

September-October 2022

The Rays' Report

My Dear Friends:

Recently, while in a meeting with Pastor Richard Dorley in Tallassee, Alabama, our friends John and Debbie Mills took us on a tour of the State Capitol in Montgomery, Alabama. There, I read with great interest the story of Horace King. He was born a slave in 1807, and owned by John Godwin, a bridge builder. King learned the trade of bridge building from his owner. In 1846, Godwin freed King. Horace King became the most respected bridge-builder in west Georgia, Alabama and Northeast Mississippi. He built over 100 bridges but also built other structures including a courthouse.



Horace King

Godwin had treated his slaves kindly and when he died in 1859, King erected a monument over his grave. That monument declared "the love and gratitude he felt for his friend and former master."

During **Reconstruction**, King served twice as a member of the Alabama House of Representatives. His portrait is displayed in the beautiful capitol (which he helped rebuild after a fire) at Montgomery. Freedom is an amazing thing. When men are free they do their best work. Christ sets people free, and that is the story of missions.

This summer, Mary and I had great mission meetings in the Illinois, Alabama, and Tennessee. This fall we will be in Maryland, several locations in Georgia, and the Chicago area. Please pray for these meetings. Pray that God will stir hearts and set men free.

Yours for the Harvest,

The Rays
James and Mary Ray



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