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Total Life Insight Texarkana USA

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“Injustice Anywhere Is A Threat To Justice Everywhere!” - MLK, Jr.

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Publisher/Editor Page

Greetings,

It is a pleasure to bring you Total Life Insight (TLI), a publication of Quality Life Promotion Corporation (QLPC).

I am founder of Both TLI and QLPC arises out of a vision I have to help not only myself but also others especially family and friends to achieve greater success regarding the dual complementary functions of spiritual development and socio-economic development. These dual components are critical to quality of life on earth and preparation for a quality eternity. I am also founder of the Texarkana Area Community Leadership Coalition (TACLC) and Total Life Christian Missionary Baptist Church. All of these entities are dedicated to engaging life and the community so as to honor God in all aspects of society and to improve quality of life for all citizens here on earth and in preparation for eternity.

Just a little about me. I am a native of Texarkana (Mandeville), Arkansas and a 1974 graduate of Arkansas High School in Texarkana, Arkansas. After graduation I joined the US Army from which I retired after 20 years. While in service I worked mostly as a Computer Software Engineer to include earning a Bachelors of Science from the University of Maryland while attending night school. I formally became a Minister of Jesus Christ in April 2000, preached my first formal sermon and was licensed in October 2000 and ordained in January 2005. I am also a licensed Life/Health Insurance Agent. I am semi-retired.

The principal purpose of TLI is to serve as a foundational decision making information resource for truth and integrity opportunities in a variety of life areas. TLI promotes righteous unity, appreciation, and understanding among people of all races, genders, and ethnicities. TLI centrally provides original media as well as authorized compilations of media from a variety of sources. TLI encourages all to demonstrate greater love for God, ourselves, and each other in both word and deed. **TLI aim is not to provide a flood of information but rather to provide a stream of information that strategically carves sound decision making focus in the heart and mind of the reader in order to promote a quality life and equitable community for all people.**



In this issue we focus on aspects of **racial justice** and **economic justice**.

We focus on economic justice because it is sorely lacking in **far too many but not all** communities in our nation. Did you know that in Texarkana USA in 2016 according to the Federal government, 13.35% of Whites lived below the poverty level but a significantly larger 39.95% of Blacks lived below it? All races have an obligation to ask and answer with integrity why is this so?

God says the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows (1 Timothy 6:10). Notice God does not say money is bad. God says when we love money more than him and more than people then it causes us to become evil and it causes bad things to happen to us eventually.

Not only that but when bad things happen to us it affects not only ourselves but also our families and even sometimes our friends and neighbors.

Not only that, improper love of money also affects our nation as a whole. It has been reported that the wealth of a certain **1%** in our nation **exceeds** the wealth of the bottom **90%**. This can only happen when there is **institutional greed** rooted in an improper love of money.

We focus on racial justice because it is sorely lacking in our nation due to both historical and present day attitudes **of some but not all** persons toward those of another race as well as institutional obstacles. Improper stereotyping is a large cause. There is a **bidirectional cause and effect** relationship between racial and economic injustice which we as a nation and especially children of God should strongly recognize. Future issues will look at these and related matters in some degree of detail.

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Biblical Insight Into Racism

In John 4 there is an account of Jesus and his disciples traveling from Judea on the way to Galilee. Their journey takes them through Samaria.

By Rev. Chaurcey D. Boyd



Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is
the answer to Racism

Jesus is tired so he goes and sits down by a well while his disciples goes into the city to procure some food. The well that Jesus sits at is called Jacob's well. It is named after the Patriarch Jacob, Son of Isaac, Son of Abraham.

While Jesus is sitting at the well a woman of Samaria comes to the well to draw water. Upon here arrival Jesus requests that she gives him some water to drink. Evidently there was nothing at the well for Jesus to use to draw water for himself. She of course had the utensils to draw and carry the water since evidently she was coming there for that purpose.

When Jesus asks her for water, she immediately begins to rebuke Jesus. For the scriptures says: "Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans (John 4:9).

Notice that she engages in stereotyping which is the fundamental basis for racism. Why do I say stereotyping is the fundamental basis for racism. Well let us explore the definition/characteristics of stereotyping.

Stereotyping is a longstanding social behavior. Stereotyping fundamentally is drawing conclusions about an individual or group based on observed behavior or reported or taught or otherwise learned behavior which may not be true of the specific object of the stereotype or even of the group itself. It may cause one to consider another as unloving, dangerous or worthless. Stereotyping may lead to disrespect and dehumanization and unjustified hatred just because someone is outwardly similar to an another individual or group.

Stereotyping is present in the absence of personally getting to know the specific inward individual. It is present when a person is judged not by the content of his or her character but by gender, color of skin, ethnicity, nationality or type of dress or similar attributes. Indeed, racism is rarely if ever directed against a person one knows well except perhaps in an employment setting and then it is in modern times more about choosing between one or another rather than about only the person of the other race though it too is bad.

The Samaritan woman observed that Jesus was a Jew no doubt based on certain physical characteristics of his person and/or his dress and mannerism, etc. Clearly, there was something outward that she clung to without knowing Jesus inwardly. Undoubtedly this was based on something she had observed in some Jews and/or had heard about other Jews, which she had ascribed to all Jews. Thus, recognizing Jesus as a Jew she ascribed something negative to him. She assumed Jesus was like those other Jews. She had not met him before but she thought she knew him through acts of others.

This is the fundamental problem with racism. That is, it is based not on what one knows about the particular person but what one thinks about the particular person which may or may not be true. The particular person may be the best thing to ever happen to the racist person just as Jesus was the best thing that ever happened to the woman of Samaria but not is for another article.

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