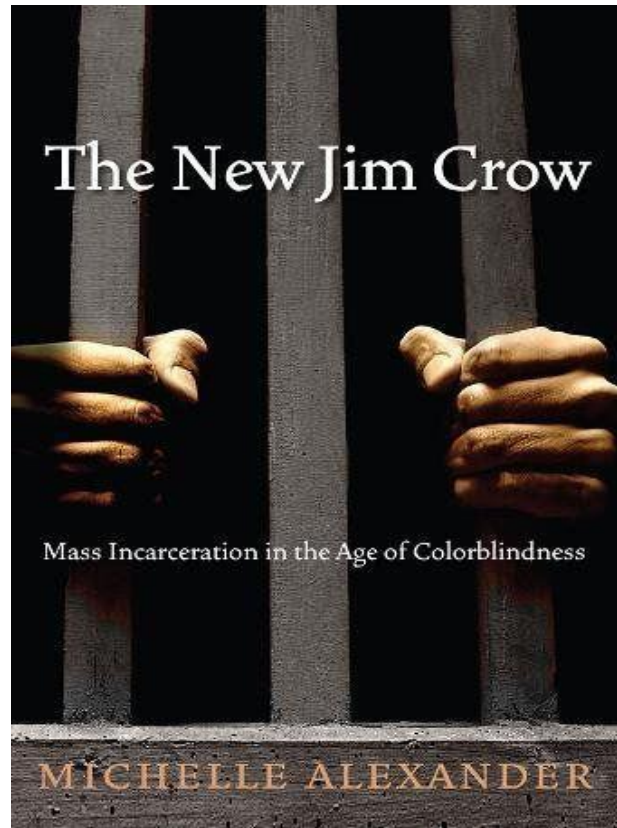




Claudette Colvin, 1954



The New Jim Crow, Michelle Alexander

“There is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil.”

Job 1:8

Three cries or charges:

1. Life is too hard
2. Life is too short
3. Life is too unjust

Main point: God will answer our cries or charges!

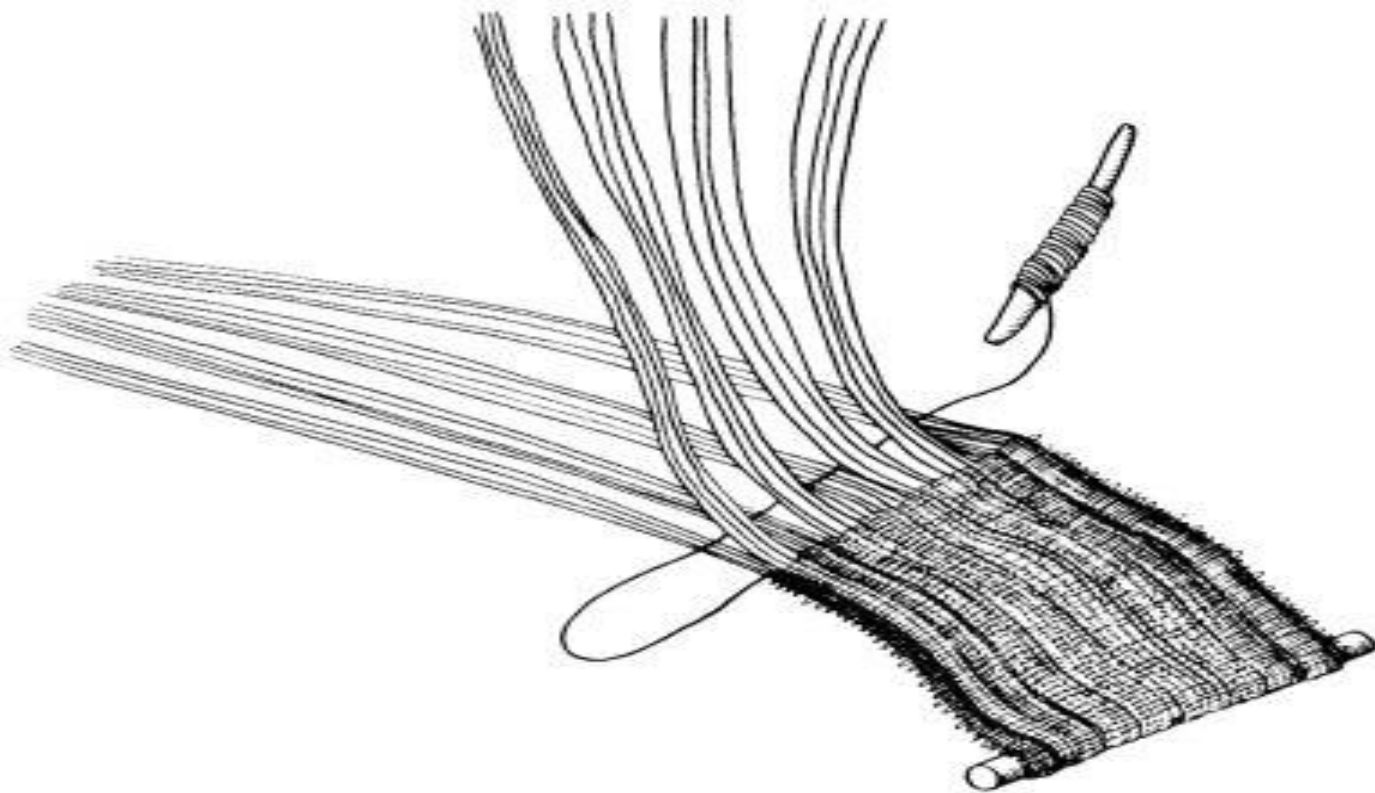
1. “Has not man a hard service on earth,
and are not his days like the days of a
hired hand?

2. Like a slave who longs for the shadow,
and like a hired hand who looks for his
wages,

³So I am allotted months of emptiness,
and nights of misery are apportioned to
me.

⁴When I lie down I say, 'When shall I
arise?' But the night is long,
and I am full of tossing till the dawn.

⁶ My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle and come to their end without hope.



Weaver's shuttle

7 “Remember that my life is a breath;
my eye will never again see good.

Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, “I have no pleasure in them”

Ecclesiastes 12:1

¹¹“I will not restrain my mouth;
I will speak in the anguish of my spirit;
I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.

¹² Am I the sea, or a sea monster,
that you set a guard over me?

¹⁷ What is man, that you make so much of
him,

and that you set your heart on him,

¹⁸ visit him every morning

and test him every moment?

¹⁹ How long will you not look away from me,
nor leave me alone till I swallow my spit?

²⁰ If I sin, what do I do to you, you watcher
of mankind?

Why have you made me your mark?

Why have I become a burden to you?

²¹ Why do you not pardon my transgression
and take away my iniquity?

For now I shall lie in the earth;
you will seek me, but I shall not be.”

It is not enough to say that God [or we] will eventually make a new world in which there will be no more pain and crying; that does scant justice to all the evil that has gone before. We cannot get to the full solution to the problem of evil by mere progress, as though, provided the final generation was happy, the misery of all previous generations could be overlooked or even justified...

“Evil and the Justice of God” N.T. Wright

4 Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.

Isaiah 53:4