

Listening Guide- Episode 2- “Letter From A Birmingham Jail”- Martin Luther King Jr.

“There are Just and There are Unjust Laws”

1. Dr. King and Ralph Abernathy, according to Abernathy’s own words, were closer than _____ brothers.
2. Abernathy and King eventually would be jailed together a total of **17** times.
3. After Dr. King was arrested on Good Friday, _____, as his lawyer, was permitted to see him on that next day.
4. Very controversially, and we’ll talk about this again next episode, but Dr. King encouraged _____ to join the movement and there had been many children who had followed Dr. King that day as he marched.
5. He showed him the full-page ad that had been taking out in the *Birmingham Herald* calling him an _____, lecturing him, demanding that he be patient.
6. If you look at the original version, which today resides in the library at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, you will see that the typed copy concludes with the initials _____ noting the letter’s author as well as this very important woman who typed it.
7. “Beyond this, I am in _____ because injustice is here.”
8. “Injustice anywhere is a threat to _____ everywhere.”
9. Dr. King, very successfully and very quickly, starting here at the beginning of the letter, uses the ministers own _____ words against them.
10. “In any nonviolent campaign there are four basic steps: collection of the facts to determine whether injustices are alive, negotiation, self-purification, and _____.”
11. Well before he arrived there was a long history of injustice and the turning of the blind eye by the “_____.”
12. “Too long has our beloved South been bogged down in a tragic effort to live in _____ rather than dialogue.”
13. “We know through painful experience that _____ is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed.”
14. He then begins to vividly describe the realities of a segregated world for African Americans, really highlighting the _____ trauma that it creates...”
15. He says, “I can urge men to obey the 1954 decision of the Supreme Court, for it is morally right; and I can urge them to disobey _____ ordinances, because they are morally wrong.”
16. Under this theological premise, every Jim Crow law by definition is ungodly and _____.

17. "To a degree, academic freedom is a reality today because _____ practiced civil disobedience."
18. "We should never forget that everything _____ did in Germany was 'legal' and everything the Hungarian freedom fighters did in Hungary was 'illegal.'"
19. There is no way any of these Christian or Jewish ministers could defend the idea that they had just proposed- the idea that a Christian should always obey the _____ because government by its definition is Godly and infallible.
20. "I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's greatest stumbling block in his stride toward freedom is not the White Citizens Councilor or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white _____ who is more devoted to order than to justice."
21. "Society must protect the _____ and punish the robber."
22. And even _____ itself is an archetypal symbol of truth that dates over 6,000 years to the beginning pieces of _____ discourse.
23. What we want is _____ peace where everyone is treated with dignity and respect by the authorities, for sure, but also by each other.
24. Bull Connor was so committed to _____ that if a white citizen resisted Jim Crow by taking down the "Whites Only" sign on their own private property, he would be cited and fined by the city.
25. _____ peace may look like peace, but it is when everyone is being subjugated, oppressed, and silenced.
26. These series of rhetorical questions highlight what today we often call _____.
27. Time is _____, it is what we do with that time that will heal or not heal.
28. "All Christians know that the colored people will receive equal rights eventually, but is it possible that you are in too great of a religious _____?"
29. "More and more I feel that the people of _____ will have used time much more effectively than the people of good will."
30. Although, the exigence of the moment, requires Dr. King to rely heavily on the Sacred Text of Christianity and Judaism, his _____ explanations appeal to men and women of all faith traditions as well as those with no faith tradition.