

# "Twelve Years A Slave" And Still Counting

By Dr. Ada Fisher

[continued from page 1]

E. J. Fisher, Sr. passed on to his son the Reverend Dr. Miles M. Fisher who passed on to his kids, me being the last of the Mohegan's, an understanding that the thing which keeps a man a slave isn't the chains or the whip, but our unwillingness to release our minds in appreciating our unlimited possibilities; as well as our search for false prophets and gods of the here and now centering on decadence of body and soul making us children of a lesser god, while witnessing the desertion of the faith of our fathers, with for some the need of G-d in our lives and in our deeds being questioned.

Dr. Ada M. Fisher is a physician, licensed teacher in secondary education—Mathematics and Science, former School Board Member and as well as the NC Republican National Committee Woman. Her book, *Common Sense Conservative Prescriptions Solutions for What Ails Us, Book I* which is in part dedicated to ancestors and family may be ordered through any bookstore or purchased on line through Amazon.com or [thecreatespaceStore.com](http://thecreatespaceStore.com) or on Kindle.

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## Magnificent Obsession

By John Raye



By now, you have heard about or seen the movie, "12 Years a Slave", the true story of Solomon Northrup, a free New York state Black man who was drugged, kidnapped and sold into slavery for twelve brutal years.

How he survived such physical and mental brutality, remains a complete mystery to me, the same as Nelson Mandela's 27 years of prison enslavement.

To take away a man's physical freedom is one thing, but to rob him of his dignity, his courage, and self-worth, is beyond human understanding. It is a high crime against humanity.

What sustained Mandela and his long walk to freedom? Twenty-seven years is a long time to walk anywhere, especially when the walk is inside an isolated prison cell on an isolated, nondescript island, almost unknown to the outside world.

Solomon Northrup was a free, grown Black man who never knew the horrors of slavery until he found himself in chains, beaten and repeatedly brutalized for protesting his captivity.

For years, both men suffered horrendous physical and mental torture, some of it so dehumanizing that even the rocks would cry out! Both survived a form of human bondage and suffering that would break even the strongest of the strong, the bravest of the brave.

Mandela, for example, could have gotten an early release and cut his 27 years behind bars in half, had he agreed to sign a confession renouncing violence and his fight against South African authorities. By every account, Northrup, born a free man and a free, educated Black man, mind you, with wife, children and a relative quality life, simply could have lost

his mind and gone crazy, or even as many slaves did, took his own life.

These men, faced with circumstances beyond their control, were forced to find a secret place deep inside themselves, a place beyond hopelessness, hell and despair. Both were forced to find that secret place, a place where desire remains supreme and uncompromising. Both had a white sheet of desire to live and not die.

What they had, however, was no ordinary desire. Instead both, due to circumstances beyond their control, developed, through sheer will, an obsession— a magnificent obsession. Come hell or high water, any individual who develops such an obsession, be it for freedom or an, insatiable desire or yearning for material comfort, cannot be denied.

A magnificent obsession is an altered state of consciousness that can only be circumvented by death. The human mind, you see, is without limitations. The only limits on the mind of man are the ones he consciously or unconsciously, allows to be born or placed in his mind.

Mandela fortified his mind with freedom. Northrup, through brutally tortured, beaten, and mentally vandalized, did the same. In both cases, the element of imagination was without limitation. This means, a man eventually becomes what he thinks about, sooner or later, all day and all night long. Such a reality is inevitable because a man moves in the direction of his thoughts, be they sad or glad, good or bad.

And he eventually attracts to himself or creates for himself, the most dominating and most persistent thought, idea, dream, image or vision, held in his mind. Mandela's physical body was locked up for 27 years, but not his mind. Northrup's 12 years of captivity did not extend to his mind.

Therefore, desire, wrote Hill, is the starting point of all achievement!

So the question is not what can you do; rather it is what you want to do! If success is your intention, your ultimate destination, then you must develop a sense of profound and critical urgency. What you want must be plastered, locked and cemented on your mind every sleeping and waking hour. You must walk, talk, eat, breathe, dream, think and sleep with laser-like intensity on the recurring mental equivalent of what you want, really want, in your life.

It's not necessary tell the whole world what you want—begin first by telling yourself. Convince yourself that you are worthy, that you deserve and that you are able, capable and completely responsible for creating your own reality, your own heaven or hell.

Stir up your gifts with righteous indignation that you are in control, of your own mind, and that your mind responds only to your commands. Believe that you are a

mental giant and that you are a master of your universe.

So dream big! Think big! If you don't have a magnificent obsession, now is the time to develop one! An empty mind, we know, always seeks pleasure and becomes the breeding ground for the devil's workshop. Therefore, fix your mind only on what you want!

Understand, know and believe that you are already a magnificent human being. So go spread your wings, and make success your very own magnificent obsession!

—John Raye, a life-wellness-health-business coach, is an eight-year cancer champion. He lives in Kernersville, NC ([rayeandrosie@aol.com](mailto:rayeandrosie@aol.com)) 336-782-8383

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