

## ECSU FOOD FOR THOUGHT

### Sista2Sista

LaTonya Raynor  
Pumpkin8@hotmail.com

The month of March is dedicated to many national recognitions; among one of those is Women's History Month. To many of us women, this is not known. With regards to this article, the females who have seen this article will know for years to come. The history of women is a part of our American heritage. It is also apart of our women culture. There is much to be told about the history of women and the many heroines of its past. Women like Elaine Flexner (women right abolitionist) contribute to our freedom; not only in liberty, but things like expression, what we stand for.

The history of women in earlier times is already known and has been taught to us in grade school. Therefore, we are in some aspects already educated about our past. This is good. In the early nineteenth century, women were considered second-class citizens whose existence was limited to the interior life of the home and care of the children. Women were considered sub-sets of their husbands, and after marriage they did not have the right to own property, maintain their wages, or sign a contract, much less vote. It was expected that women be obedient wives, never to hold a thought or opinion independent of their husbands. It was considered improper for women to travel alone or to speak in public. Much of this information can be found in detailed information of books, encyclopedias, and via internet.

Activists such as slave-born Sojourner Truth, Elizabeth Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony helped to win our "American-born rights" as women. They felt it was not fair that

women could not have a voice in our land. They lectured and petitioned the government for the emancipation of slaves with the belief that, once the war was over, women and slaves alike would be granted the same rights as the white men. With the sidestepping of women's rights, women activists became enraged, and Stanton and her colleagues established the American Equal Rights Association in 1866 in effort to organize in the fight for women's rights. They worked for many years to get us where we are today. Since 1777, women of time have worked for our equal justice in America. We still continue to press forward. In 1997, Madeleine K. Albright became the first woman U.S. Secretary of State.

There are many sites over the internet that support women and promote March as Women's History Month. The name of one educational non-profit organization is entitled National Women's History Project. Their mission is to recognize and celebrate the diverse and historic accomplishments of women by providing information and educational materials and programs. This organization received the 2001 Myra Sadker Equity Award for their constant achievement in gender equity. Information about this organization can be found by plugging into their website address at: <http://www.nwhp.org/index.html>. Things such as why this organization exists, future plans, recognized women, and information about the national recognized month can be found here. Access this site and find out more about our nationally recognized month.

### Made Alive with Christ

Kimberly Blackwell  
delicious114@hotmail.com

Salvation is by God's grace alone. Those who receive salvation become God's children (John 1:12) Salvation is a work of the Holy Spirit in a person's life (John 3:1-16). In the Gospel of John 3:5-6, Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee. Except a man is born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the spirit is spirit." The only way to salvation is Jesus. Jesus died on the cross for our sins. No one deserves salvation (Romans 3:23). A lot of people think that salvation can be earned but it cannot. Salvation is a gift from God. A lot of people today think that God chooses certain people for salvation. No, that is not true. Yes, salvation is a gift, but it is up to you to choose it. In John 3:16-17, Jesus said, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten son, that who so ever believeth in

Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. God sent not His son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. Salvation will also rescue you from Satan's dominion. Being a Christian is a wonderful thing to be because your Father is Jesus Christ. If you are not saved, you are of this world and your king is Satan because Satan is king of this world. We Christians are just passing through. Satan is out to kill, steal, and destroy. When Satan sees one of his children turning to Christ, it makes him mad because salvation is eternal. Satan can cause a Christian to backslide but only if he or she lets him. That is why when you become saved you need to stay prayed up. In Romans 8:38-39, Paul says, "For I am persuaded; that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

### Mrs. Azalea

Near the old porch she reclines in the sun  
With the breeze fanning her plump rosy face.  
There is honey in her disposition  
And charm in her traditions.

She attracts visitors—young and old.  
Her friends buzz about with hot rumors.  
And her southern flavor sweetens the air  
As she offers them her treasured dessert:  
Cups of delicious nectar in the shade.

-Jessica Barrier

### Making The Connection With The Anointing

Kimberly Blackwell  
delicious114@hotmail.com

Have you ever heard of the Bible verse "Faith without works is dead"? Well, that means that you should know or believe that God will do or give you what you ask for, if you do your part. For example, you might have a quiz coming up tomorrow, and you do not study for the quiz, but you pray and ask God to help you pass the test. Since you did not keep your end of the bargain, you failed the quiz. Why? You might have faith, but you did not put it to work.

Don't get me wrong. God also takes care of the unsaved, but it is because of the prayers of the righteous and His grace and mercy towards them. Have you ever prayed and asked for a blessing, but it seemed like nothing was happening? Well, in order to receive the blessing, you have to make the connection with the anointing, which is Jesus. It is what is in you, which is faith, that makes the connection with the anointing. Mark 5:26-34 talks about a woman who had an issue of blood for

twelve years. She had also suffered many things from many doctors. She spent all she had on medicine, and it still got worse. But when she put her faith into action and said if I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole. The fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt her body being healed. Jesus immediately knew that the virtue had gone out of Him. The virtue is the anointing. And when Jesus knew that the virtue had gone out of Him, He asked, "Who touched my clothes." In other words, she had gotten Jesus' attention. Your faith is what is going to connect you with your goal. The woman's goal was to be healed. Also the woman had a vision. She said, "If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole." In order for her to speak that into existence, she had to have a vision of it happening. The Bible says, "With out a vision, you will perish." Sometimes, as Christians, our faith is a test. When you are going through the storms that look like they are so unbearable, remember to release your faith, even at the least, because your faith is all that you have.

### Who Am I Kidding

Who am I kidding  
Change will never come  
To feel and fear the sun  
To crave for the darkness  
To feel like I need to run  
I feel lonely like no one cares  
Isolated from the world which is now  
No time to live, no time to see  
What I will become or be  
I feel so empty  
Hearing the closing of a door  
To turn a new page in my life  
In my face have you ever been to this place?  
Where to be weird is the norm, which makes you greater  
In your eyes only I a stranger  
Stronger I need to be  
Strong in mind my mentality  
A corner is where I choose to sit  
To be away to go on a mental holiday  
Refocusing on my efforts to succeed  
Focusing on where will I be  
The void that I have within  
To prove to myself that I can win

-Patricia Parks

### Black Like Me

I looked in the mirror and what did I see  
A reflection, an image – BLACK like me  
I wondered... Should I feel inferior or should I be proud  
Of my dark skin, thick hair – No! I'll boast out loud!  
For so long in school they did not tell me  
That my people – BLACK people – have such a rich legacy.  
BLACK, a race which I can call my own  
I should be proud of my beautiful brown tone.  
For blacks were educators, leaders, and inventors, too.  
The man who invented the stoplight looked just like you!

The refrigerator, ironing board, even the elevator  
Were invented by people made BLACK by our Creator.  
The printing press, the street sweeper, and the fountain pen  
All we can contribute to BLACK women and men.

Skinny or big boned, short or tall  
The black woman, well, she covers them all.  
She's the mother of nations and your children, too.  
Her hands guides you through this world. Her love had nurtured you.

And the black man, despite the sad statistics,  
All are not strung out, absent fathers, or locked up in prison.  
They are prosperous and strong entrepreneurs and leaders  
Followers of Christ, both willing and obedient.

Now you can see why I'm BLACK and I am proud,  
Why I'm not ashamed to boast out loud.

For my people are strong, loving, and free  
They have endured so much – even slavery.  
But through it all God saw them through,  
And the challenges of today – He'll see us through them, too.

So young and old strive to be the best in whatever you do.  
For overcomers and winners, that's what God made me and you.  
We have been deeply rooted in a firm foundation  
Now arise, go forth, and sing out to all the nations.

Because you must be the one to tell others, you see  
Why you are so proud to be BLACK like me.

- Lynetta Jordan