



Fall 2013 Newsletter

E. Stanley Jones Foundation

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The recent commemoration, celebration and fifty year anniversary of the historic March on Washington, brings to mind a little known story of the role of evangelist, Dr. E. Stanley Jones in the events of that time in our nation's history.

Many are familiar with E. Stanley Jones' evangelistic work and his unyielding message "Jesus is Lord." His numerous inspirational books about self-surrender to Jesus continue to bring direction, meaning, comfort and inspiration to the daily lives of thousands of people around the world. It may, however, come as a surprise that Dr. Jones played a key role in some of the most significant historical and political issues of his time, many of which shape our world today.

This 2009 blog by Dr. Jonathan Raymond, former President of Trinity Western University, British Columbia, Canada tells the beginning of this "story". I will finish it for you later in this newsletter....

Anne Mathews-Younes

President, E. Stanley Jones Foundation

NOTEWORTHY

"It helps to look back a few generations to discover a reason for hope in the future."

- ESJ's writings may have been published 50+ years ago, but they ring true still today. Because of this, the Foundation is currently in the process of "re-introducing" Dr. Jones' writings, philosophy, and approaches to contemporary world problems.
- We are doing this in many ways including updating and republishing his books; working with seminaries around the country to integrate Jones' approach into core curricula; and re-energizing his lay witness "Ashram" movement

"You can't hand us a latte and then go about business as usual and expect us to stick around. We're not leaving the church because we don't find the cool factor there; we're leaving the church because we don't find Jesus there. Like every generation before ours and every generation after, deep down, we long for Jesus."

Rachel Held Evans is the author of "Evolving in Monkey Town" and "A Year of Biblical Womanhood." She blogs at rachelheldevans.com. The views expressed in this column belong to Rachel Held Evans.

UNFOLDING THE STORY

On January 3, 1884 in Clarksville, Maryland, E. Stanley Jones was born. Nineteen years later Jones was a student at Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky graduating from the college and soon thereafter journeying to India as a young Methodist missionary. He immersed himself in India for the next fifty-five years. During that time, Jones wrote twenty-eight books out of his pastoral experience ministering to the people of India and preaching and sharing "Christ and Christ's Kingdom". Along the way, Jones became very close to Mahatma Gandhi. They were contemporaries and became friends. Jones wrote often about his friendship with Gandhi.

Fast forward to the early 1950s and the story jumps to the library at the Methodist School of Theology at Boston University where several of Jones' books are on the shelf. A curious divinity doctoral student, Martin Luther King Jr., reads Jones' writings on India and his friendship with Gandhi AND through Jones' friendship and writings, Martin Luther King, Jr. encounters Gandhi's major tactic in addressing British colonization and occupation of India: non-violence. King reads how Gandhi learned from his discussions with Jones about Jesus Christ and non-violence, non-cooperation. Jones directly impacted Gandhi's thinking. This led eventually to the liberation of a nation. Jones and Gandhi both impacted Martin Luther King which led to King's significant contribution to the civil rights movement.

It gave me pause to think of how one generation sets the stage for another's progress and the truth of the old platitude that we stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before. Sometimes it helps to look back a few generations to discover a reason for hope in the future. Across the generations, God is at work and his means of grace and hope is often the faithfulness of human agency. In this case it was E. Stanley Jones who answered a call to India, disciplined himself in immersion into the culture, opened himself up to a wonderful friendship with

Bringing full circle to the story told at the beginning of Dr. Raymond's blog is the following recollection of my mother's conversation with Coretta Scott King in 1981:

BACKSTORY

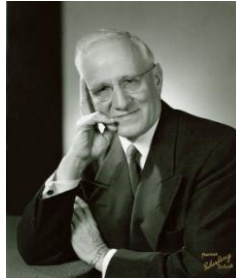
JOURNAL ENTRY OF EUNICE MATHEWS, DAUGHTER, E. STANLEY JONES

"Last week in Washington I met Mrs. Coretta Scott King at a function at the Kennedy Center honoring Congressman Andrew Young. I told her of an incident in Boston when her husband, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was honored by Boston University at a special convocation prior to his leaving for Sweden to receive the 1964 Nobel Peace prize. At the reception following, I was introduced to Dr. King and my father was mentioned. Dr. King immediately became very serious and said: 'Your father was a very important person to me, for it was his book on Mahatma Gandhi that triggered my use of Gandhi's method of non-violence as a weapon for our own people's freedom in the United States' He continued, that though he had been very familiar with the writings on Gandhi and had been interested in his method of non-violence for years, still it had not "clicked" with him that it was a vehicle for "use" here. It was my father's book that had opened this possibility. Mrs. King corroborated this, saying she clearly remember her husband's excitement when, after finishing my father's book, this plan of action became clear to him – that the weapon of non-violence, used with discipline, was a viable one here." (Personal communication, 2009) King had understood Jones' message and would then adapt Gandhi's methods to the Christian doctrine of love. King's resulting non-violent Civil Rights movement would transform the lives of American Blacks.

Gandhi, wrote about his experience and impacted a young divinity student at Boston University and through him millions of people today hold great hope for the future. God is always at work giving insight, ingenuity, and inspiration to act heroically on behalf of those who cannot. At critical junctures in our history we are blessed as we stand on the shoulders of others. God gives us shoulders to stand on to envision a new world of possibilities – a new world of hope. By *Jonathan Raymond*

RELEVANCE

What was it about Jones' writing about Gandhi that years later elicited the interest of Martin Luther King, Jr., and still holds relevance for us today?



The story goes as follows: Soon after the death of Gandhi in 1947, Jones was asked by his publisher to write a book about their friendship. Jones initially rejected the request stating that he could not write a book "on demand" but only upon "an inner urge." In addition, he did not believe that he could write a book on Gandhi because of his "intimate association with the dual struggle going on in India for her political freedom and the freedom of her soul to not be dominated and molded by a seemingly foreign faith." (Jones, *Gandhi, Portrayal of a Friend*, 6) In the end however, Jones decided that he "could lay an honest tribute at the feet of the great little man," and so wrote his book.

JONES' CHANGE OF HEART

Dr. Jones described his change of heart this way: I could do it (the book) with my whole heart. I see a man with whom I have often disagreed, but whom I have intensely believed in and loved. A little man, who fought a system in the framework of which I stand, has taught me more of the spirit of Christ than perhaps any other man in East or West. (Jones, *Gandhi, Portrayal of a Friend*, 8)

E. Stanley Jones begins his book by recalling the day that Gandhi was assassinated. It was January 30, 1948, now 65 years ago. Jones had set up a meeting with Gandhi that day and expected to visit him. However, when Jones' train arrived five hours late to Delhi, he found that the appointment had had to be rescheduled. He could

however attend Gandhi's prayer meeting and speak with him afterwards. But Jones had a lecture scheduled for that evening. As he was preparing he writes, "Suddenly the environment grew strangely quiet. All play in a nearby soccer field ceased. It was as if a silent, but imperious command had stopped all sound." (Jones, *Gandhi, Portrayal of a Friend*, 11) Jones soon learned that the Mahatma had just been shot and killed on his way to his prayer meeting.

JONES ON GANDHI

Later that night Jones wrote the following on the life and contribution of Gandhi:

"Here was something more than a little man and a stick. Here was the embodiment of an idea: he would match his capacity to suffer against the others' capacity to inflict the suffering, his soul force against physical force; he would not hate, but he would not obey, and he would wear down all resistance by an infinite capacity to take it. Here was a technique that had been applied here and there in history, but never applied to a problem on the scale of nothing less than the freedom of one fifth of the human race." (Jones, *Gandhi, Portrayal of a Friend*, 1)



Bishop and Mrs. Mathews with Anne Mathews-Younes examine E. Stanley Jones' book on Gandhi.

E. STANLEY JONES PROFESSORS OF EVANGELISM

DR. STEPHEN GUNTER, ESJ Professorship Director; Duke Divinity School, THE REV. ACHIM HARTNER, Reutlingen School of Theology, Germany; DR. F. DOUGLAS POWE, JR., Wesley Theological Seminary, DR. JOHN WESLEY KUREWA, Africa University; DR. ART MCPHEE, Asbury Theological Seminary, KY; DR. SERGEI NIKOLAEV, Russia United Methodist Theological Seminary, DR. JOON-SIK PARK, Methodist Theological School; DR. ANGEL SANTIAGO-VENDRELL, Asbury Theological Seminary, Orlando, FL; DR. DANIEL SHIN, Gammon Seminary; DR. BRYAN STONE, Boston University School of Theology, DR. LEONARD SWEET, Drew University, The School of Theology, REV. MARK TEASDALE, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary; DR. LACEYE WARNER, Duke Divinity School; Saint Paul School of Theology, Vacant.

GOD IS UP TO SOMETHING BIG THROUGH THE E. STANLEY JONES FOUNDATION

Not a day passes without an inquiry about the writings, sermons and books of E. Stanley Jones, or a testimony about how Jones' writings or sermons led people to Christ and changed lives. There is a strong sense that God is leading and bringing people and resources together to ignite revival among laity. People are searching for truth about God and life as never before. Here is how we are responding to the opportunities God is sending our way:

1. We are actively participating in developing curricula for seminaries and universities based on Jones' works
2. We are preparing teaching tools adaptable for any setting.
3. New editions of five books are targeted for release
4. We are participating in symposiums and lecture opportunities to share the story of E. Stanley Jones' and his soul belief—Jesus is Lord.

We cannot sit by when God is moving in such evident ways. Our resources are very limited and frankly, everything we do is donor supported. Our funds go toward the items listed above, and we volunteer our time to get the job done. As our hearts are filled with gratitude for God's grace and love freely extended to us, nothing God asks or nudges us to do seems unpleasant or impossible. I was greatly moved by a scripture I recently discovered in Philippians 4:19, (NASB version) "My God will supply all of my needs according to his riches. He will not run out before he gets to me." That, friends, is a priceless promise from God. [Any gift you can make will make a difference! Your response will help us determine how far we can go:](#) ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$200 ☐ \$300 ☐ \$400 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$2,500 ☐ \$5,000.

You can give through the Web Site, www.estanleyjones.com, or send a check to the E. Stanley Jones Foundation at 10804 Fox Hunt Lane, Potomac, Maryland 20854

Please consider a monthly gift as this helps us plan a little better. You can be sure that 100% of your gift will go for mission purposes. If you have questions about any of these projects, please let me know. I welcome any opportunity to talk with you, and to discuss the many ways to give. Thank you for your continuing prayers. I thank God for you

Anne Mathews-Younes

WHAT TO GIVE

- ❖ Cash: Simplest way to give
- ❖ Life Insurance: Donate the policy or name E. Stanley Jones Foundation as beneficiary
- ❖ Real Estate: If you own property that is paid off, you can transfer this asset to a beneficiary and still live there
- ❖ Retirement Plan Assets: Reduce tax to heirs by naming E. Stanley Jones Foundation as beneficiary
- ❖ Securities: It is best to donate appreciated stocks and thereby avoid capital gain tax