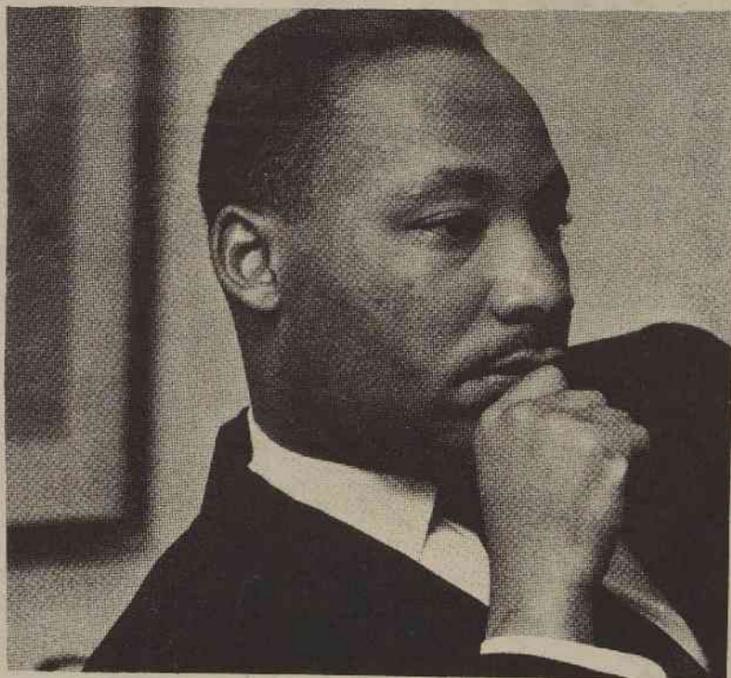


I See the Promised Land



"I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the Promised Land."

On April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King was shot down by an assassin's bullet on the balcony of a motel in Memphis, Tennessee.

The night before his assassination, King told an audience of people that he was not afraid of anyone, for he had "seen the promised land" of justice and equality.

This speech appeared on the April 11, 1968 issue of *The Sacramento Observer*, a memorial issue to Martin Luther King, Jr.

"...I don't know what will happen now. We have got difficult days ahead, but it doesn't matter with me, because I've been to the mountain top. Like anyone else, I would like to live a long life. But I'm not concerned with that. I just want to do God's will, and He has allowed me to go up the mountain.

I see the Promised Land. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the Promised Land. I am happy tonight that I am not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

You all know the story of Rip Van Winkle. . . . Everyone remembers that

Winkle slept for twenty years. But what is important is that when he went up on that mountain to sleep there was a picture of King George hanging in the town. When he came down, there was a picture of George Washington in its place.

Rip Van Winkle slept through a revolution, but we cannot afford to remain asleep. . . .

Our world is as a neighborhood. We must all learn to live together as brothers or we will all perish as fools. . . .

There are two challenges to America. The challenges are racism and poverty. In a few weeks a few of us are coming to Washington to see if the will to meet these challenges still lives among us. We are going to bring those who have known long years of hurt and neglect. We're not coming to engage in any historic action. We are not coming to tear up Washington. We are coming to engage in dramatic, non-violent action.

We are coming, and we will stay as long as we have to. . . .

We will suffer and die if we have to. For I submit, nothing will be done until people put their bodies and souls into this."

Felicia Washington

Felicia Washington sees unification among black students as a solution to many of the civil rights problems on campus.

"We need to form a network to get things done more effectively," said Washington.

Washington is a senior economics major from Kenansville, NC. This 21-year old senior serves as vice chair of the Honor Court, and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and Alpha Kappa Psi, a business fraternity.

"We should carry on King's legacy by carrying out his dream and not becoming too comfortable with the way things are now," Washington said.

"We seem to accept our present

situation and not try to change it when we know things can be better," she said.

Washington said that she believes that students need to be more aware of what goes on on the campus. She also urged black students to be more supportive of the black organizations on campus.

"We need to form a bond now that we can carry on with us after we leave," she said.

Washington said that she didn't have a very optimistic outlook for the future of blacks at UNC.

"People see things happening that they don't like," she said. "These people need to try to change things if they don't like what they're seeing."

God Give Us Leaders

*God give us leaders!
a time like this demands strong
minds, great hearts,
true faith and ready hands;
Leaders whom the lust of office
does not kill;
Leaders whom the spoils of life cannot buy;
Leaders who possess opinions and a will,
Leaders who have honor; Leaders who will
not lie,
Leaders who can stand before a demagogue
and damn his treacherous flatteries
without winking!
Tall leaders, sun around, who live
above the fog
in public duty and private thinking.*

Martin Luther King, Jr., Author



(photo by Reubena Whitted)