This volume discusses normative theological categories from a black perspective, and argues that there is no major Christian doctrine on which black theology has not commented. Part I explores introductory questions such as: what have been the historical and social factors fostering a black theology, and what are some of the internal factors key to its growth? Part II examines major doctrines which have been important for black theology in terms of clarifying key intellectual foci common to the study of religion. The final part discusses black theology as a world-wide development constituted by interdisciplinary approaches. The volume has an important role in bringing Christian thought into confrontation with one of the central challenges of modernity, namely the problem of race and racism. This Companion puts theological themes in conversation with issues of ethnicity, gender, social analysis, politics, and class, and is ideal for undergraduate and graduate students.

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THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO
BLACK THEOLOGY

Edited by Dwight N. Hopkins
and
Edward P. Antonio
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The Cambridge Companion to Black Theology aims to fill a void in the intellectual study of black religious experiences in different parts of the world. Nowhere is there a volume that critically analyzes black theology of liberation in its varied manifestations and deepens normative theological categories from a black perspective. The two volumes on black theology (1993) edited by James Cone and Gayraud Wilmore consist of a collection of topical, primary documents from 1966 to 1992. In fact, their two volumes are titled a documentary history of black theology. And the aim of various introductions to black theology of liberation was not to present a systematic exposition of the key doctrines of black theology as a discipline. Nor was their mission to delve into forms of black theology indigenous to other countries. Hence the uniqueness of the present volume.

Indeed, this Cambridge Companion entails three parts. Part I explores the overall introductory matters about black theology. What have been the historical and social factors fostering a black theology? What are some of the internal nuances key to black theology’s growth? And what other disciplines have impacted the doing of black theology? Part II examines some of the major themes or doctrines that have been important for black theology in terms of clarifying key intellectual foci common to the general study of religion. And Part III presents global expressions of black theology. As an established body of knowledge and practice, black theology has grown in conversation with similar contexts and related disciplines. Black theology is a global phenomenon in dialogue with interlocutors who have developed the discipline in their own contexts, based on their own warrants. By presenting black theology in relation to its global settings, this text situates black theology as a world-wide development constituted by interdisciplinary approaches.
This Companion will meet the needs of both undergraduate and graduate courses. It goes well with classes centered on: religious studies, comparative models of theology, black studies, women's studies, systematic and constructive theologies, comparative religions, the study of interdisciplinary models, and international studies.

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