

HONORARY DEGREE—MAY 2026

Mark Finley

Doctor of Divinity

Mark Finley has served the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a pastor, evangelist, teacher and administrator for nearly six decades. His passion for leading people to Jesus, communicating the gospel and teaching the next generation of ministers has touched countless lives.

Finley holds a bachelor's degree in theology from Atlantic Union College and a master's degree in pastoral ministry from Andrews University. He was also recognized with honorary degrees from Southwestern University and Montermorelos University. He began his career in 1967 as a pastor in the Southern New England Conference and, later, the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. Finley returned to the Southern New England Conference as an evangelist in 1974, and after five years, he became president and professor of the Lake Union Soulwinning Institute. He was also the director of the North American Division Evangelism Institute from 1979–1982. During this time, he had the opportunity to teach seminary students pursuing their Master of Divinity degrees, imparting a commitment to Christ, a love for His Word and the skills to reach their communities through a ministry to the whole person—physically, mentally, socially and spiritually.

From 1985–1991, Finley worked as a Ministerial Association secretary for the Trans-European Division as well as a teacher and evangelist for 17 countries in Europe. He conducted public meetings in Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Russia. Over the course of his career, he has led over 200 global evangelistic meetings—most recently in Nigeria, Tanzania and Kenya—resulting in tens of thousands of conversions to Christ. His sermons have been translated into over 50 languages.

Another facet of Finley's ministry has been his pioneering work in the field of satellite evangelism. In 1991, he became the speaker and director of It Is Written International Television. In this role, he expanded outreach to over 1,000

churches in 40 countries and established new satellite centers in 10 countries. He has also recorded over 400 radio programs for the Salem National Radio Network and held the role of vice chair for the Hope Channel International TV Board and the Adventist World Radio Board.

In 2004, Finley joined the General Conference (GC) of Seventh-day Adventists as director of world evangelism. In 2005 he was elected vice president for world evangelism at the GC, where he served until 2010. Since that point, he has served as an assistant to the president of the General Conference. In addition to his preaching, teaching and media contributions, Finley has also written more than 70 books on Christian living, Bible doctrines and the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation.

Finley currently serves as president of Hope Lives Evangelistic Ministries, where he has produced hundreds of videos for the HopeLives365 YouTube channel, and leads out a pastoral retreat center in Haymarket, Virginia. He and his wife, Ernestine, have worked together in evangelistic ministry for over 50 years, and they continue to serve at schools and pastoral conventions around the globe.

For his ongoing commitment to educating and mentoring young people in evangelistic work around the world and in recognition of his extensive work in media, Andrews University takes great pleasure in honoring Mark Finley with the degree Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*.