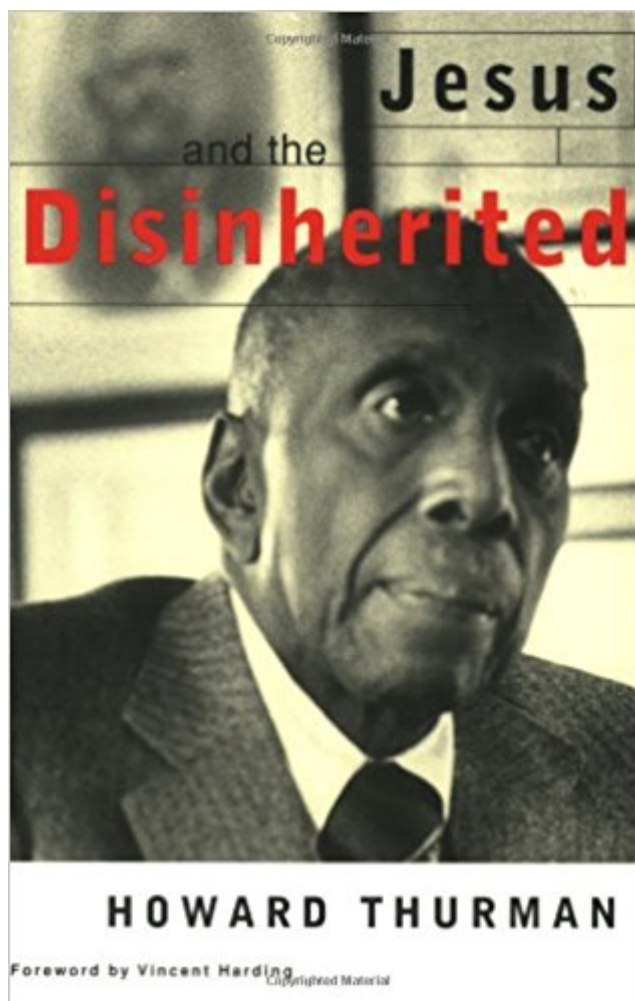


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Jesus And The Disinherited



Synopsis

In this classic theological treatise, the acclaimed theologian and religious leader Howard Thurman (1900-1981) demonstrates how the gospel may be read as a manual of resistance for the poor and disenfranchised. Jesus is a partner in the pain of the oppressed and the example of His life offers a solution to ending the descent into moral nihilism. Hatred does not empower--it decays. Only through self-love and love of one another can God's justice prevail.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"[Jesus and the Disinherited] is the centerpiece of the Black prophet-mystic's lifelong attempt to bring the harrowing beauty of the African-American experience into deep engagement with what he called 'the religion of Jesus.' Ultimately his goal was to offer this humanizing combination as the basis for an emancipatory way of being, moving toward a fundamentally unchained life that is available to all the women and men everywhere who hunger and thirst for righteousness, especially those who stand with their backs against the wall." •Vincent Harding, from the Foreword

Hailed by Life magazine as one of the great preachers of the twentieth century; a spiritual advisor to Martin Luther King, Jr., Sherwood Eddy, James Farmer, A. J. Musty, and Pauli Murray; the first black dean at a white university; cofounder of the first interracial pastored, intercultural church in the United States; Howard Thurman (1899-1981) was a man of penetrating foresight and

astonishing charisma. His vision of the world was one of a democratic camaraderie born of faith, and in light of today's global community, one of particular importance.

I have read this book 4 or 5 times over the past 10 years. I keep coming back to it because it speaks so directly to much of what we are witnessing today. If a minister, pastor, bishop, or any faith leader is looking for a book that speaks to the social responsibility that comes with the Gospel of Jesus, this is certainly one of the few that you want to own.

Honestly, It was not exactly what I expected but was much much more. It is amazing to me (in a good and sad way) that what the author is discussing back when this was written is completely applicable to my experiences and observations in the US and the world even still today. I encouraged a friend to purchase the book as well and we have very "meaty" conversations. Wow. I am glad it was suggested to me. This breaks down a lot of the thing most of us already know but lack the depth in understanding how it works. Interesting stuff.

An absolutely amazing book. Still relevant today. Thurman provides a psychological analysis of how Christianity was a sustainer of African American when it seemed to be powerless and indifferent to the sufferings of those it sustained. This book gave me a greater appreciation of how the practice of Jesus' teachings worked for those whose "backs were against the wall." Jesus and the Disinherited is a very insightful book.

For something that was written and published in 1949 this book is incredibly timely. Other than some dated language choices this could have been written yesterday. This is a fast read - 5 chapters - yet it gives a solid understanding of the challenges faced by those who are oppressed as well as those who are privileged enough not to be oppressed. Whichever side you fall on, this book will provide you with good fodder for some serious reflection and self-evaluation.

A lot of food for thought. Written 60-70 years ago and we are still making the same mistakes as human's

Howard Thurman does an incredible job of lifting out the unvarnished truth of race prejudice in the US and reflecting how that reality intersects with the calling of Jesus. He draws out useful parallels between Jesus situation as a member of an oppressed people and the situation of African

Americans in his time (and, unfortunately, still.) He writes with clarity, honesty and grace. Truly a blessing and a challenging call.

Very good book, filled with an abundance of information.

Howard Thurman demonstrates how Jesus challenges both the oppressed and the oppressor to live transformed lives based on renewed visions of themselves and each other. This is no, "put-yourself-in-the-other-person's-shoes" treatment of how to change how we relate to one another. Rather it is a challenge to see ourselves through the lens of Jesus Christ and his revelation of human nature and human community. I was particularly stunned at Thurman's call to the disinherited to be agents of transformation. One can see in this short, but meaty, book the influence he had on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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