

Dedicated Men of Zion

Gospel



Photo: Bible & Tire Records

Greenville, Pitt County, NC

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"Down in the Water"

<https://youtu.be/chiR6D2jfl4>

COASTAL PLAIN

The **DEDICATED MEN OF ZION** came up out of the singing traditions of Black communities in eastern North Carolina, around the city of Greenville and the small neighboring town of Farmville. For Anthony "Amp" Daniels, the group's eldest member, harmonizing was worked into every corner of life growing up. Every day, his mother (a member of the longstanding Farmville gospel institution the Glorifying Vines Sisters) would call her children inside, turn off the television, and make them practice singing in harmony, even talking in harmony. That legacy continues with the Dedicated Men of Zion, whose four vocalists – Anthony Daniels, Antwan Daniels, Dexter Weaver, and Marcus Sugg – are now all family, through blood or marriage.

Although individual members have practiced other genres of music (Anthony Daniels led a career in R&B down in Atlanta, while his son, Antwan, has experience in hip hop production) the Dedicated Men of Zion remain close to their roots. For them, listening to and making music began in the church, and they are still at home singing classic gospel quartet material, infusing it with a soul sound that is firmly grounded in tradition yet uniquely their own. The Dedicated Men of Zion pride themselves on being able to deliver the messages of salvation and resilience that gospel is built upon. According to Anthony Daniels, one of the group's main goals is "relaying messages that will help people to stay encouraged, to keep moving forward, don't give up."

The Dedicated Men of Zion have toured throughout North Carolina and nationally, bringing their commitment to authentic gospel sound to secular and spiritual audiences alike.

AVAILABILITY

The Dedicated Men of Zion play festivals, performing arts centers, and churches worldwide. Their recordings, including their most recent album, *Can't Turn Me Around*, can be purchased at your local record store or streamed online via all streaming platforms.