



John Lewis

By Lady Karen J. Minor-Turner

Day 39
April 7, 2023

Read Acts 20:1

“And after the uproar was ceased, Paul called unto him the disciples, and embraced them, and departed for to go into Macedonia.”

Critical Race Facts:

Although the Civil Rights Act of 1875 and Supreme Court rulings banned racial discrimination in jury selection, local officials barred African Americans from serving on juries. African Americans virtually disappeared from the Southern jury box by 1900, even in counties where they constituted an overwhelming majority of the local population, which reinforced the impunity under which lynching flourished.

Today's Prayer:

Lord, thank you for those who redefined trouble. Help us to discern good trouble from bad trouble. Help us to realize that there are consequences to all trouble. Help us to realize that the rewards and sacrifice pays the dividends of character, integrity, freedom and justice. In Jesus Name, **amen.**

I didn't get into trouble when I was in school. I always thought it was important to listen and follow rules. The term trouble was something I did not want attached to my name. This was true throughout my early years. However, because of Congressman John Lewis, I learned that it was okay to get into good trouble.

Born the 3rd child of ten, John Lewis was young when he decided to stand up against racism. He noticed that people of color were treated unfairly. Congressman Lewis based on the word of God, believed that all people were to be treated with respect and fairness regardless of whether they were Jew or Gentile, male or female; black or white.

For more than 50 years, Congressman Lewis fought against structural and institutional racism that kept people of color from experiencing justice, and fairness in their homes, communities and throughout society.

His fight caused him to be jailed more than 45 times, and beaten so bad with a policeman's baton that his skull was fractured on one occasion, and he was left to waddle in his own blood on another. Congressman Lewis wore the scars of his brutal beatings the remainder of his life, yet he felt obligated by moral principles to engage in this kind of trouble.

These are the same issues that we fight today. They are what the Bible refers to as principalities and powers; wickedness in high places. Congressman Lewis was also named one of the “Big Six” civil-rights leaders who organized the March on Washington in August 1963. At 23, Lewis was the youngest person to speak at the event. He said on that day, “We are tired. We are tired of being beaten by policemen. We are tired of seeing our people locked up in jail over and over again. And then you holler, ‘Be patient.’ How long can we be patient? We want our freedom and we want it now.” Congressman Lewis wanted freedom even if it meant getting into trouble.

Today, I definitely want my name connected to “good trouble”. Today, I willingly put my faith into action to fulfil the moral mission and mandate of stirring up good and God ordained trouble.

