



LIBERATING
FAITH STUDIES

PROPHETS
Faithful to
GOD'S COVENANT

The Order of Service

- I. Bell tap or organ voluntary
as a signal for silence
 - II. Singing
 - III. The Apostles' Creed
 - IV. Prayer, closing with the
Lord's Prayer in concert
 - V. Singing
 - VI. Calling roll of officers and teachers
 - VII. Responsive reading
of the lesson text by school
 - VIII. The Decalogue
-

The Lesson

- I. Organ interlude while
the classes are being arranged
 - II. Class study of the lesson
 - III. Warning bell — 5 minutes
 - IV. Closing bell — silence
-

The Closing

- I. Singing
- II. Review and application
of the lesson
- III. Secretary's report
- IV. The Church School Creed
- V. Singing
- VI. Benediction

Editorial Staff

Publisher • Rev. Dr. Roderick D. Belin

Editor • Rev. Dr. Garland F. Pierce

— Lessons —

Dr. D. Melynda Clark

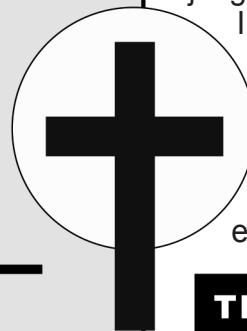
The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He arose from the dead, He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Church Universal, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

The Church School Creed

I believe my A.M.E. Church School must grow and grow; and that I must make it a top priority to make it so. Every member a Christian, every Christian a worker, every worker trained so that a worker need not be ashamed. This we ask in Jesus' name.



Moses: Prophet of Deliverance

Lesson Scripture: Exodus 12:28-50; Deuteronomy 18:15-22

Focus Scripture: Deuteronomy 18:15-22

Key Verse: "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet." Deuteronomy 18:15 (NRSV)

DEUTERONOMY 18:15-22 (NRSV)

15 The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet.

16 This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die."

17 Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said.

18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command.

19 Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable.

20 But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

21 You may say to yourself, "How can we recognize a word that the Lord has not spoken?"

22 If a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord but the thing does not take place or prove true, it is a word that the Lord has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; do not be frightened by it.

DEUTERONOMY 18:15-22 (KJV)

15 The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken;

16 According to all that thou desiredst of the Lord thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the Lord my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not.

17 And the Lord said unto me, They have well spoken that which they have spoken.

18 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.

19 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.

20 But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die.

21 And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken?

22 When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.

KEY TERMS

- **Accountability** – An expectation to take responsibility for one’s actions; culpability.
- **Horeb** – Also known as Mount Sinai; the mountain of God (Numbers 10:33), the location where God’s laws were given to Israel (Exodus 17:6; 33:6).
- **Presumptuous** – To be overconfident in assumptions.
- **Prophet** – A spiritual leader who has been given a divine ability to foresee the future, a seer; one who warns a community of an expected fate: one who speaks on behalf of God.

INTRODUCTION

Deuteronomy is the fifth book of the Jewish Torah and of our Christian Bible. The events recorded in Deuteronomy took place while Moses and the Israelites were still in the land of Moab. The words proclaimed by Moses are presented forty days prior to their entering the promised land, a symbolic juncture and critical reminder for God’s people. At the ripe age of 120 years old, Moses is experiencing

Moses does not leave the people wondering about their future leadership. He prophetically states that God will provide a prophet who will continue to lead and guide them in their journey ahead.

his final days of life. He recognizes this as a crucial time of his leadership and his role as God’s prophet, to reinforce the mandated laws that are so crucial to God’s faithful covenant. Realizing his own impending death, he used this opportunity to announce a call to obedience. The definition of Deuteronomy from the Greek *Septuagint* is interpreted as “second law.” Moses’ retelling of God’s laws is the dominant theological theme in this book, declaring that all must abide by the Deuteronomic Code which honors God’s covenant with God’s people. Verses 9-14 identify examples of the distinct difference in religious beliefs

and practices that Israel must never engage. The call for holiness and obedience is reiterated throughout this book, with warnings of the tragic consequences if the people fail to heed God’s commands. Moses does not leave the people wondering about their future leadership. He prophetically states that God will provide a prophet who will continue to lead and guide them in their journey ahead.

TELLING THE BIBLE STORY

Moses is considered one of the greatest

prophets that led the Israelites. Yet, even Moses had to transition his power and leadership to the next generation. Deuteronomy provides the narrative of this great prophet's encouraging words to the people to trust God to provide a new prophetic leader with the same anointing and gifting as Moses himself (vs. 15-19). Moses speaks these words, not from his own volition, but through the Spirit of God speaking through him. Moses was not a stranger to hearing God's voice. His ministry calling began with God commissioning him on a holy mountain, illustrating God's divine presence through a non-consuming brush fire. This would be a meager example of God's power, as compared to changing the human condition to leprosy (Numbers 12), or bringing life to an inanimate object. Moses frequently had encounters with YAHWEH throughout Egypt and during the long arduous journey through the wilderness. The journey ultimately leads Moses to this final chapter of his life. His new mission is to reiterate God's covenant commands to the people and leave them reassured that they would be led by a worthy successor.



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Moses was not only a prophet but a social activist against the oppressive tyrannical regime of Pharaoh. He was the mediator between a rebellious community and God. His leadership required him to be an enforcer of law and always a committed prophet for God. These characteristics are the standard for the future prophets following Moses. God's words are to be placed in the prophet's mouth, and only those words should a prophet speak. The prophet's message from God is delivered to guide and protect the people. However, those who reject the true prophet's message will face a harsh penalty. The prophet cannot be careless and reckless in using the sacred office. There are severe consequences for the actions of the prophet who speaks presumptuously (1 Kings 18:20-40). Therefore, the people must be on guard for those who declare their authority as a true prophet but merely offer opinionated insights from their personal agendas.

Moses' message is a timeless one. The call to prophetic ministry continues throughout the Old and New Testaments, with frequent warnings to guard against

false prophets and following their direction (1 Corinthians 14:29; 1 John 4:1).

SANKOFA

Harriet Tubman grew up during the Second Great Awakening, a time when Christians believed that they needed to reform America in order to usher in Christ's second coming. During this time, a number of black female preachers preached the message of revival and sanctification on Maryland's eastern shore. One of these preachers was Jarena Lee, the first authorized female preacher in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Historical records are uncertain as to whether Tubman attended any of Lee's camp meetings. However, she was inspired by the evangelist. She came to understand that women could hold religious authority. She also believed that there

was no separation between the physical and spiritual worlds, a direct result of African religious practices. Tubman literally believed that she moved between a physical existence and a spiritual experience where she sometimes flew over the land. An enslaved person who trusted Tubman to help him escape simply noted that Tubman had "de charm," or God's protection. Charms or amulets were strongly associated with

African religious beliefs.

Tubman's near-death injury became her spiritual gift. When she was a teenager, Tubman happened to be at a dry goods store when an overseer was trying to capture an enslaved person who had left his slave labor camp without permission. The angry man threw a two-pound weight at the runaway but hit Tubman instead, crushing part of her skull. For two days she lingered between life

and death. The injury left her with temporal lobe epilepsy, resulting in severe headaches, narcolepsy, and causing her to have dreamlike trances. Tubman believed that her trances and visions were God's revelation and evidence of his direct involvement in her life. She believed in God's providential guidance and protection, making her fearless and relentless as an abolitionist.



She came to understand that women could hold religious authority.

Once, while leading two men to freedom, she believed she heard God speak to her and say, "Stop – leave the road." She proceeded to lead the reluctant men through an icy stream, and ultimately to their freedom. Harriet Tubman was a woman who was small in stature, but she was truly a giant in her faith and her calling.

CASE STUDY*False Leadership – A perspective on the COVID-19 Pandemic*

There has not been a healthcare crisis recorded as severe as the novel coronavirus pandemic in the United States since the Spanish Flu pandemic. This crisis lasted from 1918 through 1920. The Spanish Flu, an H1N1 virus, infected over 500 million people, about a third of the world's population. It caused massive sickness and 675,000 deaths in the United State over the course of four waves of succession surges. There are lessons that can be learned from this and similar biological crises, if leadership appropriately responds and communicates a viable plan.

The COVID-19 pandemic rapidly advanced across the globe in early 2020, quickly catching most countries off-guard. However, the United States of America had an opportunity to prepare for this threat and work with healthcare

systems, businesses, economists, and of course citizens in facing this lethal threat. Instead, the common perception is that U.S. leadership refused to position the people for prevention, instead practicing

its usual presumptive arrogance of indifference, thereby jeopardizing the safety and welfare of the nation.

The history books will reveal that under the leadership of President Barak Obama's previous administration, there was a plan in place to respond to a potential pandemic. It was the semblance of a prophetic understanding of a future event. This plan also included a team of experts, along with a continuing relationship with the international community,

including specialists and epidemiologists, who work to address potential health threats. Under President Obama's leadership, a similar catastrophe was avoided. The Western African Ebola virus epidemic was the most widespread outbreak of Ebola virus disease in history, causing major loss of life and socioeconomic disruption in the region, mainly in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. CDC activated its Emergency Operations Center in July 2014 to help coordinate technical assistance and

disease control activities with partners. CDC personnel deployed to West Africa to assist with response efforts, under true leadership during the height of the

The history books will reveal that under the leadership of President Barak Obama's previous administration, there was a plan in place to respond to a potential pandemic. It was the semblance of a prophetic understanding of a future event.

response, trained 24,655 healthcare workers in West Africa on infection prevention and control practices. In the United States, more than 6,500 people were trained during live training events throughout the response. Overall, eleven people were treated for Ebola in the United States during the 2014-2016 epidemic. Only one person died. This provides evidence of a truly strong and authentic leader.

In contrast, the leader who accepted the reins of government shortly thereafter rejected President Obama's Pandemic Preparedness Systems. Under President Donald Trump, the pandemic plan was abolished and the task force dismantled. The response by the new leader was to disregard the truth, reject science, and fail to apply wisdom. The result was a lack of hearing the voice of God. Instead of acknowledging clear evidence of the impending virus' arrival to U.S. shores, the high contagion rate, and the lack of proven treatment options, the false leadership ignored the challenges of neighboring allies and refuted the coming fate of the nation. Rather than speak truth, this false leader spoke inaccuracies to the detriment of the people.

President Trump acted like many of the false prophets of Israel, proclaiming

that the virus was a hoax and would eventually go away. The more favorable reporting by President Trump was widely accepted, consequently resulting in perilous outcomes. Most alarming are the sufferable effects the vulnerable populations of society including children, seniors, and people with underlying health conditions experienced. The illegitimacy of this inept leadership ultimately impacted not only the health but also the economic stability of millions

of Americans. Citizens were all but forced to quarantine in their homes. Children became sacrificial test subjects for reopening schools. The death toll continued to rise, while millions were left to fend for themselves.

Through every virtual platform imaginable, the voice of the true prophet continues to proclaim hope and provide assistance, while ensuring the gospel

of Jesus Christ continues to go forward. Today's true prophets are advised to maintain the course of authenticity and truth. Listeners must test the spirits. Everyone must wake up and stay woke.

The key reminder in this lesson is that all types of leaders must be tested for authenticity, integrity, and love for God.

LIFE APPLICATION

The book of Deuteronomy is a retelling of the law, charging the Israelites to review the commands that God had

already given. They were reassured that their responsibility was not only to follow God's commands, but to also follow the new leadership that would proclaim God's messages. The key reminder in this lesson is that all types of leaders must be tested for authenticity, integrity, and love for God. Whether the person is called to be a prophet of God's word or a leader in secular vocations, the person's credibility can still be questioned. The responsibility for truth still applies in every vocation, but particularly for those who lead God's people.

QUESTIONS

1. How do you distinguish between an authentic leader who truly seeks to serve God and provide for God's people from leaders who lack integrity and are guided by selfish ambition?

2. What evidence of prophetic gifting can be found in today's church?
3. What action should Christians take to confront prophets and other leaders who falsely proclaim God's will and mislead the public?

CLOSING DEVOTION

Closing Hymn or Song of Praise: "Lead Me, Guide Me" – AME Hymn #378

Closing Prayer: Close with prayer for leaders of any capacity, including pastors, lay leaders, politicians, teachers, coaches, medical professionals, judges, etc.... End the prayer with: "May they hear the Lord's voice and lead us like Moses; with faith, with power, and with a pure and sincere heart. Amen."

HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS

March 1-March 7

Monday	Psalm 77:11-20 (Remember God's Acts of Deliverance)
Tuesday	Luke 16:24-31 (Listen to Moses, Witness with Authority)
Wednesday	Exodus 12:43-50 (Instructions for Observing the Passover)
Thursday	Numbers 9:9-14 (Aliens and Unclean Share Passover Meal)
Friday	Exodus 13:1-2; Deuteronomy 15:19-20 (Consecrate All Firstborn to God)
Saturday	Exodus 13:3-10 (Observe Festival of Unleavened Bread)
Sunday	Deuteronomy 18:15-22 (God Leads Through Prophets)

JOSHUA: PROPHET OF CONQUEST

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 5:13–6:27

Focus Scripture: Joshua 5:13–6:5; 15-16, 20

Key Verse: “The Lord said to Joshua, ‘See, I have handed Jericho over to you, along with its king and soldiers.’” Joshua 6:2 (NRSV)

JOSHUA 5:13–6:5, 15-16, 20 (NRSV)

Joshua 5:13–6:5

13 Once when Joshua was by Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing before him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you one of us, or one of our adversaries?”

14 He replied, “Neither; but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and he said to him, “What do you command your servant, my lord?”

15 The commander of the army of the Lord said to Joshua, “Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy.” And Joshua did so.

6:1 Now Jericho was shut up inside and out because of the Israelites; no one came out and no one went in.

2 The Lord said to Joshua, “See, I have handed Jericho over to you, along with its king and soldiers.

3 You shall march around the city, all the warriors circling the city once. Thus you shall do for six days,

4 with seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, the priests blowing the trumpets.

5 When they make a long blast with the ram’s horn, as soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and all the people shall charge straight ahead.”

JOSHUA 5:13–6:5, 15-16, 20 (KJV)

Joshua 5:13–6:5

13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?

14 And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the Lord am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my Lord unto his servant?

15 And the captain of the Lord’s host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.

6:1 Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.

2 And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour.

3 And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.

4 And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams’ horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

5 And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram’s horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.

15-16

15 On the seventh day they rose early, at dawn, and marched around the city in the same manner seven times. It was only on that day that they marched around the city seven times.

16 And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the Lord has given you the city."

20

20 So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpets, they raised a great shout, and the wall fell down flat; so the people charged straight ahead into the city and captured it.

15-16

15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times.

16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the Lord hath given you the city.

20

20 So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

KEY TERMS

- **Ark** – Referring to the Ark of the Covenant (Joshua 3:11). A wooden box covered with gold, containing the holy vessels. When placed in the Tabernacle, it was considered sitting at the throne of the footstool of God (2 Kings 19:15).
- **Commander (of the Lord's Army)** – The lord of the armies of heaven, leader of angelic forces that do his bidding on earth.
- **Priest** – A position or office restricted to men of the tribe of Levi; descendants from Aaron and his sons; distinguished as a holy office; highest responsibility of service to God.
- **Wall** – A massive structure built to

protect cities and communities. The wall that stood between residents and attacking adversaries.

INTRODUCTION

In our scripture lesson today, Joshua has now entered the role as the successor to Moses. Joshua is a younger, more virile warrior and prophet. He represents the next generation of leadership. Neighboring kingdoms were already aware of Israel's power under Joshua's leadership when they heard that the Jordan River opened up to allow the nation to pass. This incident validated Joshua's gifts as a prophet. His encounter with an angelic being on his way to Jericho resembled Moses' abrupt encounter with God on Mount Sinai. Both prophets would be informed that they must remove their shoes, because they stood on holy ground. Not only does

Joshua have a youthful advantage, he ensures the sanctity of the covenant by having all the men circumcised. Joshua is careful to obey God's instructions. God's presence is evident in every component of his ministry and becomes historic in their ultimate victory over Jericho.

The book of Joshua is the culmination of God's promises to his chosen people. It may have been a long time coming, but his promise to Abraham to bring his children to a place flowing with milk and honey would be fulfilled. This event also validates the evolution of Israel into a strong nation, confident in their abilities, competent in military abilities, and walking in their divine destiny.

TELLING THE BIBLE STORY

In chapter 5 verse 13, we find Joshua approaching Jericho, likely finalizing his military strategy for the Israelite's attack. Joshua considers many strategic options. Joshua's trip was interrupted by the vision of a man with a drawn sword. Undoubtedly, Joshua assumes that this is a warrior from the city. Addressing the man, Joshua poses a question, allowing the armed man to identify himself and state his allegiance. The angelic figure responds that he is the commander of

God's army and was only on the side of the Lord. His next command to Joshua is to remove his shoes, a sign of humility and reference to God.

The next chapter unfolds with a battle plan unlike anything Joshua had formerly considered. The battle is led by the priests and the Ark of the Covenant. The story illustrates that the strength of men was not the force that brought down the walls

of Jericho. The primary weapon used against the men of Jericho was the continuous processions and acts of worship, honoring the most-high God of Israel. As the priests carry the ark around the city, the story repeatedly states that God is with his people. God surrounded the city. God is proclaimed the victor. In the end,

the battle is not Joshua's or his soldiers, it was the Lord's battle to win.

Though common for readers to view this text from the perspective of the physical battle, there are significant references that should be redirected to the spiritual component of this narrative. The presence of the commander of the Lord's army is significant for the future battles that God's chosen people will face. God's presence was ensured by the presence of the ark. The scripture indicates that

As the priests carry the ark around the city, the story repeatedly states that God is with his people.

the battle required more than one angel, but God's army was needed to drive out the spirits of darkness. The narrative illustrates that earthly battles are only shadows of the fiercer wars that are fought in the spiritual realm.

SANKOFA

Which Side Are You on?

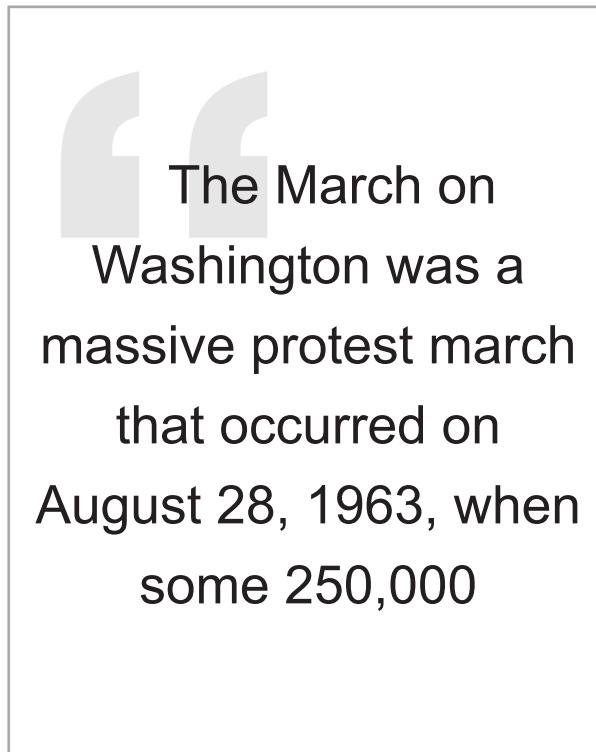
It is hard to believe that a song that originated in the coal mines of America would reach the streets of Selma, Alabama. In the early 1930s, when the United Mine Workers of America began to organize around eastern Kentucky, Florence Reece, a Kentucky miner's daughter and wife, wrote the original lyrics to "Which Side Are You on?" It remains a labor movement standard.

"Which Side Are You on?" was repurposed during the Civil Rights Movement by topical singer-songwriter Len Chandler. He recorded this version of the song on the album, *WNEW'S Story of Selma*.

Len Chandler came to be a topical singer in Greenwich Village, then moved on to marching with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., from Selma to Montgomery.

Fifty years later, he remains in pursuit of social justice through action and song.

There's a new version of the labor standard, "Which Side Are You on?" circulating. Sung at the Black Lives Matter and Blackout Coalition actions, the song is also used as the intro and outro marching song at some of the Black Brunch protests.



The March on Washington was a massive protest march that occurred on August 28, 1963, when some 250,000

Malcolm X was a freedom fighter

And he taught us how to fight

We go'n' fight all day and night

Until we get it right

Which side are you on, my people? Which side are you on?

CASE STUDY

Walls are more than just brick and mortar. They are systemic practices and

legislative boundaries that have created boundaries for African Americans throughout the history of the United States. A significant impact on tearing down those walls occurred throughout the Civil Rights Movement. Perhaps one of the most recognized events is the March on Washington.

The March on Washington was a massive protest march that occurred on

August 28, 1963, when some 250,000 people gathered in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. Also known as the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, the event aimed to draw attention to continuing challenges and inequalities faced by African Americans a century after emancipation. It was also the occasion of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s now-iconic "I Have a Dream" speech.

In the months after the March on Washington, ongoing demonstrations and violence continued to pressure political leaders to act. Following President Kennedy's assassination on November 22, 1963, President Lyndon Johnson broke through the legislative stalemate in Congress.

The passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 were turning points in the struggle for civil rights. Together the two bills outlawed segregated public facilities and prohibited discriminatory practices in employment and voting. More than fifty years later, African Americans are still fighting for those rights to be upheld. The walls of discrimination are constantly creeping up in pockets throughout the country. But it is the responsibility of the people to ensure

those walls fall, and never allow them to be rebuilt.

LIFE APPLICATION

There has never been a time in history when there was not some form of conflict between nations or governing groups. Those who lead nations are expected to maintain a balance between protecting the people and achieving peaceful relationships. Unfortunately, this has never been fully achieved. The Bible teaches that there will be differences between nations and conflicts that lead to wars. These are the critical times in which the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ must be presented to humanity across the world. The most important battle was won when Jesus Christ rose from the dead. As Christians fight for justice and

Those who lead nations are expected to maintain a balance between protecting the people and achieving peaceful relationships.

equality, and strive to tear down walls of oppression, remember the greatest victory of eternal life has already been won.

QUESTIONS

1. What can the AME Church do to adopt programs and practices that intuitively identify gifted, God-ordained, young

people like Joshua, and mentor them to step into leadership roles?

2. What are the critical areas in your community that require new leadership?
3. Walls are frequently used to separate communities and diverse groups or nations. Discuss the concept of building structural barriers (gated communities, for instance) and how they may promote cultural and class barriers in society.

CLOSING DEVOTIONS

Closing Hymn or Song of Praise: “I Am on the Battlefield For My Lord” – AME

Hymn #390

Closing Prayer: Lord of heaven and earth, almighty and all wise God, we long for your presence as we enter the spiritual battles that confront us. Strengthen our faith, Lord Jesus, to believe that the same power that parted the Red Sea and brought down the walls of Jericho will rest in us as we face the adversaries of life. May our mouths be filled with praise, like the Levites who walked around Jericho’s walls. May we be united as your army to face every battle with a victorious heart. May our faith in Jesus Christ be our ark of safety to carry us through every battle in life. We lift this in his matchless name. Amen.

HOME DAILY BIBLE READINGS

March 8-March 14

Monday	Hebrews 11:23-31 (Rahab Rewarded for Her Faithfulness)
Tuesday	Luke 18:35-42 (Jesus Heals Blind Man from Jericho)
Wednesday	Joshua 5:8-12 (Enjoying the Manna and Local Produce)
Thursday	Joshua 6:6-14 (Marching Around the City of Jericho)
Friday	Joshua 2:15-24 (Rahab and Spies Confirm Rescue Plan)
Saturday	Joshua 6:22-25 (Rahab Saved While Jericho Is Destroyed)
Sunday	Joshua 5:13–6:5, 15-16, 20 (Joshua’s Successful Conquest of Jericho)