

Twitter Thread by Danté Stewart (Stew)



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Black literature, Womanist, and Black theologies are not just an academic endeavor, a way of resisting whiteness, or reproductions of white theology. They are a way Black people show the deepest love, embrace God's image on Black bodies, and say: the Black world is a real world.

Theologian James Cone said he didn't discard white theology, "but black theology began with deconstruction—that is, dismantling the oppressive, white theologies I was taught." These theologies not only ignored black people but "blinded me to the treasure in the black tradition."

Christians must take seriously the Black experience and make room for Black people to speak of and for God, and faith, and Jesus, and love, and hope out of our experience. Any theology that devalues, dismisses, or destroys the voice of Black people is not a theology of Jesus.

Christians, we have to liberate ourselves from the idea that those who are legitimate voices for faith and life are white Christian conservative men and that true Christian faith is simply about using their language and logic. These two realities have harmed us in so many ways.

Too many of us are thinking about faith and life as well as doing theology as ourselves but with language and histories and traditions that show that in practice we believe that orthodox = white Christian conservative man. We believe they are the final authority and goal.

Liberate us Lord from believe that white faith is pure and Black faith is problematic.