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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968) was a principal leader of the non-violent Civil Rights Movement in the U.S. He not only began the Civil Rights Movement with the Montgomery Bus Boycott, he became an icon for the entire movement. Since King was, in part, famous for his oratory abilities, one can both be inspired and learn much by reading through these quotes by Martin Luther King, Jr. "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." "We will have to repent in this generation not merely for the hateful words and actions of the bad people but for the appalling silence of the good people." "Freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed." "I submit that an individual who breaks a law that conscience tells him is unjust, and willingly accepts the penalty by staying in jail in order to arouse the conscience of the community over its injustice, is, in reality, expressing the very highest respect for the law." "We who engage in nonviolent direct action are not the creators of tension. We merely bring to the surface the hidden tension that is already alive." "Shallow understanding from people of good will is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will." "We were here before the mighty words of the Declaration of Independence were etched across the pages of history. Our forebears labored without wages. They made cotton king! And yet out of a bottomless vitality, they continued to thrive and develop. If the cruelties of slavery could not stop us, the opposition we now face will surely fail... Because the goal of America is freedom, abused and scorned tho' we may be, our destiny is tied up with America's destiny." "I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood." "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." "When we let freedom ring, when we let it ring from every tenement and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old spiritual, 'Free at last, free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last.'" "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy. The true neighbor will risk his position, his prestige and even his life for the welfare of others." "Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity." "The means by which we live have outdistanced the ends for which we live. Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men." "A nation or civilization that continues to produce soft-minded men purchases its own spiritual death on an installment plan." "Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And he's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over, and I've seen the promised land . . . So I'm happy tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man." "I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why I'm temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant." "Discrimination is a hellhound that gnaws at Negroes in every waking moment of their lives to remind them that the lie of their inferiority is accepted as truth in the society dominating them." "We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools." — Speech in St. Louis, Missouri, March 22, 1964. "If a man hasn't discovered something he will die for, he isn't fit to live." — Speech in Detroit, Michigan on June 23, 1963. "It may be true that the law cannot make a man love me, but it can keep him from lynching me, and I think that's pretty important." — Quoted in The Wall Street Journal, Nov. 13, 1962. Google is commemorating Martin Luther King Day today with a special Doodle. The artwork, found at the search engine giant's home page, features a drawing of the civil rights leader and other faces circled in red, white, and blue and surrounded by words from his famous 1963 speech in which he said, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." Click on the Doodle and it takes you to a search results page for Martin Luther King, Jr. The Doodle was created by painter Faith Ringgold, who is best known for her painted story quilts—art that combines painting, quilted fabric and storytelling. She has also written 11 children's books, the first of which was a Caldecott Honor Book and winner of the Coretta Scott King Award for Illustration, among numerous other honors. Ringgold's children's books include "My Dream of Martin Luther King," and in line with King's dream her Doodle appropriately depicts several young faces. One of those "four little children" mentioned in his famous speech — Martin Luther King III — is now president of The King Center in Atlanta, which today is making his father's documents available online. The King Center Imaging Project is a digitization effort to preserve and make publicly available the tens of thousands of documents from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other key figures and organizations from the civil rights movement. Dr. King, best known for advancing civil rights in the United States using nonviolent methods, was born on January 15, 1929, but the holiday commemorating him is observed on the third Monday of January every year. A Baptist minister and Nobel Peace Prize winner, King led the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott and helped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957. In 1963 King led a march in Washington, D.C. on the National Mall where he gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech which established him as one of the greatest orators in American history and articulated his vision of a colorblind society. He was shot and killed on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee; a fugitive from the Missouri State Penitentiary confessed to the crime, was sentenced to 99 years in prison and died behind bars in 1998. This is not the first time Google has recognized Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday with a doodle; the search firm commemorated more than 500 international events with a doodle in 2011. (See also "20 Notable Google Doodles.") Follow Christina on Twitter and Google+ for even more tech news and commentary and follow Today@PCWorld on Twitter, too. From becoming Time magazine's Man of the Year in 1963 to winning a Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, there's no denying that Martin Luther King, Jr. was one of the greatest men who has ever lived. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15, 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia, the home of the Ku Klux Klan. Raised in a middle class household, King experienced racism throughout his childhood. As he got older, he started hating white people, even though his parents continued to tell him that he should not. In September 1944, King entered Morehouse College, and everything began to change. He met white people who shared his ideas of justice, and he joined the Intercollegiate Council, a mixed race organization. His path eventually led him to the ministry, and after receiving a doctorate, King and his wife moved back to the South, ending up in Montgomery, Alabama. On December 1, 1955 one of King's parishioners, Rosa Parks, refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white passenger. A few days later, Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his first speech. The rest, as they say, is history. In tribute to a man who changed the United States, if not the world, forever, I have compiled a collection of inspiring quotes spoken by Martin Luther King, Jr. We must all learn to live together as brothers. Or we will all perish together as fools. Forgiveness is not an occasional act; it is a permanent attitude. Hate begets hate; violence begets violence. There is within human nature an amazing potential for goodness. It may well be that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transition is not the glaring noisiness of the so-called bad people, but the appalling silence of the so-called good people. True peace is not merely the absence of tension, but it is the presence of justice and brotherhood. But we simply cannot have peace in the world without mutual respect. Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend. People are often surprised to learn that I am an optimist. They know how often I have been jailed, how frequently the days and nights have been filled with frustration and sorrow, how bitter and dangerous are my adversaries...They fail, however, to perceive the sense of affirmation generated by the challenge of embracing struggle and surmounting obstacles. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal." Martin Luther King, Jr. 1929-1968 For more about Martin Luther King, Jr. and other inspiring people, read 10 Revolutionary Acts of Courage by Ordinary People. What did you think of this story? At 6:01 p.m. on April 4, 1968, Civil Rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was hit by a sniper's bullet. King had been standing on the balcony in front of his room at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, when without warning, he was shot. The .30-caliber rifle bullet entered King's right cheek, traveled through his neck, and finally stopped at his shoulder blade. King was immediately taken to a nearby hospital but was pronounced dead at 7:05 p.m. Violence and controversy followed. In outrage of the murder, many Blacks took to the streets across the United States in a massive wave of riots. The FBI investigated the crime, but many believed them partially or fully responsible for the assassination. An escaped convict by the name of James Earl Ray was arrested, but many people, including some of Martin Luther King Jr.'s own family, believe he was innocent. What happened that evening? When Martin Luther King Jr. emerged as the leader of the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955, he began a long tenure as the spokesperson for nonviolent protest in the Civil Rights Movement. As a Baptist minister, he was a moral leader to the community. Plus, he was charismatic and had a powerful way of speaking. He was also a man of vision and determination. He never stopped dreaming of what could be. Yet he was a man, not a God. He was most often overworked and overtired and he had a fondness for the private company of women. Though he was the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize winner, he did not have complete control over the Civil Rights Movement. By 1968, violence had edged its way into the movement. Black Panther Party members carried loaded weapons, riots had erupted across the country, and numerous civil rights organizations had taken up the mantra "Black Power!" Yet Martin Luther King Jr. held strong to his beliefs, even as he saw the Civil Rights Movement being torn in two. Violence is what brought King back to Memphis in April 1968. On February 12, a total of 1,300 African-American sanitation workers in Memphis went on strike. Though there had been a long history of grievances, the strike began as a response to a January 31 incident in which 22 Black sanitation workers were sent home without paying during bad weather while all the White workers remained on the job. When the City of Memphis refused to negotiate with the 1,300 striking workers, King and other civil rights leaders were asked to visit Memphis in support. On Monday, March 18, King managed to fit in a quick stop in Memphis, where he spoke to more than 15,000 who had gathered at Mason Temple. Ten days later, King arrived in Memphis to lead a march in support of the striking workers. Unfortunately, as King led the crowd, a few of the protesters got rowdy and smashed the windows of a storefront. The violence spread and soon countless others had taken up sticks and were breaking windows and looting stores. Police moved in to disperse the crowd. Some of the marchers threw stones at the police. The police responded with tear gas and nightsticks. At least one of the marchers was shot and killed. King was extremely distressed at the violence that had erupted in his own march and became determined not to let violence prevail. He scheduled another march in Memphis for April 8. On April 3, King arrived in Memphis a little later than planned because there had been a bomb threat for his flight before takeoff. That evening, King delivered his "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech to a relatively small crowd that had braved the bad weather to hear King speak. King's thoughts were obviously on his mortality, for he discussed the plane threat as well as the fact he had been stabbed. He concluded the speech with, "Well, I don't know what will happen now; we've got some difficult days ahead. But it really doesn't matter with me now, because I've been to the mountaintop. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to live a long life — Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over, and I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people will get to the Promised Land. And so I'm happy tonight; I'm not worried about anything; I'm not fearing any man. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord." After the speech, King went back to the Lorraine Motel to rest. The Lorraine Motel (now the National Civil Rights Museum) was a relatively drab, two-story motor inn on Mulberry Street in downtown Memphis. Yet it had become a habit of Martin Luther King and his entourage to stay at the Lorraine Motel when they visited Memphis. On the evening of April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King and his friends were getting dressed to have dinner with Memphis minister Billy Kyles. King was in room 306 on the second floor and hurried to get dressed since they were, as usual, running a bit late. While putting on his shirt and using Magic Shave Powder to shave, King chatted with Ralph Abernathy about an upcoming event. Around 5:30 p.m., Kyles knocked on their door to hurry them along. The three men joked about what was to be served for dinner. King and Abernathy wanted to confirm that they were going to be served "soul food" and not something like filet mignon. About half an hour later, Kyles and King stepped out of the motel room onto the balcony (basically the outside walkway that connected all the motel's second-story rooms). Abernathy had gone to his room to put on some cologne. Near the car in the parking lot directly below the balcony, waited James Bevel, Chauncey Eskridge (SCLC lawyer), Jesse Jackson, Hosea Williams, Andrew Young, and Solomon Jones, Jr. (the driver of the loaned white Cadillac). A few remarks were exchanged between the men waiting below and Kyles and King. Jones remarked that King should get a topcoat since it might get cold later; King replied, "O.K." Kyles was just a couple of steps down the stairs and Abernathy was still inside the motel room when the shot rang out. Some of the men initially thought it was a car backfire, but others realized it was a rifle shot. King had fallen to the concrete floor of the balcony with a large, gaping wound covering his right jaw. Abernathy ran out of his room to see his dear friend fallen, laying in a puddle of blood. He held King's head saying, "Martin, it's all right. Don't worry. This is Ralph. This is Ralph." Kyles had gone into a motel room to call an ambulance while others encircled King. Marrell McCollough, an undercover Memphis police officer, grabbed a towel and tried to stop the flow of blood. Though King was unresponsive, he was still alive — but only barely. Within 15 minutes of the shot, Martin Luther King arrived at St. Joseph's Hospital on a stretcher with an oxygen mask over his face. He had been hit by a .30-06 caliber rifle bullet that had entered his right jaw, then traveled through his neck, severing his spinal cord, and stopped in his shoulder blade. The doctors tried emergency surgery but the wound was too serious. Martin Luther King Jr. was pronounced dead at 7:05 p.m. He was 39 years old. Despite many conspiracy theories questioning who was responsible for the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., most of the evidence points to a single shooter, James Earl Ray. On the morning of April 4, Ray used information from the televised news as well as from a newspaper to discover where King was staying in Memphis. Around 3:30 p.m., Ray, using the name John Willard, rented room 5B in Bessie Brewer's run-down rooming house that was located across the street from the Lorraine Motel. Ray then visited the York Arms Company a few blocks away and purchased a pair of binoculars for \$41.55 in cash. Returning to the rooming house, Ray readied himself in the communal bathroom, peering out the window, waiting for King to emerge from his hotel room. At 6:01 p.m., Ray shot King, mortally wounding him. Immediately after the shot, Ray quickly placed his rifle, binoculars, radio, and newspaper into a box and covered it with an old, green blanket. Then Ray hurriedly carried the bundle out of the bathroom, down the hall, and down to the first floor. Once outside, Ray dumped his package outside the Canipe Amusement Company and walked swiftly to his car. He then drove away in his white Ford Mustang, just before police arrived. While Ray was driving toward Mississippi, police were starting to put the pieces together. Nearly immediately, the mysterious green bundle was discovered as were several witnesses who had seen someone who they believed to be the new renter of 5B rushing out of the rooming house with the bundle. By comparing fingerprints found on items in the bundle, including those on the rifle and binoculars, with those of known fugitives, the FBI discovered they were looking for James Earl Ray. After a two-month international manhunt, Ray was finally captured on June 8 at London's Heathrow Airport. Ray pleaded guilty and was given a 99-year sentence in prison. Ray died in prison in 1998. * Ralph Abernathy as quoted in Gerald Posner, "Killing the Dream" (New York: Random House, 1998) 31. Sources: Garrow, David J. Bearing the Cross: Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. New York: William Morrow, 1986. Posner, Gerald. Killing the Dream: James Earl Ray and the Assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. New York: Random House, 1998.