

January 16, 2007

Greetings and salutations!

I am Dr. Johnny McClurkin Hunter, DD. I was born not too far from here, in Goshen Hill, South Carolina, in the back room of a house sitting on a hill. I am the grandson of James McClurkin, a descendant of a slave and a slave owner. The house still stands to this day and so do I for the gospel of life. Today, I address you as an ordained minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

My wife, Patricia, and I have just returned from Atlanta, Georgia, where we were honored to attend the Annual Birthday Celebration of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at Ebenezer Baptist Church as guests of The King family. On Sunday night, we were invited to a special preview of the King Letters. It was a privilege to meet Bernice King, a daughter of Dr. King. It was also a joy to fellowship with Dr. Alveda King, his niece, as we walked together through the exhibits of very personal documents and discover the messages filled with the teachings of Jesus. It was fascinating to see the original notes in the handwriting of one of God's great messengers. I was moved by Dr. King's observation early in his ministry about our attempts to escape Jesus, yet He stands there.

It was also heartbreaking to see that his son, Martin Luther King, III, was denied admission to a Christian school. In response to the school's rejection, Dr. and Mrs. King noted that this Christian school, instead of being a "headlight," was a "taillight" for segregation.

When you read the sermon notes and letters, you not only see the brilliance of a great mind, you see the words which prick the conscience of churches and nations through the span of time. Even to this day, instead of embracing the promise of the dream, there are those who, like his assassin, are attempting to turn the dream into a nightmare. They pretend they are for us, but they are not. These pretenders are not hard to detect.

Instead of being non-violent, they adamantly impose their amoral agenda to untimely and painfully rip children out of their mothers' wombs. While Dr. King envisioned a day when the sons of slaves and the sons of slave owners would be on the playgrounds together, over forty million sons and daughters have been denied their day in the sun.

While early civil rights activists were willing to lay down their lives for a cause, the pretenders take the lives of others for their cause. One speaker at yesterday's service, while quoting Dr. King noted that "being non-violent may not keep you from being killed, but it will keep you from being a killer." Every abortionist in this nation is a killer for hire.

And under the pretense of "choice," every gain made during the early era of the civil rights struggle is being erased one child at a time. The real civil right activists fought for better education, equal job opportunities, and even the right to vote. They stood for equal protection under the law.

However, a better education means nothing to a dead child. Equal job opportunities mean nothing to a dead child. The right to vote means nothing to a dead child. A dead

