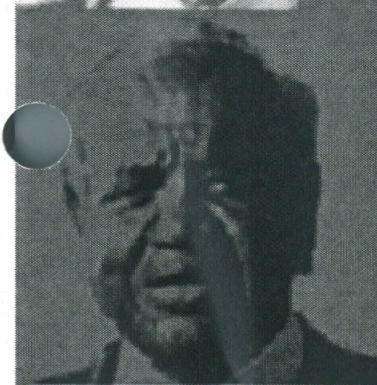
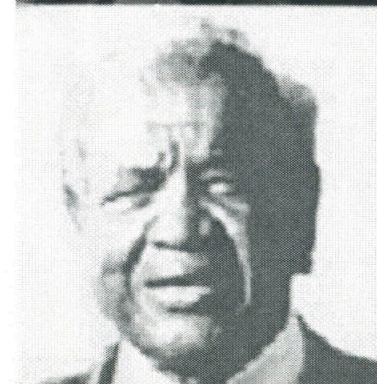
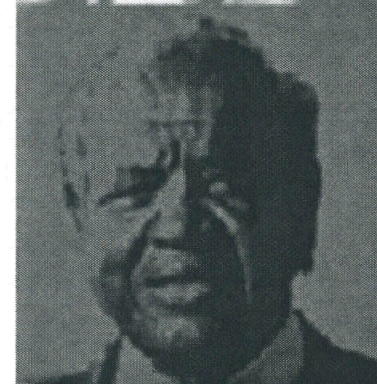
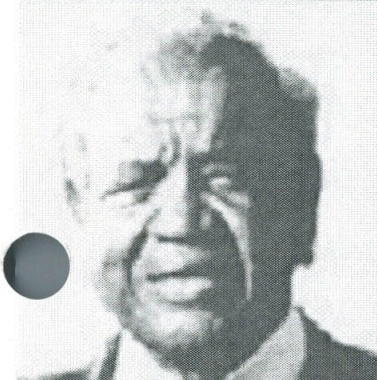
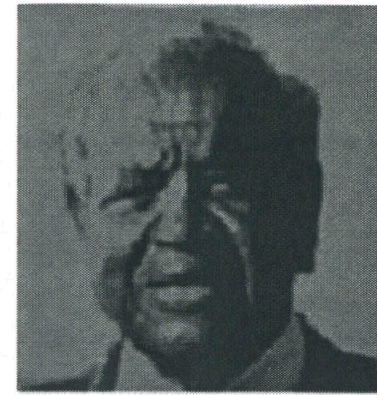
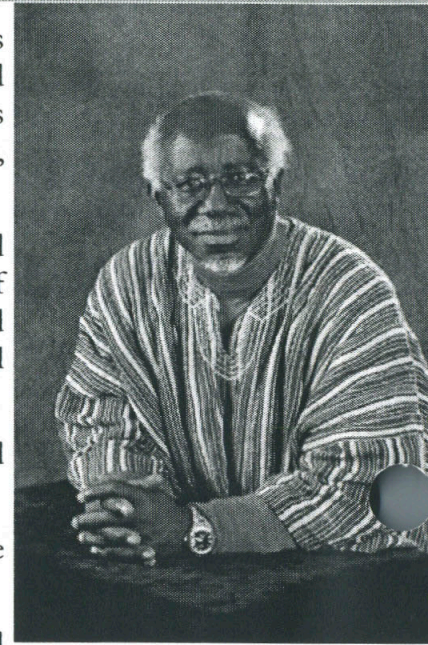
For twelve years he was Visiting Lecturer in African Theology in the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, where he lectured and gave postgraduate supervision for a term each year. He is also a member of the Board of the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies (OCMS), Oxford, England, and current Vice-Chairman of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Mission Theologians (INFEMIT), based in Oxford.

He has lectured also in many theological faculties in Europe, the USA and Africa.

In 1998 he was made an honorary Professor in the School of Theology, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, in recognition of the postgraduate programmes in African Christianity that ACMC runs on behalf of the ATF in conjunction with the School of Religion and Theology, University of KwaZulu-Natal (as it is now known).

He has written extensively in the fields of Gospel, culture and Christian identity, and in the development of new contextual theologies in Africa. His publications include *Theology and Identity—The Impact of Culture upon Christian Thought in the Second Century and Modern Africa*, Oxford: Regnum Books, 1992, reprinted 1999, *Christianity in Africa—The Renewal of a Non-Western Religion*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press; New York: Orbis Books, 1995; reprinted 1997 *Jesus and the Gospel in Africa, History and Experience*, Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2004.

He is married to Dr. Gillian Mary Bediako, who is Publications Officer and Editor at the Centre, and they have two young adult sons, Timothy Yaw (22) and Daniel Kwabena (19).



## The 2005 Gardner C. Taylor Lecture Series

October 4-5, 2005

Sponsored by The Office of Black Church Studies  
and The Black Seminarians Union

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

God of the past who has fathered and mothered us

**We are here to worship you,**

God of the future who is always ahead of us

**We are here to trust you,**

God of the present, here in the midst of us

**We are here to praise you,**

God who surrounds us with love indescribable

**We are here to adore you.**

#### \*OPENING HYMN

"I Am Thine, O Lord"

UMH #419

#### \*OPENING PRAYER (in unison)

Let us worship God, the God who forms the rhythm of our lives, the God who is present at the beginning and ending of each day...each time...each purpose. Let us worship God, the God who is never far from us, who knew us before we were knit in our mothers wombs. God of the longest day may our lives be long for you, always reflecting your light, open and awake, attentive to do your bidding. God of all time, God beyond time and behind time, may we know what is too late and what is too soon. May we always recognize the right time in the light of your timeless love. Amen.

#### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 14:25-35

#### SERMON

"The Peril of Inattentiveness to the Kingdom of God"

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

#### \*CLOSING HYMN

"I Surrender All"

UMH #354

#### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

*(Those who wish to make a free will offering in support of the Gulf Coast Hurricane relief may place gifts in the offering baskets at the rear of the chapel. Please make checks payable to "Duke Divinity School." Mark the memo line "Hurricane Katrina.")*

### WORSHIP LEADERS

**Preacher:** Dr. Kwame Bediako, Executive Director at Akrofi-Christaller Memorial Centre for Mission Research and Applied Theology in Akronpong-Aruape, Ghana.

**Liturgist:** Will Zant, Senior MDiv

**Lector:** Tracey Adams, Middler MDiv

**Organist & Pianist:** Dr. David Arcus, Chapel and Divinity School Organist

### THIS WEEK IN GOODSON CHAPEL

**Service of Word and Table**, Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am, Dr. Richard Hays, George Washington Ivey Professor of New Testament, preaching.

**Service in the Revivalist Tradition**, Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:30pm, Rt. Rev. Dr. Hilary Garang Deng, Bishop of Malakal, Episcopal Church of Sudan and an instructor in Bible and Liturgy at Bishop Gwynne College, preaching. Reception to follow sponsored by The Office of Black Church Studies, and the Visiting Teachers Program at Renk Bible College.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Duke Divinity School welcomes today's visitors:** Kim Carlson (M.Div, ELCA, NC), Caxton Mburu (M.Div, Baptist, NC) and his wife Liz Mburu, Myles Jones (M.Div, Non-Denominational, NC), Dan Newman (M.Div, UMC, OH), William Snow (M.Div, AMEZ, NC) and his wife Janice Snow

**We'd like to welcome the Baptist House Board of Directors to worship today**

**TONIGHT!! Indelible Grace Concert, also featuring Sandra McCracken, 7:00pm, Goodson Chapel**

**Autumn's Lent**, "What does the Lord require." Micah 6:8, Forty Days to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God through lament, fasting and prayer, October 4<sup>th</sup> – November 20<sup>th</sup>

**Interested in helping in worship as a lector, liturgist, or communion server?** Contact Emily Oliver Davis at [ed18@duke.edu](mailto:ed18@duke.edu).

**Morning Prayer** is held Monday – Friday from 8:20-8:40am in Goodson Chapel. Contact Maria Kane ([maria.kane@duke.edu](mailto:maria.kane@duke.edu)) for more information.