



William Carey celebrates birth of namesake with statue dedication

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By Jeff Daley, Reporter



HATTIESBURG, MS (WDAM) - William Carey University dedicated a new statute Thursday to celebrate the anniversary year of its namesake's 250th birthday.

The seven foot, 600 pound bronze statue of William Carey is titled "Carey Turns to the World". The statute depicts Carey rising from his cobbler's bench abandoning his tools and old life and turns to mission work in India. He is clutching his bible and gazing into the future.

William Carey was born August 17, 1761 and he is known as the Father of Modern Missions.

"William Carey had a famous motto, expect great things from God and attempt great things for God," said Tommy King, President William Carey University. "It's that motto that has inspired this university to move forward and progress as we have."

The statute was crafted by Ben Watts of Columbia. It stands in front of the Sarah Gillespie Museum of Art on Campus.

Following the dedication a special chapel service was held for the students and faculty in the Smith Auditorium. Guest preacher for the service was Doctor Thomas Eliff, President of the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Conventions. His message during the service was one of urgency.

"Harden not your heart," said Eliff. "I have three words for them, hear heed, and hurry. These are important days for us especially as we think about the opportunities we have to share the gospel of Christ."

Doctor Eliff has pastored in Oklahoma and Colorado and has served in Zimbabwe with the Foreign Mission Board."