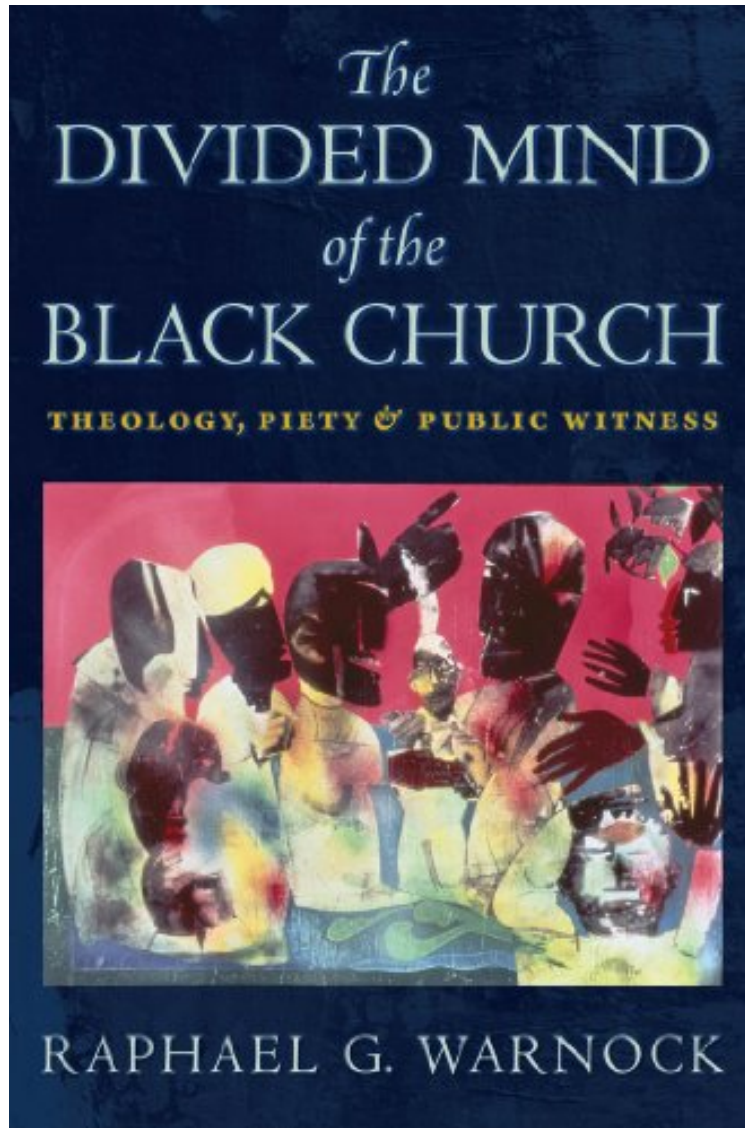


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The Divided Mind of the Black Church: Theology, Piety, and Public Witness (Religion, Race, and Ethnicity)

Raphael G. Warnock

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#354911 in Books Raphael G Warnock 2013-12-06 2013-12-06 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.02 x .75 x 5.981, 1.24 #File Name: 0814794467276 pages The Divided Mind of the Black Church | File size: 19.Mb

Raphael G. Warnock : The Divided Mind of the Black Church: Theology, Piety, and Public Witness (Religion, Race, and Ethnicity) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Divided Mind of the Black Church: Theology, Piety, and Public Witness (Religion, Race, and Ethnicity):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A "must read" for pastors and teachers who are looking ...By Gayraud S. WilmoreA "must read" for pastors and teachers who are looking for ideas that will help them introduce young adults to Black liberationtheology as a historic, legitimate, and provocative presentation of the gospel to the contemporary African American church and community.6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Dr. Warnock is the Senior Pastor of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Home Church in Atlanta, GABy M.M.I was probably the first buyer of The Divided Mind of the Black Church on .com. Ive read it through, but not as well as I want, and intend, to read it. For now, I highly recommend Dr. Warnocks beautifully written dedication that follows the title page, In honor of my wonderful parents, and his Acknowledgements on the pages that follow the Table of Contents. In the book as a whole, Dr. Warnock traces the history of the black church through five moments of black religious resistance to persecution and black commitment to freedom. The five moments he describes are: (# 1) black Liberationist Faith, (# 2) the black Liberationist Church, (# 3) the black Liberationist (i.e. the Civil Rights) Movement, (# 4) black Liberationist Theology (here Dr. Warnock mentions his teacher and mentor James Cone, the Distinguished Professor of Systematic Theology at Union Theological School in New York. He also refers to black womanist theology and mentions Jacquelyn Grant of Atlanta, specifically her emphasis on discipleship in black churches, over and against an emphasis on servanthood, and (#5) the black Self-Critical Liberationist Community," which Dr. Warnock characterizes as "the integrative moment for the black church. My first understanding of liberationist theology, some 20 years ago, was that wherever suffering human beings are found, Jesus is there to liberate them. On my initial hasty and often interrupted reading of The Divided Mind of the Black Church, I did not immediately see discipleship described or emphasized in Dr. Warnocks Fifth Moment, but I am confident I will see that more clearly in future readings of all of his publications, and sermons.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Lemelle TaylorDr. Warnock is on it in this writing

What is the true nature and mission of the church? Is its proper Christian purpose to save souls, or to transform the social order? This question is especially fraught when the church is one built by an enslaved people and formed, from its beginning, at the center of an oppressed communitys fight for personhood and freedom. Such is the central tension in the identity and mission of the black church in the United States.

"Raphael Warnocks The Divided Mind of the Black Church is a courageous and timely effort to reinvigorate the rich tradition of the Black Church by a full-fledged engagement with the best of its history and theology. Like the Sankofa bird, he looks to the past in order to move forward!"-Cornel West,Professor of Philosophy and Christian Practice, Union Theological Seminary"With historical detail and theological nuance, Raphael Warnock has provided an insightful treatment of the complex relationship between the institution of black churches and black theology. His call for a fifth, integrative moment in the expression of a liberationist faithwhat he sees as the flowering of a self-critical liberationist communityis a bold and imaginative gesture from someone who occupies one of the most important pulpits in the world. With this book, Warnock has done a great service for black theology and for black churches."-Eddie S. Glaude, Jr.,William S. Tod Professor of Religion and African American Studies, Princeton University"As a fellow pastor/scholar and public theologian committed to bridging the gap between Black Theology and the Black Church, I applaud Raphael Warnock for this tour de force. With impeccable scholarship, critical insight, and analytical eloquence, he creatively weaves the disparate strands of a complex religious history into a lucid, coherent, and compelling narrative. From professors in the classroom to pastors in the pulpit, and from people in the pews to people in the streets, anyone desiring a deeper understanding of that enduring yet elusive enigma known as `the Black Church will find this erudite, comprehensive, and intriguing text to be both an ecclesiological treasure and a theological bonanza."-The Reverend Dennis W. Wiley, Ph.D.,Pastor, Covenant Baptist United Church of ChristThe Divided Mind of the BlackChurchis an informative work for historians, theologians, and humanities scholars interested in debating what the Black Church needs to be doing in the 21st century.-Journal of African American History"Warnock carefully traces the history and evolution of the independent black church in America, moving from the black church as a bastion against slavery all the way to the role Ebenezer Baptist and other black churches played in the Civil Rights Movement. He asserts that the black church's roots are in the battle for social liberation of black people, rooted in a progressive understanding of the life and message of Jesus Christ."-Mark Reynolds,PopmattersAs a person who is not Black, reading this book provided a learning experience for me. It has helped me better understand the dynamics of the Black church. I could also see this book serving as a way to spark discussion involving all ethnic groups as to how we can all, as fellow Christians, blend the goals of saving lost people and moving the culture toward equality for everyone.-,Ministry"Warnock weaves together an impressive array of subjects to advance his argument on the divided mind of the black church.His introduction, five chapters, and conclusion provide much in structure and content for the advancement of his burden, namely, the construction of a self-critical liberationist community where piety and protest may be held in balance.-Sociology of Religion"Raphael Warnock, a son of Pentecostal preachers, a theological protge of James Cone, and pulpit heir of Martin Luther King, Jr., is brilliantly conversant with the ivory tower of academia, yet works in the ebony trenches for justice and the liberation of the 'least of these.' In this literary gift he has

insightfully traced the ecclesial and theological journey of the Black Church in America, diagnosing a 'double consciousness' that borders on bipolarity. He prophetically pronounces liberation from captivity to a borrowed oppressive theology that is illustrated by Black pastors who have a picture of Dr. King in the study, but are influenced by Rick Warren when they preach from the pulpit. This scholar-prophet-pastor, in this wonderful work, is presiding over a wedding ceremony, uniting in holy wedlock, piety and protest, the scholarship of liberation and womanist scholars and the ministry and pulpit of the Black Church, with the hope that this marriage will birth a 'new moment of a self critical liberating community.' This family of freedom and faith proposed by Dr. Warnock will usher in that day when 'justice rolls down like waters and righteousness as an ever flowing stream.'" -Frederick D. Haynes III, Senior Pastor, Friendship-West Baptist Church

Raphael Warnock is known as one of the most brilliant orators of his generation. This excellent new book reveals him to be a brilliant scholar as well. It is the first major work to critically explore the 'double-minded' relationship between the social practice of black churches and the radical implications of their historical witness against the social oppression of the black masses. Warnock's path-breaking periodization of the social activism of the black church is a major contribution to understanding the role of black churches in this nation's often stumbling march toward a racially just society. . . . The Divided Mind of the Black Church is a must read for every black pastor, theologian, scholar, and anyone who wants a deeper understanding of the history and political culture of black churches and the expanding contours of black theological scholarship. -Obery M. Hendricks, Jr., author of *The Universe Bends Toward Justice*

Resilient in its hope and perceptive in its analysis, this book makes a valuable contribution to imagining a liberation-focused ecclesiology. -Ecumenical "As we celebrate the life of the most famous black pastor, Martin Luther King Jr., we should remember that the black church mission connects faith with justice and personal salvation with social transformation, and addresses personal piety and public policy for the well-being of the whole person and the whole community. It fights for the weak and sees the Gospel as 'good news for the poor.'" -Raphael G. Warnock, CNN

Raphael G. Warnock's *The Divided Mind of the Black Church* is not only a scholarly monograph but also an autobiographical work on the pietistic and prophetic traditions of the black church. -Black Theology

This well-written and meticulously researched treatment of black church piety and social engagement is a timely and pivotal assessment as we head into the next chapter of American religious life. -The Christian Century

"Refusing to be content with the piety or protest divide between the Black Church and Black Theology, Warnock argues with scholarly rigor and pastoral fire for a vital partnership between the two. As a dedicated pastor and astute theologian, Warnock persuasively argues for a fifth movement in the Black Christian tradition: a self-critical liberationist community that represents a public theology founded on the pietistic and liberationist dimensions of the Church. This is a must read for clergy, laity, and the academy." -Emilie M. Townes, Dean and Professor of Ethics and Society, Vanderbilt University Divinity School

"Eloquently lays waste to the false theological dilemma between advocates of individual salvation and social justice. Real religion is both personal and political; Warnock skillfully shows how that works by probing creative tensions in the black church between heavenly hunger and earthly engagement. He brilliantly enhances the distinguished intellectual achievement of the historic Ebenezer pulpit by showing how black and womanist theologies partner with the black church to bring God's mighty word to bear on our souls and society all at once." -Michael Eric Dyson, University Professor of Sociology, Georgetown University

"Raphael Warnock demonstrates in this book that he is a worthy occupant of the Ebenezer pulpit, following in the intellectual tradition of Martin King and his mentor, Dr. Benjamin Mays. It was faith that led us to activism. Whether one is looking to understand the foundation of civil rights, to understand the role of faith in our public life or seeking to understand a personal call to serve, this book will be enlightening." -Andrew Young, former U.N. Ambassador, Mayor of Atlanta and Executive Vice President of SCLC

"Embodied in this book is the sharpness of mind of one with an earned Ph.D. in theological studies and the human compassion of a pastor of one of the major churches in the United States. Rarely, if at all, do we get to relish such combined matters of the head and heart. Moreover, this groundbreaking work is rooted in deep spirituality and progressive commitment to the Bible. The ponderings in these pages echo the insightful eyes of the prophetic mystic, Howard Thurman and the scholarly activism of Martin Luther King, Jr." -Dwight N. Hopkins, editor of *The Cambridge Companion to Black Theology*

"This contribution to the enduring subject of piety and protest in black theological discourse is of special importance because it is written from the vantage point of one who stands in the gap: a competent theologian with a pastoral vocation, validating his craft in the trenches of social justice advocacy and community transformation." -Cheryl J. Sanders, Howard University School of Divinity

"The book reads as an altar call to action that honors the liberationist roots of a global church community, regardless of race or gender." -Publishers Weekly

"The broadness and depth of Warnock's theological education and his distinguished pulpit give him the authority to ask the question: piety or protest? Warnock leads us through the history of the tensions and conversations among the black church, black theology and black pastors to boldly change this question into an exclamatory indicative: piety and protest. He admonishes all parties to move beyond the silos of their particular perspective to convene for the broader exchange of ideas, enabling us to fulfill our mission of helping to save the black community and the soul of our nation." -James A. Forbes Jr., Senior Pastor Emeritus, Riverside Church

About the Author: Reverend Dr. Raphael G. Warnock serves as

Senior Pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church (Atlanta, Georgia).