

## We Have The Power!

*“Regardless of what white America does or does not do, the destiny of African Americans is in our hands.”*

- Robert Woodson

According to a 1998 United States Census Bureau study, income for the average African-American household has reached an all-time high of \$25,000 – an increase of 16.8% over the last five years. In 1998, Black-buying power in America also reached a record high of \$533 billion. In addition, the number of African-American owned businesses in all industries increased nearly 60 percent between the years 1987 and 1992. To further emphasize the depth of African-American progression, seventy percent of all African-Americans are high school graduates and twelve percent possess at least a Bachelor’s degree or more, thereby making African-Americans more skilled and more educated than any other time in the history of America. Our influence has also reached the boardrooms of Fortune 500 companies across America where African-Americans are in a growing number of decision-making positions. No more are the days when we can blame our problems on other people. This time more than any other in our history represents the Golden Era of African-American prosperity. Young, Black America our time to lead has come. The days are gone for our mothers and fathers to take care of us. Their job is done. Now we are the mothers and fathers of a new generation of African-Americans in need of our strength, determination, willpower and faith. The Civil Rights Leaders of the 1960’s have passed the baton and it is our responsibility to ensure that their

legacy is preserved. Stand up, be strong and continue fighting for the values that made our society a better place in which to live, work and play. Values like humanity, peace, love, justice, family and brotherhood have been and will continue to be causes worthy of your tireless thoughts and efforts. Fill your communities, families and churches up like fountains after heavy spring showers with these 'truths' as we know and have experienced them to be. Remember that weak links are useless in our battle for good, so work diligently to strengthen yourself and those around you. Realize that we have the power! We have the power to cure all of the economic ills found present in our communities today. We have the power! We have the power to cure all of the psychological as well as spiritual ills found in our homes, streets and prisons. We have the power! We have the power to cure all of the illnesses related to our physical, mental and emotional health. We have the power! We have the power to make our communities safer for our families to live, work, and play in. We have the power to solve all of these problems. But, understand young, Black America that these problems will only be solved when we learn that the answers to these issues lie within ourselves. The world is desperately seeking young brothers and sisters across America who are courageous enough to step up and meet these challenges. Know that our failure to do so contradicts everything our lineage is made of. This is our mission... This is our goal... This is our destiny – young, Black America! Make it happen!!! -QB