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Biblical References in the Civil Rights Movement

By Randall Ricker June 20, 2020

Sabbath Church of God

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“Loving Your Enemies” 1957

Matthew 5:43-44

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, **love your enemies**, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

Matthew 7:3-5

3 And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? 5 Hypocrite! **First remove the plank from your own eye**, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

“Loving Your Enemies” 1957

Romans 7:14-15

14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin. 15 For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do.

Genesis 1:26

26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

“Loving Your Enemies” 1957

Matthew 5:46-48

46 **For if you love those who love you, what reward have you?** Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? 48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

Romans 12:19-20

19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. 20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing **you will heap coals of fire on his head.**"

Exodus 16:2-3

2 Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. 3 And the children of Israel said to them, "Oh, that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and **when we ate bread to the full!** For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

“Loving Your Enemies” 1957

Matthew 5:44

But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and **pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,**



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Isaiah 40:4-5

4 Every valley shall be exalted, And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth; 5 The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

“I Have a Dream” 1963

Amos 5:24

But let justice run down like water, And righteousness like a mighty stream.

1 Peter 2:20

For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God.

“I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” 1968

Exodus 5:7-9, 19-21

7 "You shall no longer give the people straw to make brick as before. Let them go and gather straw for themselves. 8 And you shall lay on them the quota of bricks which they made before. You shall not reduce it. For they are idle; therefore they cry out, saying, 'Let us go and sacrifice to our God.' 9 Let more work be laid on the men, that they may labor in it, and let them not regard false words." ...19 And the officers of the children of Israel saw that they were in trouble after it was said, "You shall not reduce any bricks from your daily quota." 20 Then, as they came out from Pharaoh, they met Moses and Aaron who stood there to meet them. 21 And they said to them, "**Let the LORD look on you and judge, because you have made us abhorrent in the sight of Pharaoh** and in the sight of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us."



“I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” 1968

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Acts 16:25-26, 30-32

25 But at midnight **Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.** 26 Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed... 30 And he brought them out and said, "Sirs, **what must I do to be saved?**" 31 So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.

Amos 3:7-8

7 Surely the LORD God does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets. 8 A lion has roared! Who will not fear? **The LORD God has spoken! Who can but prophesy?**

“I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” 1968

Luke 4:16-19

16 So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. 17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: 18 **"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor;** He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

Revelation 7:9

After these things I looked, and behold, **a great multitude which no one could number**, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, **clothed with white robes**, with palm branches in their hands,

Revelation 21:2

Then I, John, saw the holy city, **New Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

“I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” 1968



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Luke 10:33-35

33 But **a certain Samaritan**, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he **had compassion**. 34 So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.’



“I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” 1968

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Deuteronomy 32:48-50

48 Then the LORD spoke to Moses that very same day, saying: 49 "**Go up this mountain** of the Abarim, Mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, across from Jericho; **view the land of Canaan**, which I give to the children of Israel as a possession; 50 and die on the mountain which you ascend, and be gathered to your people, just as Aaron your brother died on Mount Hor and was gathered to his people;

“I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” 1968

Matthew 24:30-31

30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see **the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory**. 31 And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.