

# Be in control of your destiny before it's too late

By Keith Caesar  
MANAGING EDITOR

A friend recently sent me an e-mail with a quote from William Jennings Bryan, who was an early 20th century political figure, attached to it.

The quote reads: "Destiny is not a matter of chance, it's a matter of choice. It is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved."

This got me thinking about destiny along with a number of obstacles in our lives. What I discovered is this is something we can control.

If you want to believe this or not, and I'm sure this is not the first time that you have heard this saying, but we control our

## Opinion

destiny. In the same vein, we control our reality.

I write this because in the e-mail there were a number of things that were brought to light, about life, about friendship, about insecurities. About knowing who you are, and where you are going.

Then I asked myself, what is it that you are trying to do with your life?

Many of us aspire to do big things in this world. Make our mark, leave a dent. But are we initially subject to false hopes?

As we venture out into the world, leaving school and entering the working

world, things will happen that will make us question our place. There are people out there who are more qualified than we are. But can they bring to the table what we can?

What we put into this world is what we should expect to receive. And if that definition revolves around materialism, then any sustenance in our world will be based on the things that we have or don't have.

Many times desire, passion, whatever term you use, is based on that hunger to do something that you are good at. To know at a young age that this is what you were destined for. And as I mentioned in a previous edito-

rial, a lot of this is based on image. We see others who have it, and we want it, but what are we doing to get it?

Do you think the great artists sat and watched the world go by? No.

They did what they had to do to put them in the position where they are today. Some created some of the most profound works of literature, art and music that the world has seen.

They put their money where their mouths were. We control our reality, and I'm sure that if we exert what is needed, we can have the reality we imagine around us.

We choose our friends, our clothes, so why not

choose a lifestyle that will mean more than money, cars and indulgences? In the greater scheme of things, some of you will make it.

And some will have comfortable lives. It is that reality that we create for ourselves that will define what we leave for the future.

And as African-Americans, it is the glimmer of belief in something in the past which should be the driving force to regain whatever power base that had existed. What you do to reclaim that base and make it a reality is what will define the role of African-Americans in the world of tomorrow.

# 'The Real Eve' traces human ancestry to one woman

By Keith Caesar  
MANAGING EDITOR

Is it possible that every human being is linked to one common ancestor from 150,000 years ago?

According to a recent Discovery Channel special, scientists who have studied the skeletal remains of a woman found in Africa 20 years

ago believe so. Scientists stunned the world with their discovery this skeleton in the Qafzeh cave in 1969.

*The Real Eve* traces the origins of the human race back to a single mother. The program charted human migration, when people branched out into different areas of the world.

These findings were based on genetic research, which proposed that all humans claim "Eve" as a common ancestor. What is more interesting is that the descendants of Eve all contain a single cell in their DNA that was also present in Eve.

Scientists believe these findings reveal a clear pic-

ture of the human family tree can be further defined.

The research, which was based on analysis of thousands of DNA samples, was conducted by geneticist Martin Richards and his colleagues at Huddersfield University in the UK. Through this research, a detailed map of the human family tree

began to take shape. Researcher Rebecca Cann and her colleagues used this DNA research to show that all humans can be traced to Eve. And while she may not be the source of all the genes in the world's living population there is clear indications that her DNA can be traced in us all.

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