

The Tennessee Tribune

Volume 23, No. 40, 3 Sections

THURSDAY, October 4-10, 2012

\$1.00

The Moral Minority: Being Counted Among a Remnant of Righteous People

A Commentary by Jason Curry



The Reverend Dr. Jason Richard Curry is Dean of the Fisk Memorial Chapel at Fisk University. He can be reached at jcurry@fisk.edu or www.fiskmemorialchapel.com.

In the 1980's, there was a well-recognized and influential political group known as the Moral Majority which sought to highlight the need for Christian values among the American mainstream. The title of this organization suggests that the majority is always in support of that which is moral, and that people who represent a spiritual, economic, political or cultural minority would not or could not have a moral influence among a wider body of people. Ironically, there have always been a handful of people throughout human civilization who have championed a moral course of action. They organized small groups or stood alone in an effort to plead the case of the poor, the marginalized, the disenfranchised, the weak, the challenged, the disabled, the forgotten or the "fringe people" of our society. They refused to follow the advice of the group that was "looking at shadows and images" in Plato's Allegory of the Cave. They turned a deaf ear to the mob mentality of "the herd" dis-

cussed by Jean Paul Satre. Instead, these "drum majors for justice" embraced an opinion that was by a held by a minority of people. Dr. Martin Luther King, Fannie Lou Hamer, the Major and Minor Prophets of the bible and Jesus Christ were among those who were unofficially known throughout history as the moral minority because they supported the moral, right or Christian cause of a minority or small percentage of people. We remain indebted to the remnant of righteousness people who came before us in American and salvation history.

Several of my candid conversations with people have led me to the conclusion that many people are very unhappy or needlessly suffering because they have embraced the anachronic advice of those who represent the mislead majority, instead of mimicking the thoughts and actions of those who have represented the moral minority. In short, they have done that which was popular instead of prudent. They have spent instead of saved,

"treated-themselves" instead of tithed to the Lord, neglected family and friends in pursuit of fame or fortune, settled for mediocrity instead of meaningful marriage, desired charisma instead of Christ, money over ministry, selfishness over service and greed over God. Indeed, sometimes you and I have challenges embracing all of the values promoted by Christ, however, it is important to note that the often unpopular words of Christ lead to a new and enriched devotional life, instead of a spiritual or existential death. Jesus said: "...I came that you might have life, and have it more abundantly...(John 10:10)." Therefore, let us continue to "work the work of him who sent us" (John 9:4) so that we may be counted among this meaningful minority in history (see Isaiah 1:9).