



STUDY GUIDE

America's Promise

KEY TERMS:

freedom
dependency

opportunity
American

government
moral conscience

Detail Focus: Complete this section <u>during</u> the video.	Main Summary Focus: Complete this section <u>after</u> the video.
1. What does America promise you?	1. What is so important about America offering freedom, rather than offering love?
2. What is the purpose of government?	2. How has freedom influenced and helped to shape the condition of blacks in America?
3. What is America's source of power?	

Discussion & Review Questions

1. At the beginning of the video, Mr. Whitlock states, “I want to tell you something that everybody once knew. And now many have either forgotten or never learned. Pay very close attention: America promises you freedom. America does not promise you love. Let’s start with the freedom part. It’s all right there in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Free speech. Freedom to practice the religion of your choice. The purpose of government is to protect your freedom.” Why do you think that many people have ‘forgotten or never learned’ that America promises freedom, and not love? Explain. Do you agree with Mr. Whitlock that the purpose of government is to protect your freedom? Why or why not?
2. Mr. Whitlock further contends that, “You don’t want to live in a country where all your needs are taken care of by the government. That’s not how you become great. That’s how you become dependent, vulnerable, and truly oppressed.” Why do you think that so many people want to have their every need taken care of by the government, and don’t care about becoming dependent on the government? Explain. Since being dependent on the government for needs is not how one ‘becomes great,’ what do you think one should do instead to ‘become great?’ Explain.
3. Later in the video, Mr. Whitlock points out that, “... the Founders never promised love- not to whites, or blacks, or anyone else. During his famous ‘I have a dream speech,’ Martin Luther King referenced freedom 20 times. He never once spoke the word love. Why not? Because America has nothing to do with that. If you want love, and we all do, look to God, your family and your friends. The government doesn’t love you and isn’t supposed to. The government is a poor and abusive provider. It offers the bare minimum and fosters a dependency that undermines freedom.” Why do you think that anyone would look to government for love? Explain. Why isn’t the government supposed to love you? Explain.
4. After sharing with us that he is proud to be a black man in America, Mr. Whitlock notes that, “Blacks have made enormous contributions to this country. But let me tell you what our single greatest contribution has been. We have been this nation’s moral conscience. Blacks have forced America to live up to its best ideals. Our righteous pursuit of freedom, pursuit of freedom, not love, compelled this nation to seek and find its better self.” What do you think Mr. Whitlock means by the term ‘moral conscience?’ Explain. In what ways, specifically, has America ‘found its better self?’ Explain.
5. At the end of the video, Mr. Whitlock warns that, “Blacks have suffered mightily and prospered mightily in America. But in our long journey we’ve always been headed in the right direction. Until now. Because we have taken a wrong turn. Away from God where we have, as a community, always found strength and solace. And toward government which offers us nothing but empty promises.” Do you agree that blacks in America have taken a ‘wrong turn?’ Why or why not? Why do you think that anyone would continue to seek out, to support, and to vote for a ‘government which offers us nothing but empty promises?’ Explain.

Extend the Learning:

Case Study President Trump's pro-growth policies

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article "Trump gives black Americans opportunity for greatness President's policies pay dividends for success," then answer the questions that follow.

1. What do black voters understand, in terms of what is in their interest? What does the African-American community need? What do Democratic politicians use as tools to maintain the economic status quo? What does black America need instead of handouts and slogans? What do Democratic politicians do instead of addressing the hostile economic conditions holding black Americans back? What do many black 'leaders' exploit, and why? What is providing black Americans with genuine opportunity rather than providing them with more dependency politics? Who promises to payoff the people with government welfare checks? What gains did black Americans start to see with President Trump's pro-growth policies? What was Frederick Douglass' position on what the government should 'do' with the black community? Who doesn't need the Democrats turning them into victims? The author opines that instead of white Liberals taking care of black Americans, black Americans just need what to stand on their own two feet? Who should be called out for their 'despicable race-baiting and name calling,' and why? Instead of speaking for black America, Democrats are often truly motivated by what?
2. Why do you think that only a minority of Americans think and feel the same way as this author? In what ways does being dependent on the government hold individuals and groups back from achieving their potential and from realizing their moral obligation to be self-sufficient? Explain. How does being 'America first,' and focusing on the American value of freedom help black America more than being dependent on the government? Explain. Do you think that mainstream equality will be a by-product and natural outcome of creating freedom and economic opportunities for black Americans to prosper and succeed? Why or why not?
3. Which points made in the video are supported by points made in this article? Do you agree with the main point of both the article and the video? Why or why not?

<https://www.thecharlottepost.com/news/2019/07/17/opinion/trump-gives-black-americans-opportunity-for-greatness/>

Trump gives black Americans opportunity for greatness President's policies pay dividends for success

Published Wednesday, July 17, 2019
by Clarence Henderson



Clarence Henderson

While the mainstream media and Democratic establishment smear President Trump, he's busy implementing policies that benefit all Americans. When he arrives in Greenville for a massive campaign rally this week, the President will bring with him a record that promises a new deal for black America.

Black voters understand that the divide-and-conquer strategy pursued by the Democrats is no longer in their interest. The African American community needs opportunity, employment, and a fair deal — not racial pandering, group division, and dependency-inducing handouts that the Democrats have been using to purloin our votes for 50 years.

But Democrats have nothing else to offer: too afraid to take on their elite patrons who promote race-based political correctness, Democratic politicians choose to spew divisive rhetoric rather than enact concrete change, and use welfare payments as tools to maintain the economic status quo.

Instead of handouts and slogans, black America needs structural reforms and access to greater opportunity. President Trump has pushed for these changes in his ongoing fight to bring back the American jobs lost to outsourcing and restore genuine economic potential to low-income communities, and he will undoubtedly make his success on that front a focal point of his rally in Greenville on Wednesday.

For decades, the establishment elites exported American jobs overseas and imported cheap foreign labor. Working Americans of all colors paid the price, forced to support their families with dwindling chances for real advancement. American wages remained stagnant, unemployment stayed high, and economic growth slowed to a crawl.

African American communities bore a disproportionately heavy portion of the burden, enduring persistently high poverty, unemployment, and crime rates because so many opportunities had been taken away by elitist greed.

The Democrat politicians who claim to speak for African Americans have offered us little more than the crumbs from their table. Instead of addressing the hostile economic conditions holding black Americans back, Democrats

always try to deflect criticism from their own failed policies by calling conservatives racists. Many black “leaders” actively participate in this deception, exploiting our suffering to enrich themselves and win phony praise from America’s upper crust.

All the while, America’s ruling class has cynically used the rich legacy of the Civil Rights Movement to advance its own elitist agenda, leveraging heroic protests such as the Greensboro sit-in — which I proudly took part in — to pass transgender bathroom bills.

Thanks to President Trump’s America First economic policies, though, a new day has dawned, and African Americans are finally being offered genuine opportunity rather than more dependency politics.

Instead of paying off the people who have been hurt by globalization with government welfare checks, as the Democrats often promise to do, President Trump has taken on elite interests and completely rewritten the rules of the game. With President Trump, working Americans have a champion in Washington who will defend their interests and give them the fair deal they so desperately need.

Black Americans have already begun to see the gains, achieving our lowest unemployment rate ever recorded and benefiting from the rejuvenated wage growth that Trump’s pro-growth policies have brought about. The progress African Americans have made under the Trump administration has proven Frederick Douglass correct: we don’t need Democrats to take care of us, we need to be left alone.

“Your doing with them is their greatest misfortune,” Douglass once advised political leaders who were debating what to do with the soon-to-be-emancipated slaves. “They have been undone by your doings, and all they now ask, and really have need of at your hands, is just to let them alone. They suffer by every interference, and succeed best by being let alone.”

African Americans don’t need Democrats turning us into victims. Though we may have suffered grave injustices in the past, we don’t need white liberals to take care of us. We’re perfectly capable of making a better future for ourselves; we just need the freedom and the opportunity to take care of ourselves and our own. President Trump’s policies, which are designed to unleash the full potential of the American people, are enabling the African American community to stand tall on its own two feet.

Democrats see that the Trump economy has provided success and opportunity to people whose votes they have long taken for granted, and they’re clearly starting to get worried. In response, they have ramped up the racially-divisive rhetoric in order to create irrational fear of Donald Trump among the very people who are benefiting the most from his policies. We can’t let the left foil the president’s plans to guide the American economy to even greater heights, and that means calling them out for their despicable race-baiting and name calling. While Democrats often claim to speak for black America, they’re really motivated solely by their own interests.

When he visits North Carolina, a place that played a critical role in the historic beginnings of the Civil Rights Movement, President Trump will celebrate the new possibilities that his policies are opening up for all Americans. In doing so, he offers the promise of a new shared future, realizing the goals that the Civil Rights Movement only dared to dream. Under this president’s leadership, American workers pursue their dreams with confidence that their government puts them first, irrespective of their race or creed. Under these conditions, black Americans can look forward to a future of accomplishment and prosperity.

Clarence Henderson is president of the Frederick Douglass Foundation of North Carolina, which champions conservative values.



QUIZ

America's Promise

1. What does America promise you?

- a. love
- b. economic prosperity
- c. freedom
- d. happiness

2. The purpose of government is _____.

- a. to take care of you from cradle to grave
- b. to protect your freedom
- c. to control your life
- d. to make you wealthy

3. If the government took care of all of your needs, you would become dependent, vulnerable, and truly oppressed.

- a. True
- b. False

4. To have a good shot at life in America, you should _____.

- a. get an education
- b. work hard
- c. act responsibly
- d. all of the above

5. What is America's source of power?

- a. economic wealth
- b. an abundance of natural resources
- c. it's great people
- d. freedom



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