

"christian they were
slaves. white
theology does
acknowledge

[Life, Relationships](#)



“ ChristianTheology out of the black experience of slavery, segregation, and the strugglefor a just society (Cone).” Christiansthroughout generations learned to demise everything that had to deal with theNegro. They wanted to continue slavery because then African Americans wouldforever remember their place, underneath them. If slavery was not abolished andthe negro uneducated in the ways of religion, then the whites would still haveremained in control and shaped them into how they wanted.

A society where bothblack Christianity and white Christianity is accepted by both ethic groups isnot going to happen because one refuse to see what they were doing is not wrongand in fact it is how Christ intended it to be. Nor, would they acknowledge the pain and suffering they subjected agroup of people to. Cone, black theologian, hoped that by bring togetherBlackness and Christianity that it would soothe the tension.

He created a bookcalled, “ Black Theology and Black power.” Cone brought attention to the racismin theology. For example, in white Theology it does not go into full detailabout the black experience during the times they were slaves. White theologydoes acknowledge they suffered by the hands of whites, but it was not anextreme case like Cone have talked about.

He wanted to create an entirely newtheology where it addressed black suffering but also empower them to “ create anew value structures so that our understanding of Blackness will not dependupon European misconceptions.” No longer shall African Americans relive in thepast that makes them reject their blackness and force them to become something theyare never going to be, white. It was through these convictions, that

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made blackliberation theology a thing. When a group of people ban together and refuse to continue living in the past where they had not idea what was going on, they hold a power in them that comes out in a simple word: No.

No, they are not going to be oppressed by the people who lies on their God and even twist the words to make people feel lesser than them. Blacks can relate to Christianity because of the biblical stories that mirrored their own, therefore it must be black. It's the whites who cannot call Christianity their religion because they have not suffered like both the Jews and Blacks. " In a society where men are defined on the basis of color of the victims, proclaiming that the condition of the poor is incongruous with him who has come to liberate us (Cone)." Liberation is coming for the blacks because they are descendants of God's chosen people and thus will receive his help in becoming free.

Conclusion Slavery was often spoken in front of the bible by a white man it failed to mention African Americans being the unwanted race, who was not considered human, and them being condemn to a life of endless torture. While white christians used it to uphold their superior position over the slaves, they used it to uplift themselves and make the experience a little less painful. Many slaves did not believe the blue-eyed devil was their master, but Christ himself. They would often pray to him and ask to be liberated from their owners. Slaves identified themselves with the Old testament Hebrew slaves and how they were liberated from their masters. God favored blacks because they are in the same situation as his people a long time ago.

Faith was not determined by how much wealth one required, but how long one have been suffering by the hands of others. Slaves would hold secret sessions and preach this theology in attempts to get their brothers and sisters to believe that changes were coming if they did not stray from their path. Black preachers would take from the bible and interpret it in a way that it sounded more appealing to the blacks. White slave master became both angry and fearful.

If the African Americans started questioning things and becoming self-aware then they would lose their power over them thus becoming equal or beneath the slaves. Angry because slaves were turning the words of Christ into something that did not benefit them. In slave times, most of the slaves converted to Christianity because some feared that not being Christian would make the punishment become worse while others rejected all forms of religion that was created by their Masters. Slaves that came from Africa did not know what Christianity was and therefore could not practice it. African Slaves worship many different Gods and did not just have one singular one. They also gave great praise to spirits and their ancestors. Long before the arrival of whites, Africans were strongly religious and would often practice different rituals to please their gods. When the whites arrived, they witnessed a voodoo ritual and deemed it "unholy", they threatened them out of fear not to continue the practice.

When they told the negro not practice their own religion they ceased control of their faith. White pastors believed that those who do not know Christ cannot be fully human and because of that they cannot be considered as one.

The Africans might have looked human, but they are wildbeasts that have lost the way a long time ago. Slave Masters would tell the slaves about the bible, but misconstrued the words to support inhuman conditions and why the Africans have to remain in captivity. Most of the whites during the time could not read or write, let alone actually read what the bible said. Priests would get the slave masters to baptize the slaves, so they could become somewhat human beings.

Africans that became baptized and followed the "White washed" version of the book believed that their situation was going to get better because they are now fellow children of Christ. Slaves were started to talk about having higher legal status and become members of society. Slave owners quickly put an end to baptizing slaves out of fear that it might change the slave legal status. Christianity was a tool to suppress slaves and to reform them. Priests, Slave Masters, Pastors, and other people saw this as a tool to completely get the Africans to submit to them. In many ways, they managed to do it. White Christianity provided in full context that they will never be considered human even if they converted to Christianity because only the fair skinned could be blessed with divine gifts. Some Slave Masters would tell their slaves that it was okay if they were in chains because Christ used to do the same thing around his time.

Christ slavery and Black slavery are two different things. Christ slavery is captives, who lost to the opposing side, and were used for labor. They still had rights and if two slaves were to reproduce the child will not be a slave. Christ slavery paled in comparison to black slavery. Black slavery was

an intense torture that even in death one still could not break free.

White Christians owned the entire being and that includes the soul.

Negro slaves did not have a choice in the matter nor did they have any chance of becoming free. If the negroes were to reproduce, unlike the Christian slavery, their child will remain in captivity. The negroes, in white Christianity, could not escape being slaves even in death and therefore should give up on becoming free from their white masters. African Americans began looking at Christianity in a different manner.

Majority of the slaves rejected the religion because it was the cause of them being held captive and even supported the inhuman acts while others were too afraid to go against their masters. Black Liberation and Christianity According to Rhodes, "Black theology's dominant perspective of God is 'God in action, delivering the oppressed because of his righteousness. He is to be seen, not in the transcendent way of Greek philosophy, but immanent, among His people.' God is 'immanent' in the sense that he is met in concrete historical situations of liberation (Rhodes paras. 38-39)." God, in historical and biblical context, is shown as a compassionate and powerful being. He is shown helping the oppressed from their shackles and chains, freeing them from their oppressors and ensuring freedom.

"This" god is heavily worshiped by the people that is suffering. This is critical to the Blacks powerlessness because they do not have the ability to escape from their captors, who have broken bits of their souls and white washed their

religion. Having a God that is both powerful and good would make sure that the good people will triumph over the bad people. " I Think that a God who is absolute in both power and goodness make sense to black men... Absolute power ensures the ultimate triumph of good; but absolute goodness assures us that absolute power will not be abused (Roberts 88)." The power that white men and the false god will come to an end because the true God will do away with evil like he did long time ago. The black man, suffering, will be liberated by the same God who saved his children from the hands of the Egyptians. Black men and women take comfort in this idea even though most know it will take a while for that to happen. The negro knows that their oppression makes the relationship they have with God even closer than the white man.

Black Liberation theology uses these beliefs to uplift the Blacks and end their constant struggle underneath White racism. Black Theology proves that African Americans are the chosen people of God. Most of Black Theology foundation is built upon the story of Exodus. The story about where God interferes with humans to help the oppressed.

In the book of Exodus, Moses leads the chosen people, Israelites, to freedom from the Egyptian rule. God, a supreme being that does not have a physical body, shows both goodness and how powerful He is. He could not bear the torture that his children had to face in the hands of their oppressors. Freedom is something that both the Blacks and the Israelites want, which for one of them was granted while the other wait patiently for it. Their God encourage the mistreatment of beings, who did not fit in with the superior crowd. Their

God encouraged enslavement that broke families apart, destroyed minds of individuals, and ultimately become oppressors of themselves.

Black men and women are warped by this idea that some believed that it was a sin to be born black and not white because of this they need divine punishment that could only be done by God's chosen people, whites. Whites have created this a fantasy image of their savior. Jesus is depicted as a young man with long flowing blonde hair, fair skin, and bright blue eyes. This God raises many red flags in the black community because some can picture him as black, wool like hair, and dark eyes which are the dominant features of African Americans. " Christ wasn't white, Christ was black. The poor, brain washed Negro has been made to believe that Christ was white to maneuver him into worshipping the white man (Malcolm X).

" The idea that Christ is white came from a group of oppressors that sought to create a " fantasy" person to still be in power. If the Black man was to gain knowledge of Christ is not white, but Black the whites would lose their power over the blacks. Malcolm X and others speak about the White man filling the negro with things that would keep them oppressed and in the dark. Christ is and forever remain a White man's god not a Black's Man. A Black man God would not allow the suffering to continue to go on and allow freedom of the negro. Christ that the blue eye devil worship is not a divine being, but an Satanic one.

The Christ that the negro worship is a man with brown skin and black wool like hair. Jesus, in Black Liberation Theology, is represented as a Poor Black

man. Many Blacks flocked to Jesus because he seemed like a relatable person that embodied everything that African Americans had to go through. During the times when racial tensions were still high, the house of the Lord became almost a battleground for both blacks and whites. Church white folks could not stand to have a "darky" in the pews with them while service was going on and would often complain to the church authorities about it. Thus, making the Church follow the same pattern as local stores, it became segregated. African American would be seated near the top of the church while the whites would be at the bottom.

People like, Richard Allen, who became a bishop would preach to the black congregants though normally it would be at different times because church officials felt like it would interfere with their own service. Whites believed their God allowed segregation. Theology of Prosperity is a concept that Whites use to enforce the Blacks to believe that they are in favor of their God.

In their mind, God favors the wealthy and in return they are blessed to be a part of something bigger. When they die it is no Hell for them, but the kingdom of heaven. They can commit as many sins as they want because they will forever be in God's good grace.

For example, their 'god' encouraged the enslavement of the Negro and ultimately those who do not have money and health they have not been faithful. Therefore, if one failed to have money they will be enslaved by their earthly masters and shall not be rewarded by the divine being. White men

and women choose to believe this because of the results that it has so far. Blacks are still enslaved and using their bodies to help generate more wealth for them. On the opposite of the spectrum are poor, living in poverty black people.

In the viewing lens of Theology of Prosperity, all of this is happening to them because they do money to their name and therefore cannot be rewarded. Being enslaved is punishment for the lack of faith. The Blacks does not fit in this notion that Theology of Prosperity have laid out for them. They do not view the amount of wealth they have is going to free them from white racism. Instead, the savior is a divine being that will help the poor person and push out the wealthy and corrupted. The savior is going to make sure that the oppressed is going to help the negro and free them from the whiteman control. " God's self-revelation to humans will depend upon the context in which each human being is found.

God's message to the wealthy capitalist- and his revelation of who he is- will differ radically from his self-revelation to the poverty stricken homeless person (Roberts)." Theology of Prosperity and Black Liberation

Theology Black Liberation Theology can be shown through the spiritual relationships that African Americans have with God. God, in this context, is the emancipator to free the oppressed from their bondages.

Black liberation views God and Christianity as a coping mechanism for blacks that are being oppressed daily by their white counterparts. The term first came about during the time of African slavery. Captured men and women

often would sang spirituals in their languagethat ranged from Igbo to Yoruba before they became white washed mentally. Through the hymns that was emphasized and became the pillar of hope for theblacks, liberation formed. Nat Turner, preacher and rebellion leader, was thefirst slave in African American history to see the almighty creator as an Blackman.

Black liberation through historyhave been in constant battle with white Christianity and the affect that it hascause amongst the black community. Therefore, it is possible for Blackliberation to be Christian