

Surge of Success



by Sartia Beverly

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous and then thou shalt have

Good Success" Quoted from one of the greatest works of literature, the Holy Bible.

Good Success means to be prosperous— with the "treasures of wisdom and knowledge from God " to get wealth", WITH good health, a peace of mind, and contentment. With the plan of God at the forefront of your life, it shall be according to his appointed time.

Surge of Success is a Faith-based Motivational Series designed to give tips on how to move up the ladder of Success, not based on the success of others, but rather on the plan God has predestined for your life. It's on an individual basis.

Last month, we shared with you some excerpts from The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren. I hope it inspired you to get a copy of the book for yourself. If not, we have good news. Again this month we will be sharing more excerpts with you from the book.

Before I do, let's consider our path for this year. We must re-direct our focus to the first guide for Successful Living. No matter how many books on success we read, we cannot go beyond the first book, the Holy Bible, the Master's guide. It is the owner's manual. God owns us. With His Word as our first guide, we will come to better understand other faith-based books or information given to us.

There is a scripture suited for every situation. In particular, as we continue in this new year, let's rid ourselves of negative energy. Regardless of where it comes from. Start with squashing haunting thoughts about past failures and mistakes. You can be re-nued in your mind by placing your focus on life's triumphs, through Christ. Phillipians 3:13 reads (New English Bible) "All I can say is this: forgetting what is behind me, and reaching out for that which lies ahead" Don't think about those old melancholy stories about "your" life any further. Forget them, Now! Once you do a mind-washing through the word of God, and other scripture-base information, you can experience a new life with new thoughts and ideas that will rejuvenate you mentally, physically, and emotionally. It's a fight to keep yourself in the right gear for success. You must believe God. No one can believe for you. Take his word and apply it to your own life. He will direct you. Remember, every successful person in the Bible was directed by God. He said.. "write the vision". With God, it is an act of faith to believe for what seems to be impossible. That's his specialty — the impossible. Everyone will know that God did it. He, in turn, gets the Glory. That is exactly what He wants.

Now for that quote from The Purpose Driven Life. "Everything comes from God alone. Everything lives by his power, and everything is for his Glory. (Romans 11:36) The Lord has made everything for his own purposes. (Proverbs 16:4) It's all for him. The ultimate goal of the universe is to show the glory of God. It is the reason for everything that exists, including you. God made it all for his Glory Without God's glory, there would be nothing. What is the glory of God? It is who God is. It is the essence of his nature, the weight of his importance, the radiance of his splendor, the demonstration of his power, and the atmosphere of his presence."

Until next time— Sartia

MARYLANDS' NEW HIGHER SEGREGATION

By Zenitha Prince
Afro Newspapers

Baltimore (NNPA)—Maryland's Nov. 9 approval of a University of Baltimore Towson State University joint masters of business program is indicative of a trend that undermines states' desegregation of higher education efforts and threatens the survival of Black public institutions, legal and educational experts say.

Schools have reported cases of program duplication, restrictive mission statements and collaborations with minority institutions in which the black school's role has been lost.

"I see a pattern because I see some programs are already drying up," said Shirley Hauzer, vice president of academic affairs at Alabama A & M University. The HBCU was part of a statewide desegregation plan.

It was such a fear that drove Morgan State University to object to Maryland Secretary of Higher Education Calvin Burnett's Mar. 15 decision to grant the joint MBNA program.

Morgan argued that over the years increasing numbers of MBNA programs in the area bled students from its program. It also argued that the joint program was an unnecessary duplication and as such, went against the mandates of United States v. Fordice (the landmark Mississippi higher education equivalent to Brown v. Board of Education) and against Maryland's agreement with the U.S. Department of education's Office of Civil Rights to remove all vestiges of a former de jure system of segregation in higher education.

The state argued the duplication was educationally sound since it would help Townson attract and retain faculty, was needed to accommodate a growing demand for MBNA degrees and was in line with state's aim to increase collaboration among institutions in the university system.

But the decision was faculty and not in line with Maryland's stated intent to desegregate public colleges and universities, says Mary Frances Berry, former chair of the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights and former assistant secretary of education under the Jimmy Carter administration.

"This is a clear case of an undermining of desegregation efforts because Morgan State University could clearly take on more studies. And if it's a matter of resources, then the state should allocate those resources," Ms. Berry said. "Quite clearly, if there is a need for a new program, based on the figures that were presented there would be enough space in the programs that existed to absorb those students."

Ms. Berry who was instrumental in making program uniqueness at HBCU's part of the Office of Civil Rights agreement, said the state's decision was no surprise.

"This has been a problem since desegregation plans were consummated," she said. "States and institutions have (always) tried to find a way around this."

Those continued attempts to use loopholes in the law are a sign of the market-driven nature of higher education, said Raymond Pierce, dean of the School of Law at North Carolina Central University.

"Higher education is becoming increasingly competitive," he said. "State- supported budgets for higher education are becoming tighter, so colleges and universities are picking at each other to see what they can get."

Ms. Hauzer, the Alabama A&M official, said in such an environment, Black institutions cannot survive, given the historic and continued inequitable distribution of funds.

"Black schools don't have the same opportunities to make the links and get the levels of contributions like majority institutions," she explained. "In terms of resources we are never going to be on the same level as them, so the expectations cannot be the same as long as we face those prejudices."

She added, "It's still a political issue and it will continue to be a political issue. The application of the law is determined by who is in power."

Mr. Pierce, who ran the OCR office and wrote the legal notice for the Fordice case under the Clinton administration, more pointedly attributed blame to the current Bush White House.

"The current administration is not up holding civil rights," he said. Ms. Berry and Mr. Pierce said state and federal governments must be held responsible for skirting desegregation mandates.

"If this is allowed to continue, it will keep the predominantly Black schools in a state of not being able to expand their missions and build their programs to ensure their future."

Ms. Berry said "The only programs they will have are what everybody else doesn't want." Mr. Pierce went a step further.

"If this is not challenged, the next step is basically phase out programs at historically Black schools," he said. "The argument would be that we don't need it because there is on at the (proximate White institutions)."

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