

[1964]

Paul Senegal?

MORNING LESSON

ISAIAH 61:1-4

"What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" These words of Micah were not put in the Bible to decorate sermons or to make worship services smell holy. They were put in the Bible to remind us that we are created to live together in love and justice -- in affection and fairness; they are put there to remind us that this is God's will for us and that this truth is inescapable and grounded in the very laws of our being.

Nowhere do we see the issue of love and justice raised more dramatically than in the pressing question, "How shall people with different colored skins learn to live together?" This is more than a question of civil rights, or politics, or even morals; this is a question of humanity itself, and it is a question which touches all the other questions of personal and social existence in America. And because of this question I went six weeks ago to Mississippi to learn in this state of crisis more of this pressing question, which is our question too; it is very much our question.

EDITORIAL FROM SVAM NAT (BANGKOK NEWSPAPER) OCTOBER 3, 1962

After reporting the tensions and the riots surrounding the admission of James Meredith to the University of Mississippi, the writer goes on to say, "All this points up the fact that the people of a materially very advanced country may be very backward spiritually (or morally), so that even laws can't control them. In the same way in materially backward countries, the people may be advanced spiritually. In a way, one must be sympathetic with spiritual backwardness, since it is not possible to ask for help from another country, as one can with material matters. This is a problem which the United States will have to work out for herself; no friendly nation can help ..."