

Essay from the Bold Pastor
#25 – L.A. Riots 20 Years Later –

Two decades have passed since the Los Angeles riots, and in remembrance of this event, NBC News picked up the story of Titus Murphy.

Rodney King, an African-American construction worker, was excessively beaten by Los Angeles police officers in March of 1991. When all the officers were acquitted more than a year later on April 29th of 1992, the citizens of Los Angeles became furious and their anger triggered the L.A. riots.

On the day of the riots at 6:45PM, Reginald Denny, a white truck driver, was waiting for the light to turn green at the intersection of Florence and Normandy Ave. when he was pulled out of his truck by gang members and rioters, beaten on the head nearly to death with a brick, and left out on the streets.

Titus Murphy, an African-American man, saw the event unfold live on television in his house one mile and a half away. He rushed to the scene to rescue Denny. Denny had managed to get into the cab of his own truck, and a man named Bobby Green leaped onto the truck and drove it to the hospital as part of the rescue effort. Murphy recalls, "I was just helping a person who was in need. I didn't look at his race at all. Never thought about it once."

In the midst of violence and chaos, the actions of these Good Samaritans gave hope to many Americans. Psalm 46:1 reads, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Jesus Christ is not a mere teacher. He is a savior of mankind who loved us so much so that he bled and died on the cross for us.

May 8, 2012

