

Tribute of Lord Caradon, UK Ambassador to the UN, at Memorial Service
for
AMBASSADOR Z. K. MATTHEWS
Monday, 20 May, 1968

Four years ago I travelled with Z. K. Matthews through East Africa and Central Africa and West Africa, including a visit to what was then Bechuanaland. There we visited together the refugees from South Africa and South-West Africa.

Sometimes I think that you get to know someone best by travelling with him. Early starts, late arrivals, long days of meeting and talking, snatched conversations in aeroplanes. By the time we got back to Geneva after weeks of travelling and working together, I knew Z. K. Matthews pretty well.

Everywhere we went his reputation as a teacher and a patriot was our best passport.

He was welcomed in every country as a leader in education and as a devoted and tireless champion of freedom.

I learnt to respect him as a man of the highest purpose and principle. I rejoiced in the privilege of his company and his confidence. I learnt to love him as a friend.

Z. K. belonged not only to Botswana or to South Africa. He belongs to us all. He stood for the things that matter most. By the quality of his personality he enlivened and enlightened the causes he served.

He was a man blessed with fine and rare personal qualities. He was sensitive, compassionate, gentle, slow to anger, quick to respond to good humour and good will.

At the same time he was a courageous and indefatigable crusader against injustice and oppressions.

Among his many blessings was a wife whose charm and strength were equal to his own. They have seen their children grow up to bring further credit to a close and loving family.

To the people of Botswana I extend my most sincere condolences on the loss of a leader in whom they can be so justly proud. South Africa should be equally proud of him.

To the family of Z. K. Matthews I would say, with the deepest respect and affection, that I pray that in their sorrow they may also rejoice in the service and in the witness he has given and in the honour he has earned.

His steadfastness and uprightness will remain to bring hope to the oppressed everywhere and inspiration to all anywhere in the world who love learning and liberty.

May the example and the aims which he set as a citizen of the world live and thrive and succeed.

It could be said of Z. K. Matthews as it was said of a famous English statesman:

"He divined that the laws should be adapted to those who have the heaviest stake in the country, those to whom misgovernment means not mortified pride or stinted luxury but want and pain and degradation and risk to their own lives and to their children's souls."

I often remember a passage from one of the greatest sonnets in the English language. I quoted it when we heard of the death of Martin Luther King. I repeat it again as we think of the life and message of Z. K. Matthews:

"Live, and take comfort. Thou has left behind
Powers that will work for thee; air earth and skies;
There's not a breathing of the common wind
That will forget thee; thou hast great allies;
Thy friends are exultations, agonies
And love, and man's unconquerable mind."

ZACHARIAH K. MATTHEWS

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sentences and Invocation

The Rt. Rev. Stephen F. Bayne, Jr.

Hymn 1 "Holy God, Thy Name we bless"

Lesson Psalm 103 Dr. John A. Reuling

Response Psalm 130 (In Unison)

Out of the deep have I called unto thee,
O Lord; Lord, hear my voice.
O let thine ears consider well the voice of
my complaint.

If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what
is done amiss, O Lord, who may abide it?

For there is mercy with thee; therefore
shalt thou be feared.

I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for
him; in his word is my trust.

My soul fleeth unto the Lord before the
morning watch; I say, before the morning watch.

O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the
Lord there is mercy, and with him is plenteous
redemption.

And he shall redeem Israel from all his sins.

Lesson Romans 8:14-39
His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos

Hymn 63 "O God, our help in ages past"

Tributes: "Teacher and Friend" Dr. Donald M'Timkulu
"Diplomat" Chief S. O. Adebo

Hymn 102 "For all the Saints who from their labours rest"

Tributes: "World Citizen"
The Rt. Honorable Lord Caradon
"Churchman and Ecumenist"
The Right Rev. Stephen F. Bayne, Jr.

Prayers

Hymn 29 "The strife is o'er"

Benediction

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The Register of Condolence will be found on the
lectern at the 44th Street entrance for those who wish
to sign it.

Participants in the Memorial Service are:

His Excellency Chief S. O. Adebo
Executive Director,
Institute for Training and Research

The Right Rev. Stephen F. Bayne, Jr.
First Vice President, Executive Council
Episcopal Church

The Rt. Honorable Lord Caradon
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs
and Permanent Representative to the
United Nations for the United Kingdom

His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos
Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church
in North and South America

Dr. Donald M'Timkulu
Former Secretary of the All Africa Con-
ference of Churches; Research Fellow,
University of Pittsburgh

Dr. John A. Reuling
General Secretary for the Division of
World Mission of the United Church
Board for World Ministries