



“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM WITH UNDERSTANDING”

**Of Issachar, those who had understanding of the times, to
know what Israel ought to do... 1 Chronicles 12:32**

THE PASTOR’S PEN August 27, 2023

WHY EDUCATION AND THE ACCURATE TEACHING OF OUR HISTORY MATTERS

Part of the argument the Florida State Board of Education and others use to support the curriculum is the Black educators were a part of Florida’s African American History Standards workgroup. However, many of us are well aware that someone can be of African descent and not have the best interest of those of African descent. It is so interesting how a person will permit the attainment of a position to cause them to lose their identity.

As a result, they begin to despise themselves and everyone who looks like them. Their goal becomes seeking to do everything to keep from looking like, acting like, thinking like and being like Black people. Additionally, they inappropriately apply the achievements they have made, the successes they have accomplished, the positions they have attained and the doors of opportunity opened to them to every person of color, while despising them for not doing so. They do this without the consideration of the myriad factors that contributed to why they were where they were when the doors were opened to them.

The two are members of Florida’s African American History Standards workgroup are Dr. William Allen and Frances Presley Rice. Following is biographical information on them both.

Following are excerpts from Lori Rozsa’s article on Dr. William Allen in The Washington Post, August 11, 2023:

The 79-year-old retired professor of government and political science has a résumé notable for appointments to high-profile positions by conservative Republicans. In 1984, Ronald Reagan named Allen to the National Council of the Humanities, followed three years later by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. In appointing him to the commission, Reagan said Allen would prevent the commission from becoming “an arm of the advocacy groups in the civil rights movement.”

Allen has repeatedly spoken out against affirmative action, and during his leadership of the Virginia higher education council, he also questioned the role of historically Black colleges and universities, or HBCUs. During his chairmanship of the federal civil rights body, he was castigated by fellow commissioners for the title of a 1989 speech, “Blacks? Animals? Homosexuals? What is a Minority?”

In 1986, he ran for the U.S. Senate in California. (His campaign chairman was attorney John Eastman, who 34 years later would try to help Donald Trump overturn the outcome of the presidential election.) Allen, one of 13 candidates in the Republican primary, placed 10th and received less than 1 percent of the total votes cast.

Following are Frances Presley Rice’s academic degrees and excerpts from *My American Journey* by Frances Presley Rice:

She holds a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of California, Hastings College of Law in San Francisco, California; a Master of Business Administration from Golden Gate University, San Francisco, California; and a Bachelor of Science degree from Drury College, Springfield, Missouri. (notice her degrees are not in education or history)

Excerpts from *My American Journey*: Over the years, I’ve realized the American Dream, thanks to the freedoms we enjoy in America, the greatest nation on the face of our planet. Our Constitution guarantees us individual liberties and equal opportunities, but not equal outcomes.

The level of success each of us achieves is in our own hands. Not everyone starts out in life under equal circumstances, however, as the old saying goes, if life hands you a lemon, make lemonade.

The claim that America is a racist country is not grounded in reality. First of all, tribalism is a human trait where outsiders are viewed with suspicion. Yes, there are some individuals (black and white) who harbor animosity based on race. There is little or no chance of changing the hearts and minds of truly bigoted people.

However, if race were a barrier to success in America, how could so many black Americans become successful athletes, entertainers, politicians, educators and government officials?

If race were a barrier to success, I would still be living in poverty in Atlanta.

Notably, I participated in civil rights protests during the 1960's inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King and witnessed the Ku Klux Klan marching boldly and menacingly down the street. Therefore, from first hand experiences, as well as my recent extensive research, I can attest to the history of civil rights. In a nutshell, the battle for freedom and black civil rights was a political battle, waged between our two major political parties. One political party, the Democratic Party, seceded from the union and fought to preserve slavery. The other political party, the Republican Party, was founded as the anti-slavery party and fought to end slavery.

After institutionalized discrimination ended in the early 1970s, thanks to Republicans, I experienced no further problems because of the color of my skin. This has been the case, even though in 1970, I married my husband, Peter, who is white. During our years of marriage, we've traveled to every state in America and almost all of the countries in the world.



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Beginning



Current

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	Educational Enrichment	Technology Literacy	Athletics & Recreation	Performing Arts	Facility Innovation
\$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Subject books for elementary (math, literature, history, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 iPad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 basketballs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 art sets for aspiring artists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External security lighting to keep the street well-lit and safe
\$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Summer Bridge books to help students retain learning during breaks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 "learn how to code" kits for elementary students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 tennis rackets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 beginner saxophones or 8 beginner violins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camera security system to keep everyone safe
\$2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 students can be challenged to excel using interactive problem-solving programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 computer for graphic design and website creation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 sets of golf clubs for children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Play Scripts with performance/licensing fee and cast instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wireless PA system to easily communicate at the school
\$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 smartboard to help teachers engage students in learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 STEM lab cart of materials for a classroom with multiple activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-day Speed and Agility workshop for 15 young aspiring track stars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 pairs of tap shoes for aspiring dancers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battery operated floor scrubber to keep the building looking its best
\$10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 trip for 15 students to visit 1 HBCU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Robotic kits to reinforce studies in STEAM subjects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open gym for 20 young people 1 X a week throughout the winter in a safe place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200 tickets to see Alvin Ailey Dance Company 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LED light fixtures throughout the school to promote learning and natural light

WORK FOR THE WEEK

AUGUST MEMORY VERSE

¹⁹ They will fight against you, But they shall not prevail against you. For I am with you," says the Lord, "to deliver you."

Jeremiah 1:19

AUGUST MEDITATION QUOTE

"If you see a good fight, get in it"

Reverend Vernon Johns

TODAY'S STUDY QUESTIONS AND MEDITATION:

When was the last time you had a good fight for your ministry? _____

If you cannot let it go of it, perhaps you should get in it _____

FOR THE YOUTH

Ask your parents to assist you in understanding the difference between fighting and fighting for a good reason _____
