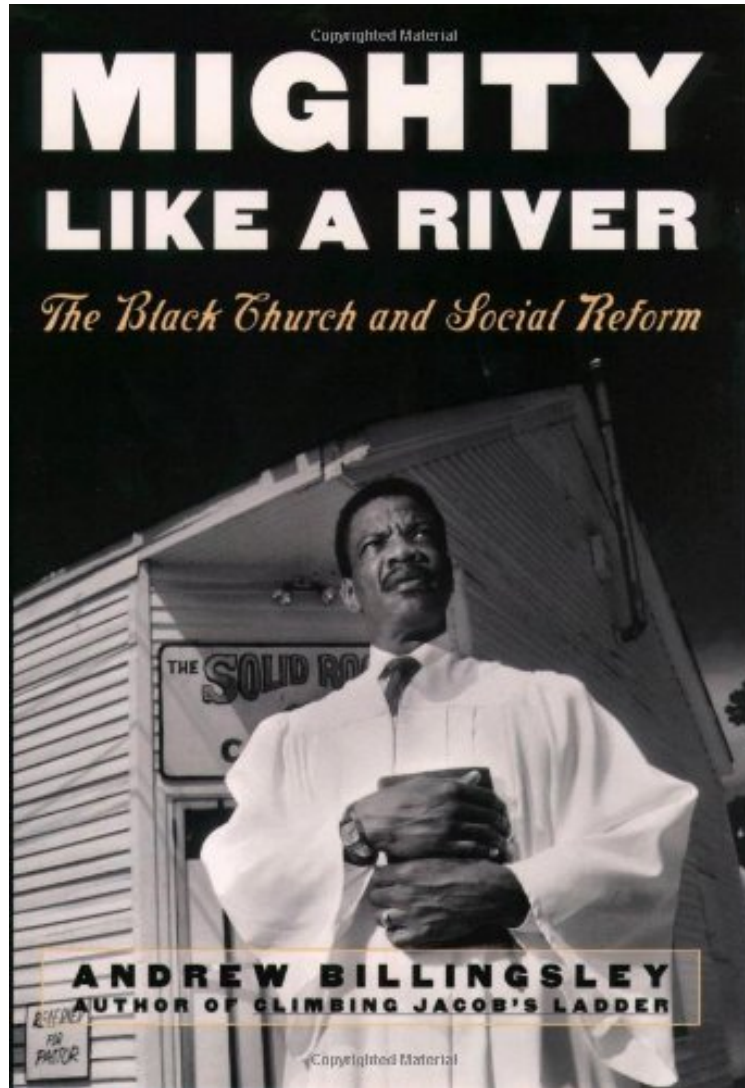


(Mobile pdf) Mighty Like a River: The Black Church and Social Reform

Mighty Like a River: The Black Church and Social Reform

Andrew Billingsley

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Andrew Billingsley : Mighty Like a River: The Black Church and Social Reform before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mighty Like a River: The Black Church and Social Reform:

2 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A good outline of Black church history By M. Wilson This is a good foundation. Since the first slave ship arrived to the USA, we have been active in our liberation. As to the previous reviewer "a reader". It always amazes me how muslims can put down Christianity when they do NOTHING in our communities but talk tough. Please read YOUR history and learn that when the europeans came to power they used the slave routes of muslims who were the first to enslave continental africans (which still goes on! BTW, the koran is an

edited book that has been rewritten several times. At least read your own history before speaking on others. PEACE4 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Fine scholarshipBy A CustomerThis certainly rates more than the single star given by another reviewer. Billingsley's book is a fine work of scholarship!0 of 30 people found the following review helpful. I am Actually a muslim and I want to give my opinionBy A CustomerI would like to say something about christianity. For centuries white christians have surpressed and enslaved other races or religions.Why would I want to convert myself to a religion that didn't even have laws that inspired people from all races and beliefs to live in harmony and friendship.One advice.Read de koran:You won't be disappointed About the book then.Does the author even now that the Bible during the roman occupation was forged(just like the juish book the thora)

Throughout the history of the African American people there has been no stronger resource for overcoming adversity than the black church. From its role in leading a group of free Blacks to form a colony in Sierra Leone in the 1790s to helping ex-slaves after the Civil War, and from playing major roles in the Civil Rights Movement to offering community outreach programs in American cities today, black churches have been the focal point of social change in their communities. Based on extensive research over several years, *Mighty Like a River* is the first comprehensive account of how black churches have helped shape American society. An expert in African American culture, Andrew Billingsley surveys nearly a thousand black churches across the country, including its oldest, the First African Baptist Church in Savannah, Georgia. These black churches, whose roots extend back to antebellum times, have periodically confronted social, economic, and political problems facing the African American community. *Mighty Like a River* addresses such questions as: How widespread and effective is the community activity of black churches? What are the patterns of activities being undertaken today? How do activist churches confront such problems as family instability, youth development, AIDS and other health issues, and care for the elderly? With profiles of the remarkable black heroes and heroines who helped create the activist church, and a compelling agenda for expanding the black church's role in society at large, *Mighty Like a River* is an inspirational, visionary, and definitive account of the subject.

From Library JournalBillingsley (sociology/African American studies, Univ. of South Carolina) has written a short book on a mighty theme: the black church as a major influencing factor in the black community for promoting the general good and a driving force for equality and righteousness. It is amazing how much ground he covers. Part historical document, part sociological study, part journalistic reporting with numerous case studies, his book transcends time and place to present a narrative that is both compelling and fascinating. Billingsley begins with the many antebellum black churches and their periodic battles against the overwhelmingly powerful advocates of slavery, then carries this story to the modern-day black church and its nearly constant battles to secure political and economic rights for the black community. He then effortlessly ties together the tasks of both churches, showing how they are actually the same. The book reaches another level at the end as it calls for continued and relentless black church activism to tackle the enduring problems of modern American society. Recommended for all libraries.AGlenn Masuchika, Chaminade Univ. Lib., Honolulu Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.From BooklistBillingsley draws on C. Eric Lincoln's dialectical model of the black church, especially its historic combination of communal and personal orientations, to organize his study. In the book's first part, Billingsley examines two black churches with antebellum roots, one in Savannah, Georgia, and the other in Richmond, Virginia. This most obviously sociohistorical section of the book traces the role of specific churches as ongoing communities of support and resistance to oppression, in which private salvation and communal practice have seldom been mutually exclusive. The second part explores specific congregations in other regions and examines global denominational differences. Billingsley describes three types of black churches: conservative, moderate, and activist. He is an engaged scholar who sees the black church in the future, as in the past, actively participating in the sociopolitical life of its community. The black church has been the cradle and the bedrock of some of the most important U.S. progressive movements, and Billingsley's accessible study provides scholarly support for the hope that it will continue to play that role. Steven Schroeder "Billingsly has written a short book on a mighty theme.... It is amazing how much ground he covers.... His book transcends time and place to present a narrative that is both compelling and fascinating."--Library Journal"As a leading scholar of the black family, Billingsley has succeeded in integrating his analysis of black churches with family concerns. He has important data on the response of black churches to the crises of HIV/Aids and of black young men. This book is highly recommended for courses on black churches, families and community issues."--Lawrence H. Mamiya, Paschall Davis Professor of African Studies and Religion at Vassar College and co-author of *The Black Church in the African American Experience*"Billingsley has written a short book on a mighty theme.... It is amazing how much ground he covers.... His book transcends time and place to present a narrative that is both compelling and fascinating."--Library Journal