

Pastor's Page

"Princes shall come out of Egypt and Ethiopia shall stretch forth her hands unto God." Psalm 68:31

Greetings my Beloved in the Lord! That scripture I just quoted above according to African-American Religious Historian Albert Raboteau helped our people during and immediately after that awful night of Chattel slavery, brutality, maiming and murdering of Black people in this country. Al Raboteau points out that Psalm 68:31 gave our ancestors some understanding of why a Good God would let such a horrible thing happen to them. They surmised Raboteau postulates that God had a purpose for African people to save the soul of America and empower our people in Africa. What a glowing history we celebrate this second Sunday of Black history month. Our people hearing that word pushed forward to building schools, insurance companies, business' and various institutions with *"nickels and nails, pennies and prayers,"* all so that their descendants would have a base to sustain and support them that did not require assistance from the racist white government that had sanctioned their enslavement and second class citizenship.

Here we are entering the second decade of the 21st century at another precipice in our collective history right here in Gary, IN. Except we not only can draw from the Subterranean streams of the sword of the Spirit (the word of God) we can also drink deeply from the rivers of recollection of our own people. We here at Trinity UCC-Gary are a tithing church. We stand with the word of God that says *"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse..."* as the only way God mandated we build his Church. This is what inspired our forebears to build, own land and create business. They believed the word of God and therefore they gave not only their treasures but also of their time and talents to entrust a viable future to those coming after them. Let us remember what God has done for us through those who as Hebrews says, *"All died not having received the promise..."* so that all of us together might partake in God's providence. Please stand with me, Stand with your ancestors and stand with our God as we honor him this Sunday by how we give to build our church, this Holy institution!

God Bless you and God Keep you!


Pastor John E. Jackson, Sr.