

REMEMBERING, CELEBRATING, AND CONTINUING THE DREAM

Behold,
how good and how pleasant it is
for brethren to dwell together in unity.
(Psalms 133:1)

WHAT IS UNITY? “United: to put or join together so as to make one. To combine.”
United in our efforts to fight injustice, racism, and discrimination.

God has invited all of us to fulfill His purpose. The only way people will be able to fulfill His purpose and find fulfillment in their lives is to discover the reasons why they were created, and then fulfill them.

The foremost reason for God’s creating man was for the purpose of relationship. But Sin entered the universe through Satan and then into the human race.

SO WHAT IS SIN? Sin is purposely doing wrong. Sin is a committed act. The worst thing one can do is to see sin being committed and to do nothing about it. This makes you as guilty as the one committing the act. You become an accessory to the crime.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., saw sin in its rawest forms.

- He saw the sin of racism—the belief that human races have distinctive characteristics that determine their respective cultures, usually involving the idea that one’s race is superior and has the right to control others.
- He saw the sin of discrimination—the belief that race accounts for difference in human character or ability, leading to prejudice and inequity based on race.

- He also saw hope—the expectation that people would someday not be judged by the color of their skin but by the contents of their character.

Dr. King was an American clergyman, activist, and prominent leader in the African-American Civil Rights Movement (where all races took part) and after which he said, “We are not alone”.

Dr. King did not start out being a preacher, activist, or even a civil rights leader. God called him to be a preacher; he answered the call. He preached the Word to his people.

But then Dr. King, came out from behind the pulpit, out from the behind the four walls of his church, away from his comfort zone. He began to teach, inspire, and educate all those who would listen.

He enlisted in the army of the civil rights movement; he was not alone. Some were murdered. I am reminded of the three civil rights workers who were killed fighting the same cause.

Dr. King joined to fight the common enemy—Satan—with his deception and injustice.

We all have this same common enemy: “Black,” “Red,” “White,” “Yellow”— it’s everyone’s duty to fight injustice. But that fight can only be done through love. True love doesn’t count the cost; it gives liberally.

I ask you today, **will you enlist in the army of the Lord?** Dr. King did not fight for blacks; he fought for all people. And the people gave him the Nobel Peace Prize. Will you keep hope alive? Fight the good fight of faith? Stand up and fight racism, injustice, discrimination, and sin?

Injustice is not a black thing; it’s a sin thing. It crosses all racial barriers. We are to wage war on the enemy—our common enemy Satan himself. You can be sure that there is a war going on. In a war, there are casualties. War could cost you your life. Are you willing to die? But when the battle is fought, the victory is won.

Dr. King had a dream. He dreamed that one day this nation would rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.” He had a dream that every valley would be exalted, and every hill and mountain would be made low, the rough places would be made plain, and the crooked places would be made straight; “and the glory of the Lord would be revealed and all flesh would see it together” (<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkihadream.htm>).

We know, however, that this place called earth is not our home. Dr. King was privileged, like Moses, to see the promised land. Oh Beulah Land! We are going home one day!

Will you fight against injustice? Will you fight the good fight of faith? With this faith, we will be able to transform lives. With this faith, we can work, pray, struggle, and stand for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

Will you join the army with me today, and fight? Fight sin of every kind. Fight racism. Fight injustice of any kind. Together we stand, divided we all fall. Together we are more than conquerors through Him who loves us.

When the fight is won, all God’s children will celebrate together. Oh what a time; what a time. This will be the day; this will be the day.

We will be able to speed up that day when all of God’s children—black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics—will be able to join hands and sing:

*Free at last! Free at Last!
Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!”*

Fight for justice, human rights, and unity.

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CRCNA Chapel Service
Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.