

**The Return of the Cushite**  
**Bishop Parnell M. Lovelace, Jr., PhD, DMin**  
**Founding and Senior Pastor**  
**2 Samuel 18:24-32 ESV**



**Portraiture - by Anita Scott Coleman** Black men are the tall trees that remain Standing in a forest after a fire.  
Flames strip their branches,  
Flames sear their limbs,  
Flames scorch their trunks.  
Yet stand these trees  
For their roots are thrust deep  
In the heart of the earth.  
Black men are the tall trees that remain  
Standing in a forest after a fire.

**Signifiers of a Troubled Society**

- **The rise of the oppressor**
- **The treatment of the helpless (orphan, widows, poor, and vulnerable)**
- **Emergence of a systemic colonialism**
- **The silence of the believer**

**Our Calling is Affirmed:**

- **Exodus 22:20-26**
- **Leviticus 19:9-10**
- **Proverbs 31:8-9**
- **Isaiah 58:5-7**
- **Matthew 25:34-40**
- **Luke 6:20-23**
- **1 John 3:17-18**

**I have decided to stick to love...Hate is too great a burden to bear.**  
**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**

**2 Peter 3:7-18 ESV**

**My Prayer For Today's Cushite Messengers**

- **courage**
- **physical endurance**
- **mental health**
- **continuance in justice**

**1 Corinthians 15:58 AMP**