



Postcolonializing God

By Emmanuel Y. Larrey



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Postcolonializing God examines how African Christianity especially as a practical spirituality can be truly a postcolonial reality. The book offers thoughts as to how African Christians and by that token others who were colonial subjects, may practice a spirituality that bears the hallmarks of their authentic cultural heritage, even if that makes them distinctly different from Christians from the colonizing nations.

There are themes in both the Hebrew Bible and the Christian Scriptures in which God's activities result in shattering hegemony, overthrowing the powerful, diversifying communities and affirming pluralism. These have by and large been ignored or downplayed in the formation of Christian communities by western and westernized Christians in Africa. The effect of this is that much of the practice of African Christians imitates that of a European Christianity of bygone times. Postcolonializing God charts a different course uplifting these ignored readings of scripture and identifying how they are expressed again by Africans who courageously seek through the practices of mysticism and African culture to portray a God whose actions liberate and diversify human experience. Postcolonializing God seeks to express the human diversity that seems to be the Creator's ongoing desire for the world and thereby to continue to manifest the manifold and diverse nature and wisdom of God. It is only as humans refuse to be created in the image of any other human beings, that the richness and complexity of the divine image will be more closely viewed throughout the world.



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Editorial Review

Review

In this book, Emmanuel Lartey has given us a practical theology rooted in African culture and spirituality, a theology that invites us to participate in the counter-hegemonic postcolonializing activity of God.

Lartey offers an approach to pastoral care that is not only individually healing but, as he puts it, community-building and culture-transforming.

His in-depth exploration of the ministry of contemporary Ghanaian mystic Brother Ishmael Tetteh provides a compelling lived example of his thesis.

This is an informative and inspiring resource for all concerned with human liberation and the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

(Liza Rankow)

After centuries of Africa's involvement with Christianity, the twenty-first-century Western theological academy struggles to capture and theorize African spirituality as a dynamic and creative force in Christian and other religious cultures of African descendants worldwide. Emmanuel Lartey's *Postcolonializing God* changes the conversation by reconceptualizing the ritual sites and practices that constitute sacred experience across time and space in the Africana world. His intervention offers an accessible critique of unchecked colonial legacies still pervasive among far too many Christian communities in Africa and immigrant African diasporas.

Grounded in fresh readings of select biblical narratives, enslaved and contemporary African diasporic spirituality and ecclesiology, post-slavery reconciliation rituals among Africans and African diasporans and a transcultural African mysticism, Lartey's vision for practical theology pushes African practitioners, priests and professors alike to complete the project of "postcolonializing God." By moving beyond mimicry and even improvisation toward the kind of creativity one witnesses today in the transatlantic healing ceremonies of the Joseph Project and the Ghanaian mystic Ishmael Tetteh's inclusively innovative *Etherean Mission*, Lartey maintains that Africans can build upon their exemplary spiritual heritages of synthesis and openness in religious formation and practice and thereby offer indispensable insight into human apprehension of the divine.

Rarely since James Cone's *Black Theology and Black Power* has the world of Africana theology seen such a poignant claim about the unexpected places where God's revelation is to be found today. In 1969 Cone contended that the Black Power movement in America was one such place. Today Emmanuel Lartey reinforces Cone's judgment, arguing that many of Africa's established churches lag behind 'secular' and wider indigenous spiritual movements in performing and expressing God's revelatory power and presence among all creation.

(Dianne M. Stewart Diakité)

About the Author

Emmanuel Y. Lartey is Professor of Pastoral Theology, Care and Counselling at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

William Vogt:

Here thing why this kind of Postcolonializing God are different and dependable to be yours. First of all looking at a book is good nevertheless it depends in the content of the usb ports which is the content is as tasty as food or not. Postcolonializing God giving you information deeper and different ways, you can find any e-book out there but there is no e-book that similar with Postcolonializing God. It gives you thrill examining journey, its open up your personal eyes about the thing in which happened in the world which is might be can be happened around you. It is easy to bring everywhere like in park, café, or even in your technique home by train. For anyone who is having difficulties in bringing the printed book maybe the form of Postcolonializing God in e-book can be your choice.

Delores Breedlove:

The book Postcolonializing God has a lot details on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of advantage. The book was compiled by the very famous author. This articles author makes some research before write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you can get the point easily after looking over this book.

Delores Saenz:

Why? Because this Postcolonializing God is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap it but latter it will zap you with the secret that inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who else write the book in such incredible way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning entirely. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book get such as help improving your talent and your critical thinking means. So , still want to delay having that book? If I were being you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

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