**I’m Black and I’m Proud**

(Exodus 1:11-14 KJV)

*Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses. But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel. And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour: And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in morter, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.*

T

housands of years ago, according to the Old Testament, the Jews were slaves in Egypt. The Israelites had been in Egypt for generations, but now that they had become so numerous; the Pharaoh feared their presence. He feared that one day the Israelites would turn against the Egyptians. Gradually and stealthily, he forced them to become his slaves. He made the slaves build grand “treasure cities.” The Egyptian overseers were given instructions to oversee and keep watch on top of a tower, while the slaves make bricks from clay and straw.

**The Israelites had to work long and hard at making building bricks for the Egyptians. At one point, the Pharaoh ruled that if a man didn't meet his quota of bricks for the day that his baby was to be put into the buildings instead of bricks. This kind of persecution got worse. The king pharaoh was afraid of a prophecy that foretold of a deliverer for the Hebrew people. So the pharaoh ordered that all of the baby boys be thrown in the river from then on.**

In this twenty first century in which we live, we have to endorse poetic Solomon the black son of David who indicated in scriptures; there’s nothing new that happens under the sun. Furthermore, that which happened in the past has its formatical directional ways of appearing in the future.

1. **The Struggles of the Afro-Americans:**

The man and woman of color have always faced rejection because of their skin complexion. Matter of fact many in the pass faced massive persecution and were treated with less respect than that of a dog infected with rabies and oozing mange. Our ancestors identified and experienced the hostile environment of the slave master, but through these difficult, disastrous, demeaning, diabolical, distasteful, dilemmas; they were determined no matter how long it would take. To fight for freedom and equality!

Many slaves were considered house slaves. To serve as a house slaves you had no free time at all and was always on call. Some owners even expected their house slaves to sleep at the foot of their beds in case they wanted something at night. Some house slaves deliberately did badly at housework so that they would be sent back to the fields with those they were familiar with no matter how hard the task was to be completed.