

NORTH AMERICAN FREEDMAN SOCIETY

TEN BLACK SAINTS

Vol. 1: Pioneers & Martyrs



TEN BLACK SAINTS

VOLUME ONE: PIONEERS & MARTYRS

"We must canonize our own Saints, create our own Martyrs, and elevate to positions of fame and honor Black men and women who have made their distinct contributions to our racial history."

-St. Marcus Mosiah Garvey



A
NORTH
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FREEDMAN
SOCIETY
PUBLICATION



Seascape Jetty, 1879, by Henry Ossawa Tanner

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FOREWORD

"Slow moves the pageant of a climbing race"
-Dunbar, SLOW THROUGH THE DARK (1902)

In this first of a new series, **TEN BLACK SAINTS, Vol. 1** is a short collection of beloved as well as obscure figures in **African-American** as well as **West Indian** history.

The histories of our peoples in North America are openly under attack by external and internal forces. Even when Black American history ISN'T considered un-American, you get the supposed bare minimum:

The **Middle Passage** --> the so-called "**Civil War**" --> maybe the **Harlem Renaissance** then a fast forward to **Martyr Martin Luther King, Jr.** and President Obama.

Your history is not entertainment. Your history is not there to assuage anyone's misplaced guilt or be outright dismissed. Who would want to be some hebrew in a robe, who would want to claim some Native tribe after learning their actual history since the 1600s?

In less than half a millennium, the Black Diaspora has made its' mark on the New World. Your birthright is freedom, and your inheritance is the future of **our Race and your Nation**.

Personal and collective respect starts with a grounded knowledge of self.

We only hope this inspires further research.

NOTE: MARTYRS are acknowledged on their date of death. Everyone else is acknowledged on their date of birth. Format is MM/DD/YYYY.

Rt. Rev. RICHARD ALLEN

Lived:

02/14/1760 🇺🇸

to

03/26/1831 🇺🇸

Holy Day:

02/14



Founded the first independent Black denomination in the U.S.

Born into slavery in modern-day Delaware, Allen became a Methodist at 17. He purchased his freedom in 1780 and became an ordained preacher on Dec. 1784. Three years later, he formed the Free African Society, which became the African Methodist Episcopalian (A.M.E.) Church by 1816.

Until his repose on Mar. 26, 1831, he ran an **Underground Railroad** station & organized **Freedmen** in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Since then, the A.M.E. has 2.5 million congregants spanning the Americas, UK West Africa, and even India.