



the gospel of james baldwin
chapter & verse

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Color is not a human or a personal reality; it is a political reality. But this is a distinction so extremely hard to make that the West has not been able to make it yet. And at the center of this dreadful storm, this vast confusion, stand the black people of this nation, who must now share the fate of a nation that has never accepted them, to which they were brought in chains. Well, if this is so, one has no choice but to do all in one's power to change that fate, and at no matter what risk—eviction, imprisonment, torture, death. For the sake of one's children, in order to minimize the bill that *they* must pay, one must be careful not to take refuge in any delusion—and the value placed on the color of the skin is always and everywhere and forever a delusion.

chapter & verse: the gospel of james baldwin

*No label, no slogan
no party, no skin color
and indeed no religion
is more important
than the human being.*

is an adaptable site-specific media flexible community specific, multi-media kit for justice in the new millennium inspired by James Baldwin's seminal work *The Fire Next Time* from his point of view, no label, no slogan, no party, and indeed no religion is more important than the human being.

The original live versions of the play in theaters and galleries the testimonies and work of the artists with original musical that challenge its participants urgent and critical investigation of sexual orientation, America celebrating Baldwin's ideas of music and visual imagery.

In this version for Bard, MCA Chicago, and UCLA, created during the pandemics plaguing the world, Covid19 and Racism - the will be released through December election. The title nod to some thing episode that is powerful when (of verse). The work of African American church services to practices the world over - focuses on three essential elements of the tool kit, reimagined to be safe and purposeful for the pain, anger, urgency, hope, fatigue, and isolation of right now.

Inspired by James Baldwin's truth-telling treaty on justice in America, *The Fire Next Time*, and our endlessly changing world. **Chapter & Verse: The Gospel of James Baldwin** is a 21st century ritual tool kit for justice. A call for revolution. A gift during turbulent times.

visit thegospelofjamesbaldwin.com or call **833-4-BALDWIN*** (225-3946)

*USA/Canada. International toll-free numbers available online.

1 CALL

Dial 833-4-BALDWIN* toll-free to discover songs, meditations, and chants to ease your mind anytime, day or night, when you need it most. Available in French, Spanish, Yoruba, Portuguese and English.

2 SEE

Audio-visual testimonies of Baldwin's text, with original music by Meshell Nagecoello and collaborators, including Staceyann Chin, Suné Woods, Nicholas Galanin, and Charlotte Brathwaite at thegospelofjamesbaldwin.com

3 READ

Receive a new broadsheet monthly, featuring Baldwin's words and calls to action, delivered directly to your mailbox. If you have not already registered to receive this broadsheet, you can view a PDF version each month at: thegospelofjamesbaldwin.com

status. (Consider the history of labor in a country in which, spiritually speaking, there are no workers, only candidates for the hand of the boss's daughter.) Furthermore, I have met only a very few people—and most of these were not Americans—who had any real desire to be free. Freedom is hard to bear. It can be objected that I am speaking of political freedom in spiritual terms, but the political institutions of any nation are always menaced and are ultimately controlled by the spiritual state of that nation. We are controlled here by our confusion, far more than we know, and the American dream has therefore become something much more closely resembling a nightmare, on the private, domestic, and international levels. Privately, we cannot stand our lives and dare not examine them; domestically, we take no responsibility for (and no pride in) what goes on in our country; and, internationally, for many millions of people, we are an unmitigated disaster. Whoever doubts this last statement has only to open his ears, his heart, his mind, to the testimony of—for example—any Cuban

The glorification of one race and the consequent debasement of another—or others—always has been and always will be a recipe for murder.

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You think your pain and heartbreak are unprecedented in the history of the world, then you read. It was books that taught me that the things that tormented me most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, who had ever been alive.

Neither civilized reason nor Christian love would cause any of those people to treat you as they presumably wanted to be treated; only the fear of your power to retaliate would cause them to do that, or to seem to do it, which was (and is) good enough. There appears to be a vast amount of confusion on this point, but I do not know many Negroes who are eager to be "accepted" by white people, still less to be loved by them; they, the blacks, simply don't wish to be beaten over the head by whites every instant of our brief passage on this planet. White people in this country will have quite enough to do in learning how to accept and love themselves and each other, and when they have achieved this—which will not be tomorrow and may very well be never—



- Amiri Baraka

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TAKE ACTION!

This is Breonna Taylor. She was brutally shot and killed by police in her own home, in her own bed. She did nothing wrong. Our fight for justice for Breonna continues.

visit justiceforbreonna.org or call **502-735-1784** to demand justice for Breonna.

