

### What does the Bible say?

"If a man steals an ox or a sheep, and kills it or sells it, he shall repay five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep." **Exodus 22:1**



The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "If anyone commits a breach of faith and sins unintentionally in any of the holy things of the Lord, he shall bring to the Lord as his compensation, a ram without blemish out of the flock, valued in silver shekels, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, for a guilt offering. He shall also make restitution for what he has done amiss in the holy thing and shall add a fifth to it and give it to the priest. And the priest shall make atonement for him with the ram of the guilt offering, and he shall be forgiven. (**Leviticus 5: 14-16**)

"...And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (**Luke 19:1-10**)

### What does the United Methodist Church say?

Whereas reparation by definition means making amends for a wrong one has done by paying money to or otherwise helping those who have been wronged...(**3335. Reparations, Book of Resolutions 2020/2024**)



Whereas, from 1930s through the 1960s Black people across the country were cut out of legitimate home mortgage market by restrictive covenants that served to keep neighborhoods segregated (**3335. Reparations, Book of Resolutions 2020/2024**)

Therefore, be it resolved, that the General Conference of the United Methodist Church be called to repentance for its implicit and explicit participation and profit gained by slavery on African Americans in the United States, that local congregations participate in studies on reparations in their local area. (**3335. Reparations, the Book of Resolutions 2020/2024**)

# U.S. REPARATIONS FOR ENSLAVED DESCENDANTS



**CHURCH & SOCIETY**

The United Methodist Church

Living **FAITH** Seeking **JUSTICE** Pursuing **PEACE**

### What do the facts say?

- As of 2022, the median white household wealth was about \$285,000, compared to \$44,900 for Black households. **(Federal Reserve, 2023)**
- Black Americans have a life expectancy about 5 years shorter than white Americans. **(CDC, 2023)**
- In 2022, Black high school graduation rates were around 81%, compared to 89% for white students. **(NCES, 2023)**
- Black Americans make up 13% of the U.S. population but account for about 33% of the prison population. **(Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2022)**



### What do you say?

Take **ACTION** for justice...

- **Support** the creation of a Committee to Study Reparations for the Descendants of Enslaved African Americans through H.R. 40/S.40
- **Commit** to participating in local efforts to address racial and social disparities
- **Engage** with resources, such as books like “Reparations” by Duke Kwon and Gregory Thompson and “From Here to Equality” by William Darity Jr. and A. Kirsten Mullen



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