

Pragmatic Spirituality

The Christian Faith
Through an Africentric Lens

GAYRAUD S. WILMORE

WILMORE Pragmatic Spirituality

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Kerry Pimblott



Pragmatic Spirituality The Christian Faith Through An Africentric Lens:

Pragmatic Spirituality Gayraud S. Wilmore, 2004-07 A collection of the writings by one of the most influential African American theologians Pragmatic Spirituality Gayraud S. Wilmore, 2004-07-01 Gayraud S Wilmore an internationally renowned scholar of the history of the African American church is one of the founders of black theology and author of *Black Religion and Black Radicalism* *Pragmatic Spirituality* brings together some of his most compelling writings to speak to continuing issues in African American Christianity and black theology The volume makes available for the first time several of Wilmore s previously unpublished essays including a new chapter on womanist theology written for this book Each chapter has been thoroughly reviewed and where appropriate reworked for this volume in order to create a coherent work which reveals a consistent pragmatic spirituality in African and African American religious practice This book presents a view of the Christian faith and life at variance with the quest for personal sanctity by emphasizing communal empowerment for humanization and justice *Pragmatic Spirituality* incorporates some of the most engaging of Wilmore s voluminous writings to reinstate a persistent theme that black or Africentric faith transposes itself from basically numinous and ecstatic elements in African and African diasporic religions to the immediate and practical work of healing and empowering the poor and marginalized This book transcends a narrow Africentrism to call for a broad acquaintance with a historic motif in black faith that has to do with compassion justice equality and the liberation of all people This illuminating volume displays Wilmore s influence on the development of black theology for over fifty years and introduces his work to a new generation of scholars

Tarry Awhile: Wisdom from Black Spirituality for People of Faith Selina Stone, 2023-12-21 Wonderful JUSTIN WELBY Tarry Awhile is one of the most profound and beautifully written Lent books that I have ever read CHURCH TIMES Tarry here and watch with me Matt 26 38 KJV Tarrying is a Black Christian spiritual practice in which believers actively wait to experience the manifestation of God s presence It answers yes to the question Jesus once asked his disciples will you tarry here and watch with me Whether in the vibrancy of music and singing or in the hushed silence of the congregation people of all ages anticipate an encounter with God that will transform what they know feel and experience day to day This book makes the wisdom of Black spiritualities and faith available for all people It focuses on seven themes darkness as a place of encounter with the divine the unity of all things movement belonging and migration the Spirit as one who moves in unexpected ways quiet contemplation as essential to spiritual growth healing in community and weeping that turns to joy Tarry Awhile centres the stories of often overlooked people and communities offering wisdom for all people who hope to encounter God in the midst of wearying times It provides fresh reflections on familiar biblical passages and draws on personal stories theology and the spiritual wisdom of ancestors who have gone before us *Spirit(s) in Black Religion* Kurt Buhring, 2022-09-10 In this book Kurt Buhring explores concepts of spirit s within various Black religions as a means to make a constructive theological contribution to contemporary Black theology in regard to ideas of the Holy Spirit or pneumatology

He argues that there are rich resources within African and African based religions to develop a more robust notion of the Holy Spirit for contemporary Black liberation theology In so doing Buhring offers a pneumatology that understands divine power and presence within humanity and through human action The theology offered maintains the fundamental claim that God acts as liberator of the oppressed while also calling for greater human responsibility and capability for bringing about liberation

Black British Gospel Music Dulcie A. Dixon McKenzie, Pauline E. Muir, Monique M. Ingalls, 2024-06-04 Black British Gospel Music is a dynamic and multifaceted musical practice a diasporic river rooted in the experiences of Black British Christian communities This book examines gospel music in Britain in both historical and contemporary perspectives demonstrating the importance of this vital genre to scholars across disciplines Drawing on a plurality of voices the book examines the diverse streams that contribute to and flow out of this significant genre Gospel can be heard resonating within a diverse array of Christian worship spaces as a form of community music making in school halls and as a foundation for secular British popular music including R B hip hop and grime

The Christian as Imitator of Christ Francis Kofi Achampong, 2025-04-25 Two and a half billion people worldwide profess to be Christians These include people who espouse ideas about White Christianity Christian nationalism Christian libertarianism racial segregation and racial purity It also includes people who see assistance to the poor as handouts that perpetuate poverty The latter group includes people who espouse ideas about accountable individualism where people are expected to pull themselves up by their own bootstraps and become self sufficient as a sign of faith in God's grace and a perversion of crucicentrism which takes the position that it is compassionate to allow poor people to suffer because it can drive them to the cross and salvation in Christ

Fannie Lou Hamer's Revolutionary Practical Theology Karen D. Crozier, 2020-10-12 In Fannie Lou Hamer's Revolutionary Practical Theology Crozier acknowledges analyses and constructs the civil and human rights leader's Christian thought and practice Commonly known for her political activism Hamer is presented as a religious thought leader whose embodiment of ideas and ideals helped to disrupt and transform the Jim Crow of the South within and beyond electoral politics Through primary source documents of Hamer's oral history interviews autobiographical writings speeches and multimedia publications on or about her life and legacy Crozier allows Hamer to have her say on racial and environmental justice concerns Crozier introduces Hamer as a revolutionary practical theologian who resided on the margins of the church academy and society

Working Against the Grain Anthony G. Reddie, 2014-12-18 Christianity has been both the cause of oppression among Black communities and a source of liberation Black Christianity has sought solace in the redemptive figure of Christ in its struggle for human dignity and freedom Working Against the Grain addresses the displacement of Black theology in Diasporan African churches by charismatic and conservative neo Pentecostalism The essays present a radical Black theology that empowers disenfranchised Black people whilst challenging White power to see and act differently Working Against the Grain is an essential text for all those interested in the pursuit of racial justice and other forms of anti oppressive practice

both inside the church and beyond it **Faith in Black Power** Kerry Pimblott, 2017-01-20 In 1969 nineteen year old Robert Hunt was found dead in the Cairo Illinois police station The white authorities ruled the death a suicide but many members of the African American community believed that Hunt had been murdered a sentiment that sparked rebellions and protests across the city Cairo suddenly emerged as an important battleground for black survival in America and became a focus for many civil rights groups including the NAACP The United Front a black power organization founded and led by Reverend Charles Koen also mobilized thanks in large part to the support of local Christian congregations In this vital reassessment of the impact of religion on the black power movement Kerry Pimblott presents a nuanced discussion of the ways in which black churches supported and shaped the United Front She deftly challenges conventional narratives of the de Christianization of the movement revealing that Cairoites embraced both old time religion and revolutionary thought Not only did the faithful fund the mass direct action strategies of the United Front but activists also engaged the literature on black theology invited theologians to speak at their rallies and sent potential leaders to train at seminaries Pimblott also investigates the impact of female leaders on the organization and their influence on young activists offering new perspectives on the hypermasculine image of black power Based on extensive primary research this groundbreaking book contributes to and complicates the history of the black freedom struggle in America It not only adds a new element to the study of African American religion but also illuminates the relationship between black churches and black politics during this tumultuous era **The Motif of Hope in African American Preaching during Slavery and the Post-Civil War Era** Wayne E. Croft Sr., 2017-10-16 The Motif of Hope in African American Preaching during Slavery and the Post Civil War Era There s a Bright Side Somewhere explores the use of the motif of hope within African American preaching during slavery 1803 1865 and the post Civil War era 1865 1896 It discusses the presentation of the motif of hope in African American preaching from an historical perspective and how this motif changed while in some instances remained the same with the changing of its historical context Furthermore this discussion illuminates a reality that hope has been a theme of importance throughout the history of African American preaching

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