



# JAMES WILLIAMS SR.

CEO | MASTER GUITARIST | GOSPEL MUSIC PREACHER

THE ELECTRIFYING CROWN SEEKERS GOSPEL SINGERS

75 Years of Age

Marrero, LA

**Date of Birth:** July 9th, 1944 - Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Place of Birth:** Liberty, MS

James was one of the four founding members of The Electrifying Crown Seekers Gospel Singers, organized in 1965. The group got its name from one of the former members, Mr. Earnest Roy. Later, Electrifying was added by a radio DJ, Wilson Howard. The Crown Seekers fame spread far and near. The group ministered for 55 years and was a down-home, country-tinged gospel group from Marrero, LA.

James was the only original member of the 55-year-old Crown Seekers, currently backed by members of his large musical family and their community.

The Electrifying Crown Seekers anchored a vibrant, under-the-radar gospel music community in the heart of the birthplace of jazz – “Naw’lins” (New Orleans).

Dedicated to preserving the raw quartet style of singing made famous by The Dixie Hummingbirds and The Blind Boys of Alabama, the Crown Seekers and the New Orleans quartet community fostered a nascent local circuit that supported close to 50 regular acts.

James influenced many Gospel Hits such as "Turn The Other Cheek", "Make Jesus Number One", "Old Revival", "You're No Better Than Me", "Every Day I Wake Up", "The First Day", "Precious Lord", "Lord Forgive Me", "Can I Get A Witness", "Precious King", "Let's Get Serious", "Run On", "Made Jesus My Choice", "All The Way", "Send Me", "The Book", "Jesus Said It", "Taking Care of Me"...

James & The Crown Seekers have toured France a number of times from 1990 through 2000's but can far more often be heard at St. Lucy's church fair, playing for charity.

The Crown Seekers are dedicated to God, their families, friends, fans, and former members: Sam Jones, Rev. Joseph Carter, Jerry Pittman, Bill Robinson, Earnest Roy, William Walker and their families...

James is now joining his fellow deceased members in God's Heavenly Quartet: Rev. Bob Fradieu, Joe Johnson, Dan Pittman, Henry Pittman, Jimmy Mason, Johnson Lee Davis, Melvin Burns, Joe Cook, Cleveland Growe, Warren Hill, Monroe Pittman, Tommy Munson, Sylvester O'Neal, Rev. Marion Tobias, Tommy Williams, and Robert Young.

***“We don't play in clubs, but if they wanted gospel, we would do it there! We will play anywhere they need the gospel,” promises Williams. “We can sing high, we can sing low, we can sing in between. We can sing country western—we do it all, so that wherever we go, from the nursing homes to the Jazz Fest, we'll be able to do whatever is needed.”***

***Gospel quartets are rare, James Williams explains. “Most gospel groups have so many members because not everyone who plays an instrument can sing,” he says. “We all play and harmonize, so we don't need more than the four.” When asked why the Crown Seekers can be seen performing with up to nine people in its quartet, Williams laughs. “Somebody always wants to join our group. They always are trying to get in. And I have been trying to get more young people in the group in case anything happens to me.”***