

The sad lesson of our experience is that sometimes we can be standing next to one another and still be separated from each other, miles and miles away in our minds. Now, even if we seek to help others bridge their differences, we have to say today, and he would say to us, "You've still got a ways to go yourselves."

We must be the world's drum major for peace. That's the role our troops and their allies from over 20 other countries, including countries that we were enemies with in the cold war, are playing in Bosnia. That's what we're trying to do in helping the Catholics and Protestants get together in Northern Ireland. That's what we're trying to do in working with the Arabs and the Jews in the Middle East. And I thank President King for his mention of my friend Prime Minister Rabin. Like Dr. King, he gave his life in the struggle for peace. And like so many of you who took up Dr. King's torch, Shimon Peres and others have taken his torch up. I'm glad that the United States is working with them.

I'm proud that the United States has supported the reconciliation of the peoples of South Africa and the triumph of President Mandela and all of you who work with him. It has been an honor for us, not a burden. If that is our role, to be drum majors for peace and justice around the world, surely, surely that must be our responsibility here at home.

We have much to be thankful for. Dexter King mentioned some things. I'm glad that in the last 3 years the crime rate and the welfare rolls and the food stamp rolls and the poverty rate and the teen pregnancy rate are all down. I'm proud of that.

But here's what I think Dr. King would say if he were giving this sermon in far more powerful and eloquent ways: You're doing better, but that's not nearly good enough. And don't do anything which will make it worse. Keep going in the right direction. There needs to be more peace and freedom on our streets. It is true that the murder rate had its biggest decline in 35 years last year. Hallelujah! It's also true a lot of innocent kids will get killed this year. We have to do better. There's still too much crime and violence and drugs in America, especially among our young people.

He would say, ask yourselves this question as you walk out of this church today: How can it be that the crime rate in America is down, but the crime rate among young people between

the ages of 12 and 17 is up? Are they still out there raising themselves? What are you going to do about that? What are you going to do about that?

We have to continue to heal the racial divisions that still tear at our Nation. We can't rest until there are no more hate crimes, no more racial violence, and until we have moved beyond those far more subtle but still pervasive racial divisions that keep us from becoming one Nation under God. We have to be honest about where we are in this struggle. The job of ending discrimination in this country is not over. That's why I still believe we need the right kind of affirmative action. We can mend it, and some day we can end it. But we can't end it until everybody with a straight face can say there is no more discrimination on the basis of race.

We must bring more peace to our public discourse, even when we passionately disagree. We did a lot of laughing today, to some extent, at the expense of those who disagree with us. And that's okay, they laughed at me, too—*[laughter]*—and sometimes more. But let's remember, no matter how passionately Martin Luther King spoke about the wrongs he saw and the changes he advocated, he always, always spoke in the language of love and nonviolence and peace.

I remember when one of our clergy read that well-known but never tired passage from Corinthians. In the old King James Version it used to say, "Now we see through a glass darkly, but then face to face. Now we know in part, but then we shall know even as we are known. And there abides faith, hope, and charity, and the greatest of these is charity." Charity and love, in that sense, are the same thing—charitable love, the understanding that even those who are totally different from us share a common human nature. And we all see through the glass darkly. Nobody has the whole truth. We should remember that, and we should ask them to.

And finally, let me say I think he would say that this is going to be a great age of possibility, the 21st century. And many will do very well. The great issue is whether we will go into that age of possibility together or divided, whether America will be a society, a great society, where winners can take everything, or whether it will be an even greater society in which everyone has a chance to win.