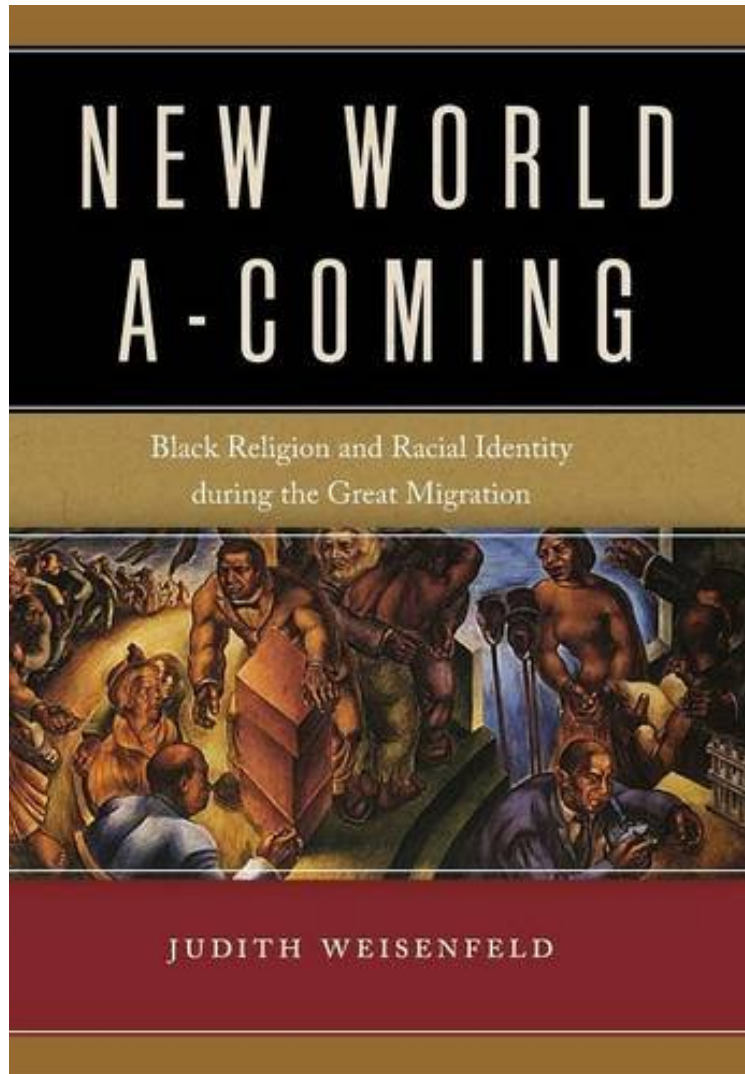


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New World A-Coming: Black Religion and Racial Identity during the Great Migration

Judith Weisenfeld

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Judith Weisenfeld : New World A-Coming: Black Religion and Racial Identity during the Great Migration before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised New World A-Coming: Black Religion and Racial Identity during the Great Migration:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Important Resource in American History By Michael M Carr It is a fascinating book and I have been reading it in pieces. It is a wonderful book giving us a look into some of the important

religious movement in the African American community. It is also an important part of American history. One of the people who found the following review helpful is Kilian85710. This fascinating book is an account of six movements within the African American community, ranging from Nation of Islam to Father Divine. The authors explore the ways that distinctive dress, dietary habits, and history (as described by the founders) unite to give a sense of belonging and identity to adherents.

Demonstrates that the efforts to contest conventional racial categorization contributed to broader discussions in black America that still resonate today.

"A magnificent, thoughtfully researched work which breaks new theoretical ground on race, religion and the great migration. These compelling, exquisitely researched stories of the lives of devoted participants in the Moorish Science Temple, Ethiopian Hebrews, Father Divine and the NOI reconfigure the cult/ sect status that has historically labeled these groups. Weisenfeld's book redefines the contours of African American Religious history, American religion, and race in American history, and is a must read for the casual reader and established scholar alike." -Anthea Butler, University of Pennsylvania

"Weisenfeld's richly informative and analytically sharp social history resurrects worlds of black American new religious movements in the interwar years. With particularly adept use of bureaucratic records, she gives us a new picture of the lives of African Americans who rejected categories given to them and sought to redefine their own lives and reinvent their own identities. Meticulously researched, provocatively written, and beautifully detailed." -Paul Harvey, University of Colorado Colorado Springs

"For too long Christianity has reigned over our histories of African America. This book definitively establishes the plurality of black religious experience and the definitive role religions had in the formation of twentieth-century racial identity. Reading unconventional sources and unearthing forgotten (but now unforgettable) figures, Weisenfeld offers an exemplary study of religion as a form of social and cultural criticism. There is no historian working with greater precision in the study of religion in America today." -Kathryn Lofton, Yale University

"Innovatively researched, elegantly written, and persuasively argued, Judith Weisenfeld's new history of African American religious groups is a major contribution to the study of African American religions during the Great Migration. Weisenfeld deftly uses draft records, death certificates, immigration forms, and other bureaucratic documents to breathe life into the stories of Southern migrants, Northern residents, and Caribbean immigrants who joined Jewish, Muslim, and other prophetic religious movements. These new religious movements, Weisenfeld reveals, resisted racial identities imposed upon them by an increasingly powerful state and fellow American citizens alike. Their religious commitments, expressed not only in a rich theological imagination but also in material culture, ritual activity, and institution-building, created new collective racial identities invested in the redemption of Black peoplehood. Weisenfeld's beautifully rendered story will engage both scholars and general readers interested in religion, U.S. history, and African American studies." -Edward E. Curtis IV, Millennium Chair of the Liberal Arts, Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis

"Weisenfeld's new work is a breath of fresh air in studies of the Great Migration. She expands our knowledge of the religious landscape of African descended migrants and immigrants in new ways and demonstrates the ingenuity and intricacies of race negotiation by African peoples living during the interwar years in America." -Journal of the American Academy of Religion

"A comprehensive study of the formation of 20th-century black religious movements... Weisenfeld's wide-ranging study is eloquent yet succinct." -Publishers Weekly

About the Author: Judith Weisenfeld is Agate Brown and George L. Collord Professor in the Department of Religion at Princeton University. She is the author of *Hollywood Be Thy Name: African American Religion in American Film, 1929-1949* and *African American Women and Christian Activism: New York's Black YWCA, 1905-1945*.