

REPARATIONS----- DO YOU HEAR THE CALL

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL SUBSCRIBE TO THE M'VOICE

The U.S. government's first reparations plan to compensate African-Americans for the legacy of slavery was 40 acres and a mule apiece — that was Gen. William Sherman's promise to former slaves shortly after the Civil War ended in 1865. His order set aside land on the Georgia and South Carolina coasts for the settlement of thousands of newly freed families. But the promise was quickly recanted and the land was taken back, with no other plans for reparations.

Since then, the issue has been revisited time and again by leading civil rights activists. In 1963, for example, Martin Luther King Jr., called Sherman's promise "a check which has come back marked 'insufficient funds.'" King called instead for "a check

that will give (African-Americans) upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice."

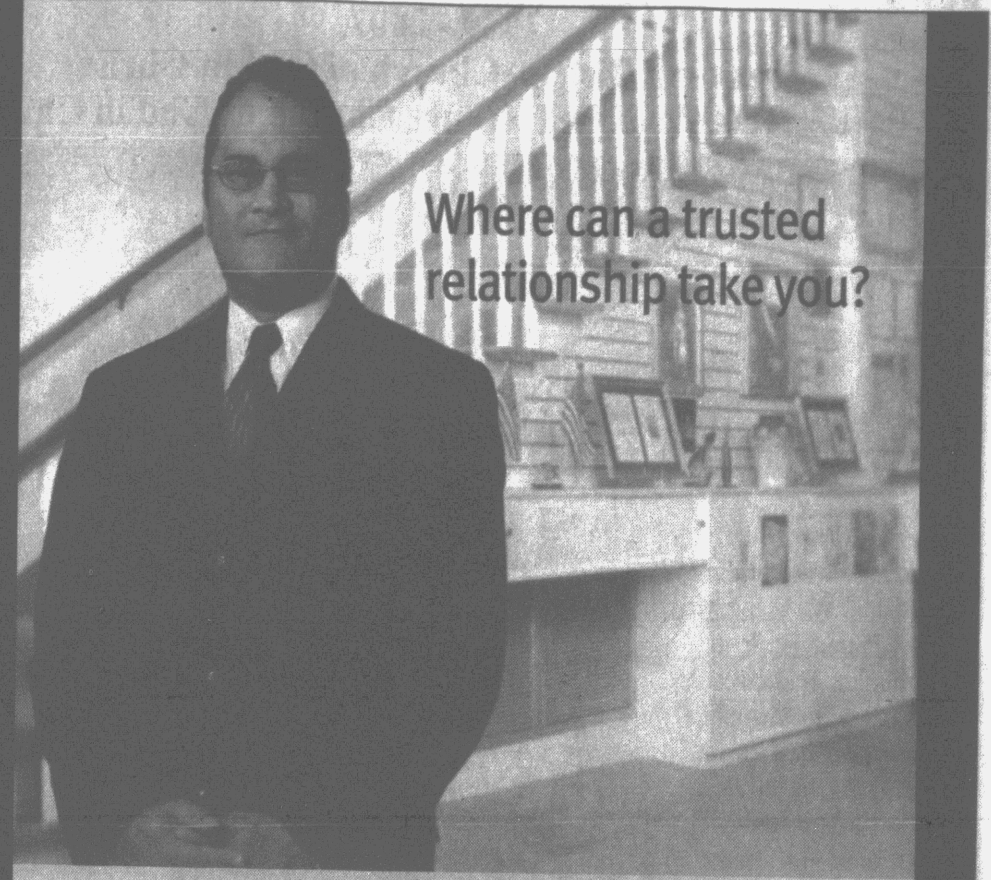
Support from the White House and Congress still remains weak: President Bush is said to oppose paying slave compensation, and U.S. Rep. John Conyers' proposal to set up a commission to study the impact of slavery has languished for over a decade. Reparations include compensations such as return of sovereignty or political authority, group entitlements, and money or property transfers, or some combination of these, due to the wrongdoing of the grantor. It is obvious, then, that the form reparations will take depends on, among other things, the particular demands of the victimized group and the nature of the wrong committed. In arguing for Black reparations, this article

supports the idea of compensation through money transfers and group entitlements because I believe that reparations present an opportunity for institution-building that is badly needed, and should not be squandered in the consumer market. Nevertheless, I also believe that the poorest among us should be compensated first and through meaningful (not symbolic) monetary transfers.

Even though recent statements have been made to apologize for the wrongs done to our people (slavery) that is not enough.

We have to continue to sound the gong for reparations until our voices are heard from the White House to the Crack House.

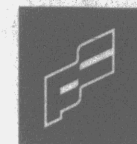
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Nicotine Addiction Blacks Buy Enough Cigarettes to Send 2,500 Students to College

More than a half million African-Americans have died from smoking-related diseases over the past decade. That's enough people to fill the cities of Atlanta, New Orleans, Kansas City, Mo., or Cleveland, Ohio. Yet, "cigarette smoking is the single most preventable cause of premature death in the United States", according to the Centers for Disease Control. Then why are so many Black people dying from cigarettes and why is it so difficult to quit. Tobacco companies sell billions of cigarettes and cigars in Black communities. One reason is because of target marketing. That's when a company picks out certain groups and uses ads to get their attention. When will we realize that we are victimized by big business for there gain.

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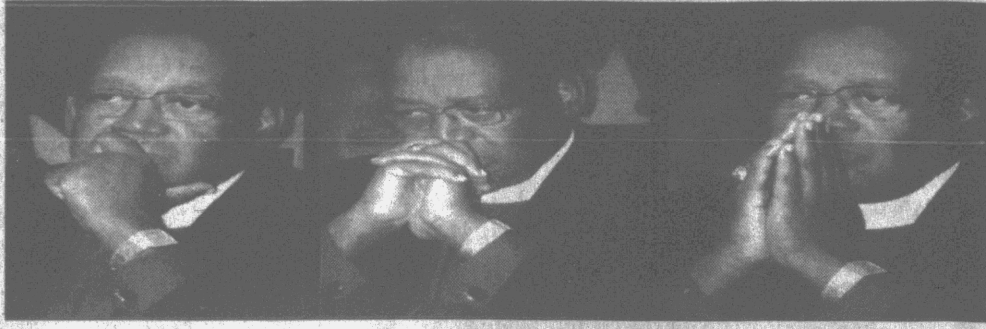
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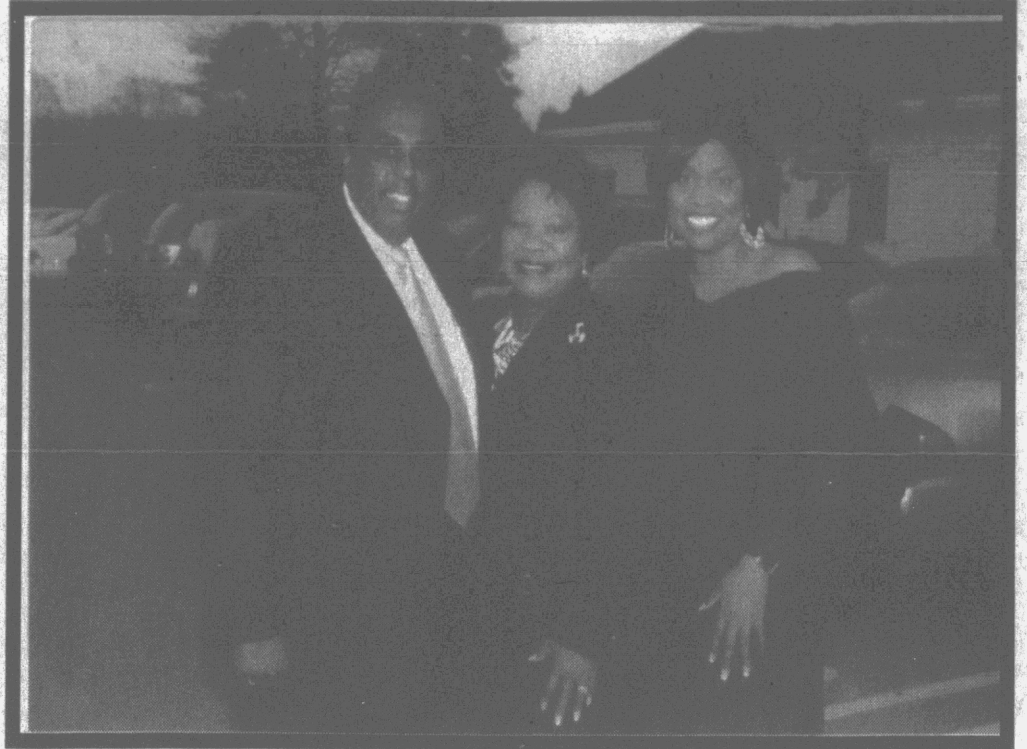
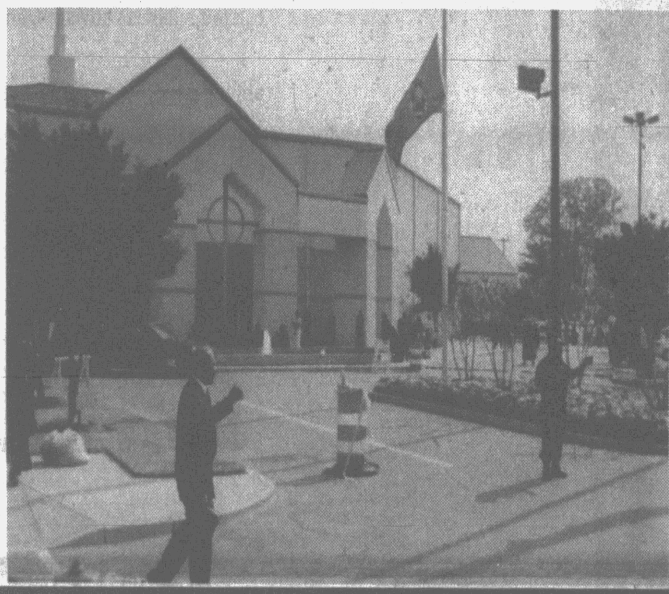
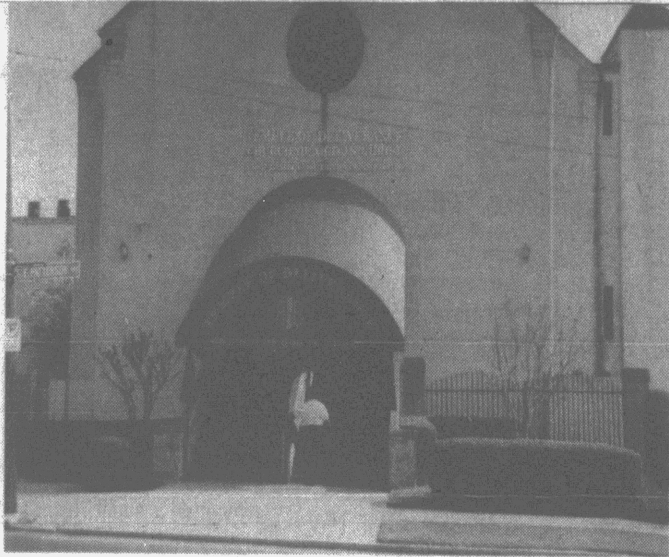
In Memoriam Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson

1939 - 2007

Presiding Bishop, Church of God in Christ
Pastor, Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ



Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson was born in 1939 to Bishop W. A. and Mrs. Mary Patterson, Sr. in Humboldt, Tennessee. He was reared in Memphis, Tennessee and Detroit, Michigan. Bishop J. S. Bailey ordained him in 1958 as an elder in the Church of God in Christ. In 1962, Bishop Patterson became co-pastor with his father at Holy Temple Church of God in Christ in Memphis, Tennessee. Bishop Patterson continued his pastorate in 1975 as the founder and pastor of Temple of Deliverance, the Cathedral of the Bountiful Blessings in Memphis, Tennessee. Today, Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ is one of the nation's fastest growing congregations with over 12,000 on its membership roll. The church is located at 369 G. E. Patterson Avenue.



WE ARE FAMILY . . . Ray Rogers stands with his lovely wife and daughter on anight out together to hear the renowned Mayo Angelo when she visited our fair city. Members of Cornerstone Baptist Church, a family that hangs together, stays together and prays together.

photo by Jim Rouse

CHAS MANAGEMENT SPRING CAR CARE SPECIALS

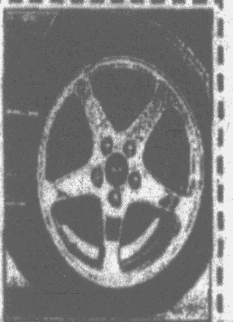


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