

Why this website?

The family of Rev. H. P. Robinson launched this website in June 2005. Since then we have added 54 complete sermons, 15 sermon outlines, eight audio clips, several tributes, both of his books, and a photo gallery. To my astonishment this website has had an average of 150 visitors each month. Although we have completed more than I thought possible, we have barely begun. It will take years to finish the task.

We will continue this work because it adds a significant body of literature for the world to enjoy and use. If you have a story about Padgett, please e-mail me at mail@hprobinson.com and share it with me. We have a section of the website that features stories by people who knew and appreciated him. Also, I am looking for audio tapes and even film of him preaching. As this project unfolds, I welcome your comments and suggestions.

History of this Website

It was more of a plaintiff cry than a question: “What should we do with all of Daddy’s sermons?” Cathie, as the eldest daughter, had been storing five containers of her father’s sermons, notes, and other writings. She had raised the question before, but no answer had ever been offered.

Perhaps it is because someone had recently asked if we had any copies of Rev. Robinson’s book of sermons that Mrs. Robinson had edited that it occurred to me that I could scan some of the sermons or the entire book and send it to the person via e-mail. From this thought the idea evolved that if we had a website, we could post most of his writings for the public to use and enjoy.

As I approached the task I had to make a choice. I could build the entire site and launch it as a complete whole in a few years. Or I could let it become a work in progress, adding material on a continuing basis. I chose the latter. Most people will only have a cursory interest in what is presented here. But there will be others, especially preachers and teachers, who will mine this site for all it is worth. The process will be easier for them and for me if the site expands gradually.

The sermon manuscripts are organized by titles that begin with the scripture text followed by the sermon title. On the homepage, click on sermons and then click on the folder named “By scripture text-alphabetical.”

To see when sermons are posted, click on sermons and then click on the folder named “By date added to this website-year and month.” There you will find folders for each month that display the sermon titles added in each month. Opening a title will display directions to the complete sermon manuscript.

On a personal note, growing up in South Carolina I heard Padgett Robinson preach often. The last sermon I heard him preach was about Elijah and the prophets of

Baal, astounding in both content and delivery. Little did I know at the time that I would eventually marry one of his daughters and that the task of preserving his written legacy would fall to me. One measure of the man is that 40 years after his death, people still ask us for his books, talk about his sermons, and are quick to share a story of one of their encounters with him.

I believe that his greatest strength, however, was not his preaching ability, although few have achieved the standard he established in more than 30 years of ministry. To me his most effective trait was his care for people, young and old, ignorant and literate, saved and unsaved.

I will never forget the time that he stopped to speak with me on the sidewalk outside of the old tabernacle in Lake City. I was a teenager, but he remembered that I had received my Mission Worker's License the previous spring. Even though he was accompanied by Bishop J. A. Synan, who was preparing to speak at the camp meeting, he stopped to ask me if everything was going well, if I had had any speaking engagements, and if I needed anything from him. Padgett Robinson thought I was important enough to take a moment of his busy schedule to converse with me, a teenage boy. He also took the time to introduce me to the Bishop, which was a great honor.

If you talk to people who knew Padgett, they almost always start by telling you about some sermon he preached and how it moved the crowd or changed their lives. But if you talk long enough, they will mention how much he cared for people or how he always seemed to know their names or how he showed compassion for those who were hurting. He loved to preach, but I think it was his great love for people that motivated him to be such an effective speaker. He wanted to communicate the Gospel clearly so that the sinner might be saved and then live a holy and happy life.

Ron White, Ed.D.
Columbia, South Carolina
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