http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=7436446401675704093&q=negro+slave+songs&total=17&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=1

“The most fundamental beliefs encoded in all human cultures include religious beliefs. People cling to their religious beliefs to stabilize the meaning of life in an otherwise confusing world of conflict and ambiguity. This is certainly true for African American people who have their religion to anchor the foundation of community cultural and social life. The Black church is where Black music is based, where cultural practices are mastered from such diverse activities such as cooking, organizing meetings, and leadership skills. The Black church is the universal meeting place for the community, and the minister is almost always a leader in the community, both for inetrnal matters and out in the wider society. To know the Black community it is imperative to know the Black church and its activities.”

Alkalimat, The African American Experience in Cyberspace, page 159

RELIGION: More questions than answers

http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=7824361008702936179&q=nigeria+religion&total=73&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=3

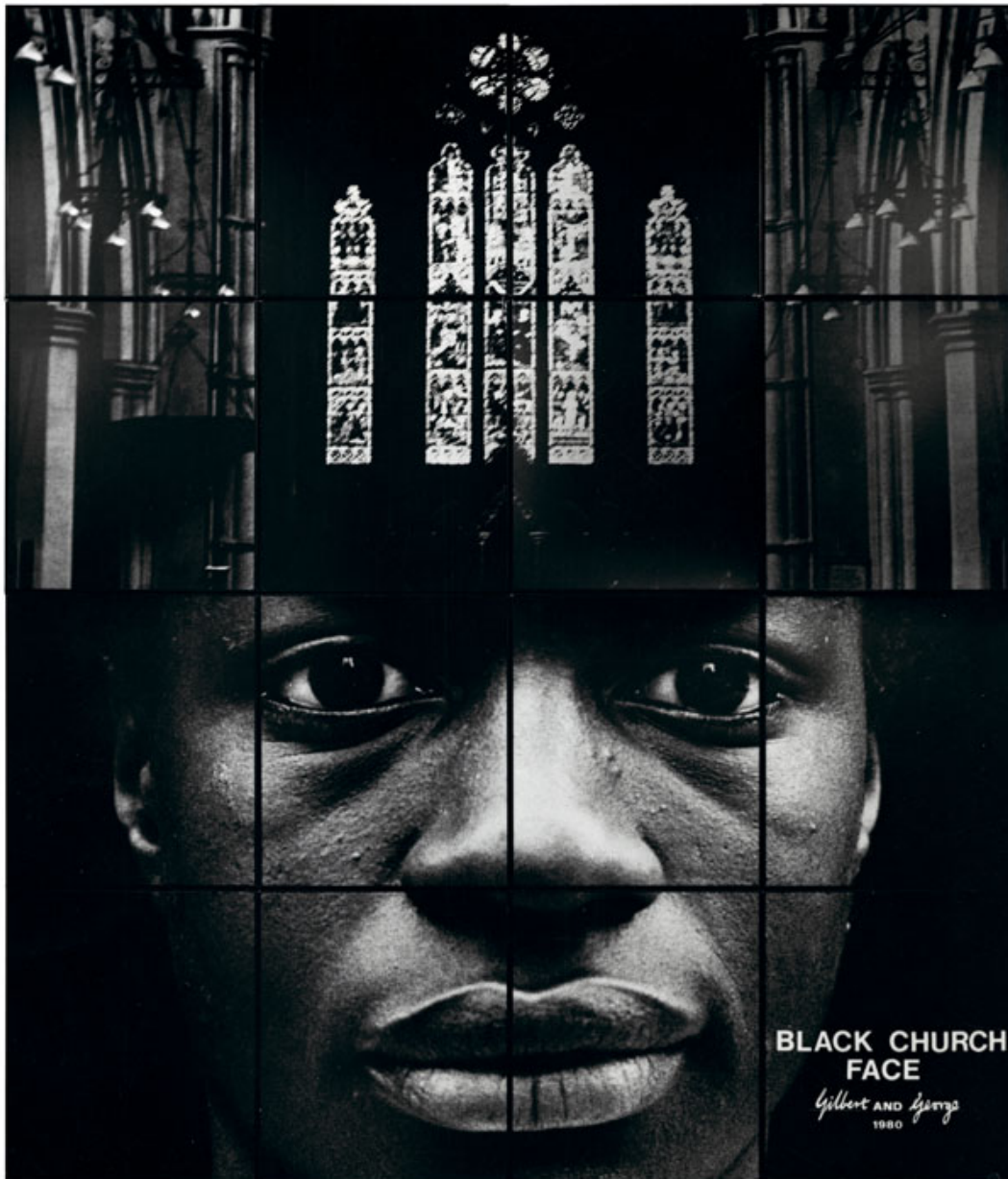
Religion/church are in society/culture.

1. We have to consider historical periodization.

2. We have to identify Black traditions and Black agency for change.

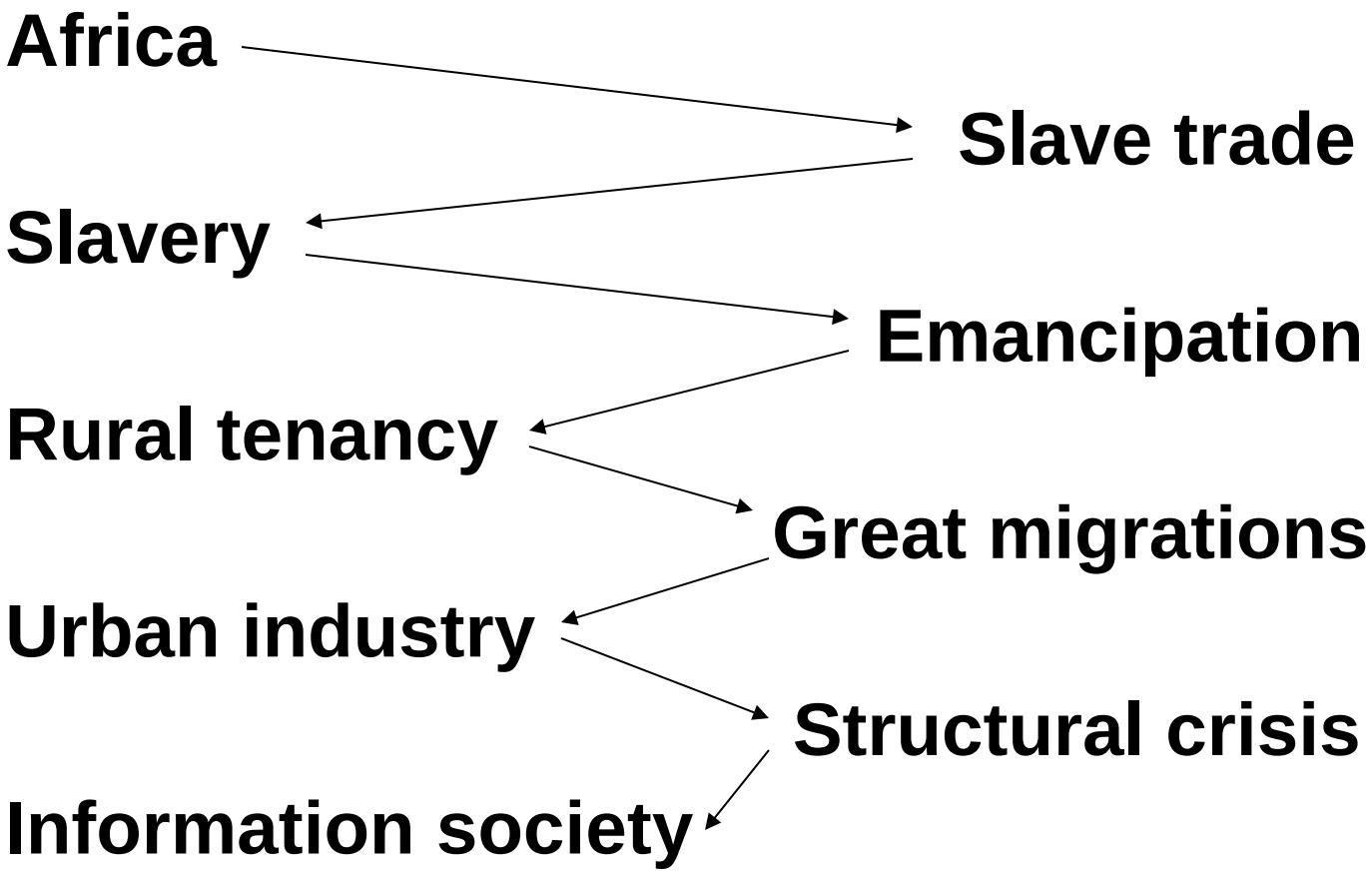
3. We have to identify the impact of social and political conditions.

4. We have to listen to Black therologians and religious leaders.

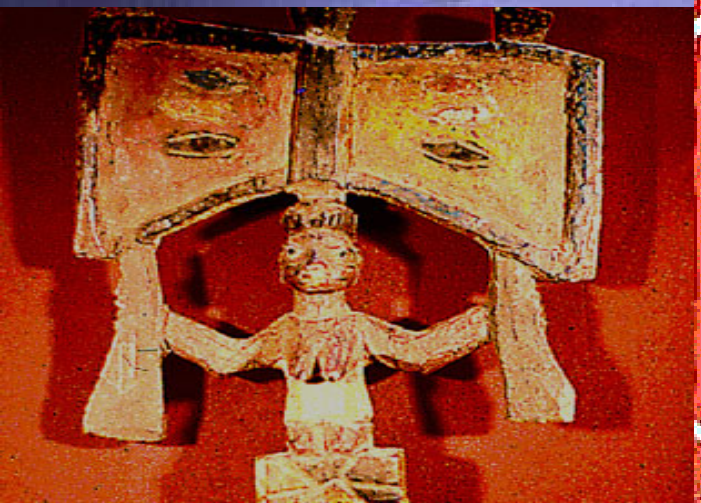


The logic of Black history:

modes of social cohesion, modes of social disruption



CHANGO MACHO
SHANGO • XANGO



Tombouctou
MALI
NIGER
Agadez
CHAD
Niger
Niamey
Zinder
BURKINA FASO
Ouagadougou
Kano
N'Djamena
BENIN
NIGERIA
Abuja
CÔTE D'IVOIRE
GHANA
TOGO
Lomé
Ogbomoso
Ibadan
Lagos
Moundou
Yamoussoukro
Accra
Porto-Novo
Abidjan
CAMEROON
Douala
Bangui
Malabo
Yaoundé
EQUATORIAL GUINEA
Gulf of Guinea
SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
Libreville
Projection

Memory of slavery and the will of the Gods:

The present-past

1. Where?

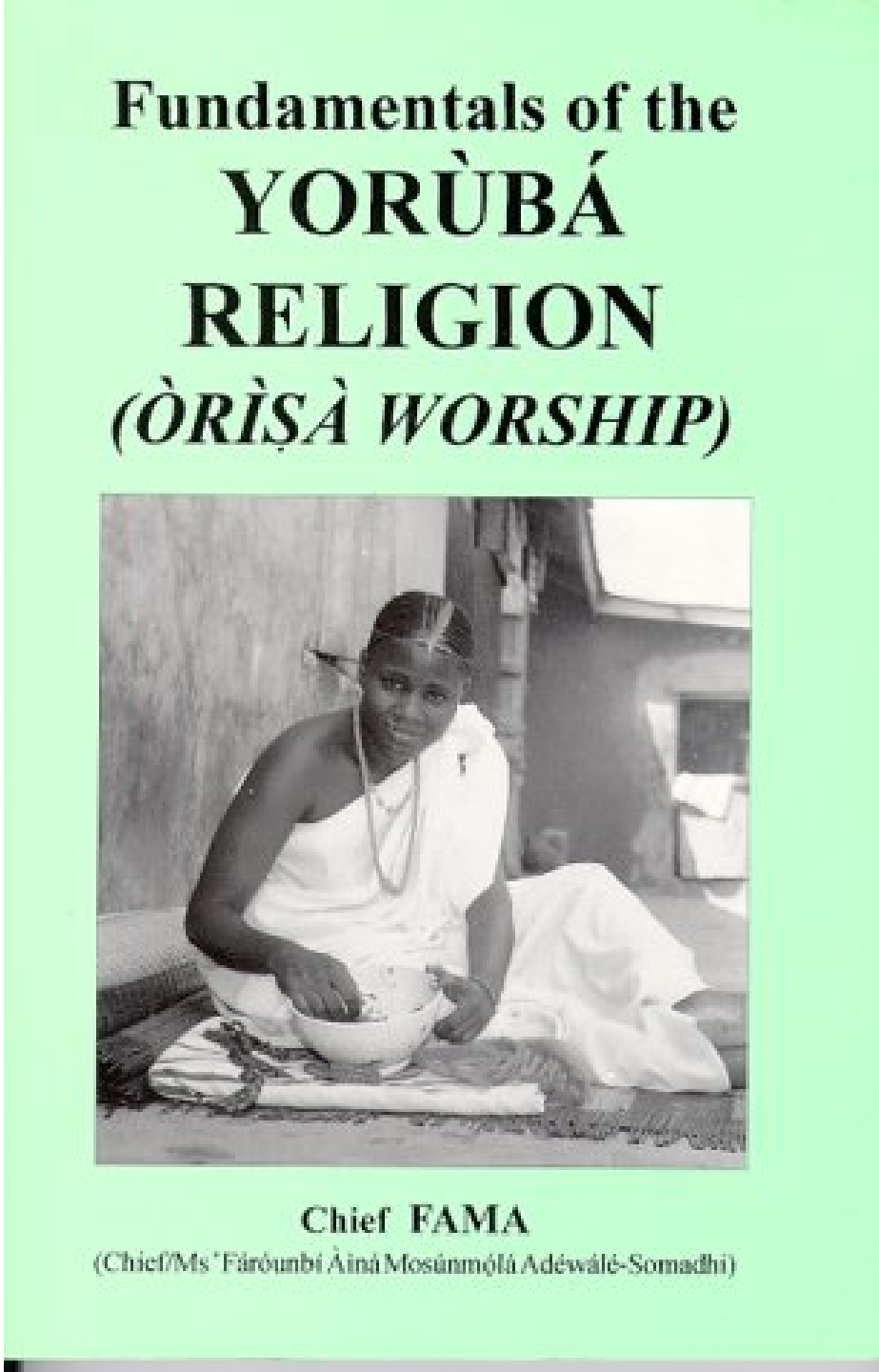
2. Who?

3. What?

4. When?

5. Why?

http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-3598744069585719049&q=religion+yoruba&total=25&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=2



The Yoruba Religion and the African Diaspora

a.Nigeria

http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-9170637692759197968&q=nigerian+priestess&total=8&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=0

b.Cuba

http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-8700817069476397151&q=shango+religion&total=5&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=0

c.Brazil

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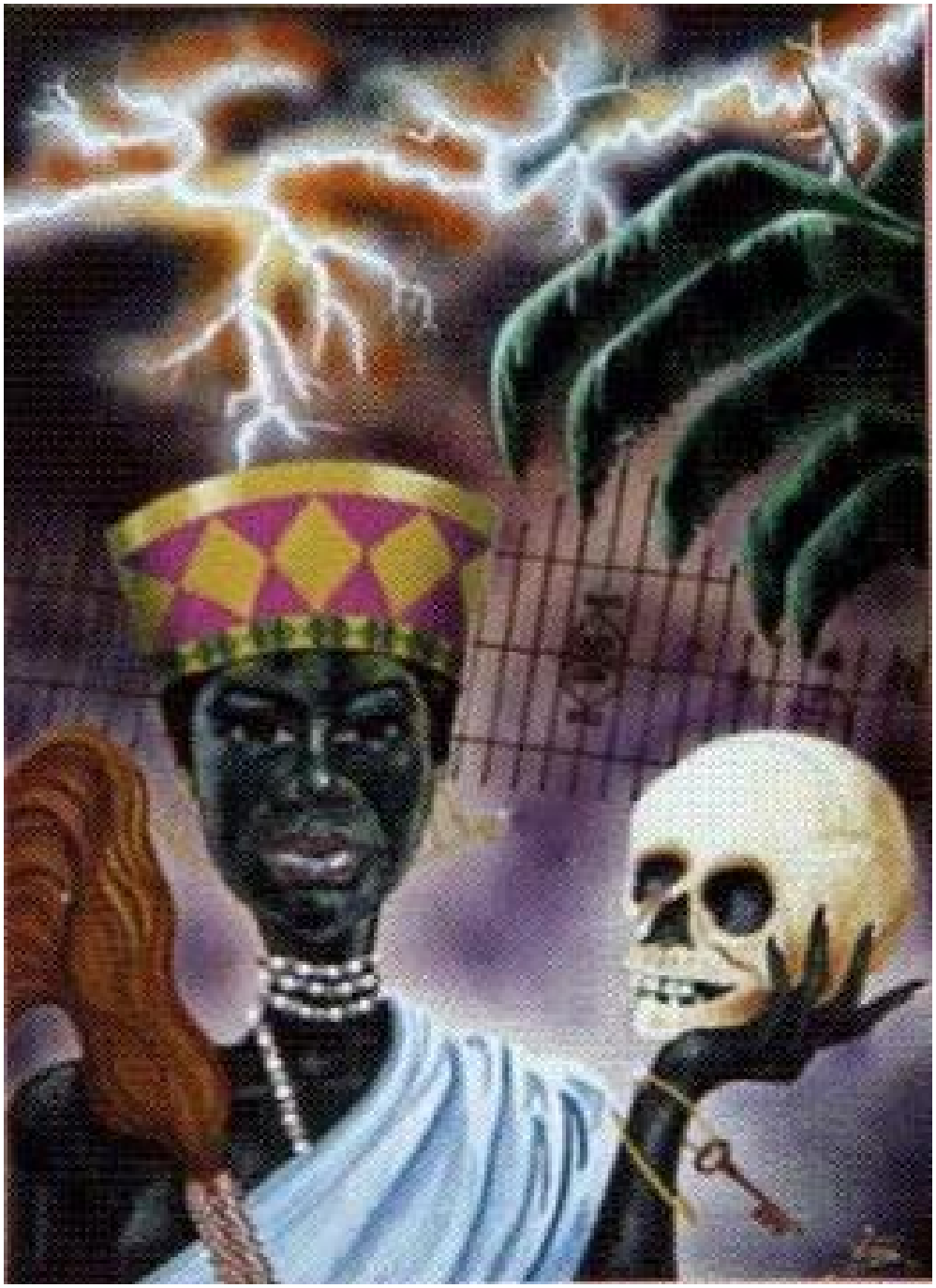
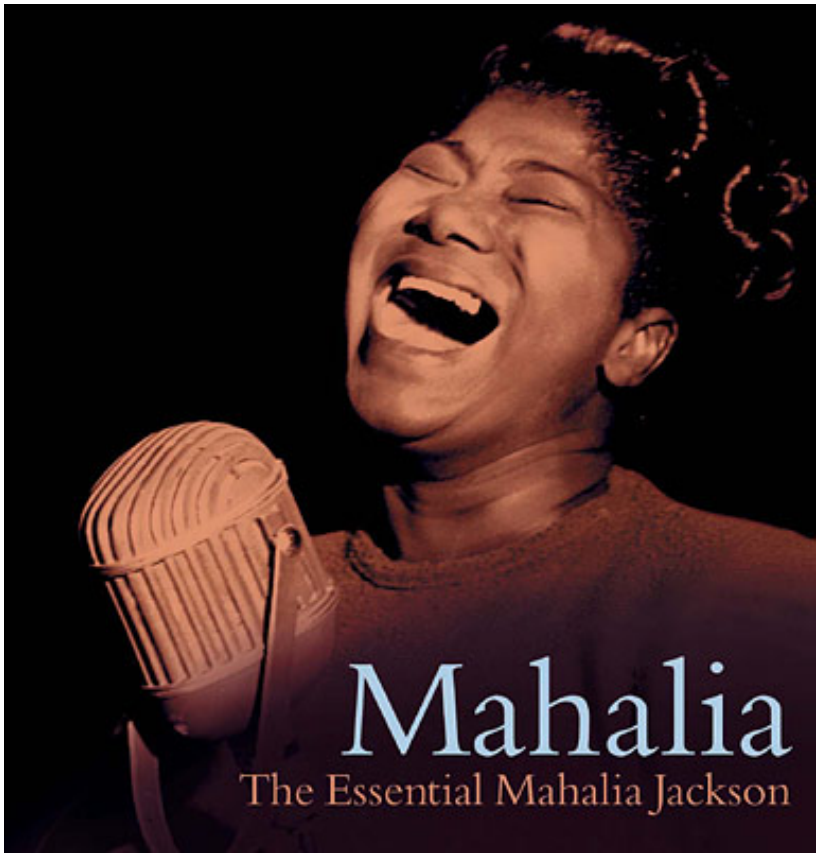


The Present:

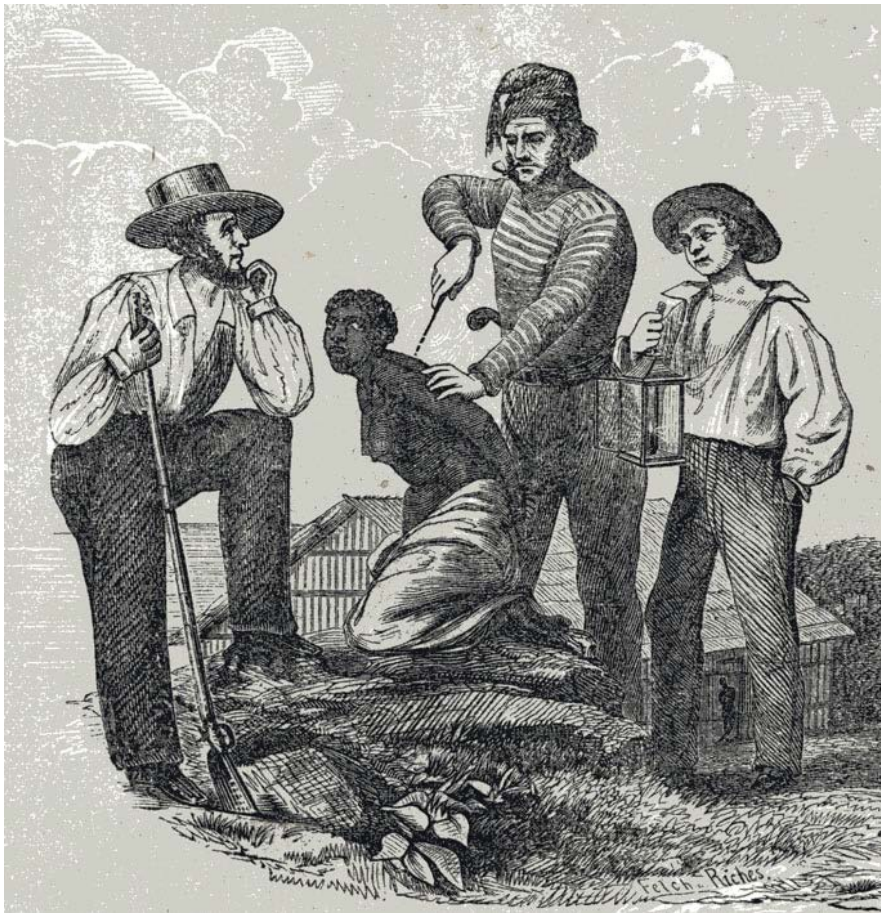
Religion and/as cultural experience



http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=9116090842156364815&q=T+D+Jakes&total=926&start=10&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=3

The slave experience and the slave church

The visible institution



The invisible institution

The Free African Society in America 1787

Richard Allen, 1760-1831

Founder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church 1816, Philadelphia (Mother Bethel, 1794)

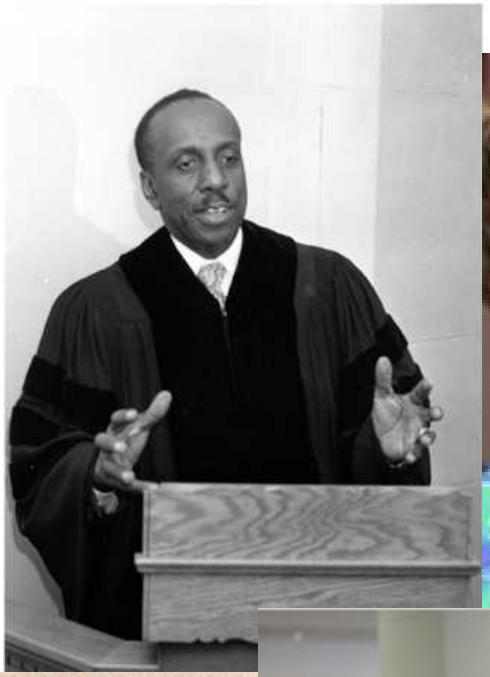
Absolom Jones, 1746 - 1818

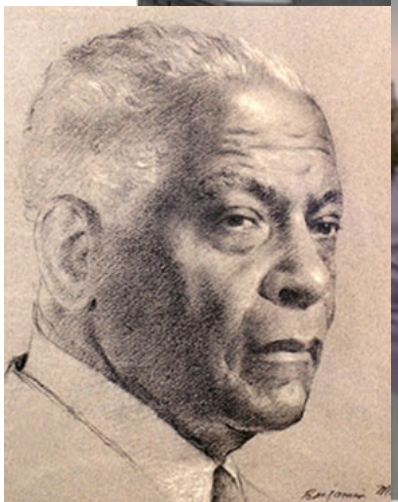
Founder of the African Protestant Episcopal Church 1794

The Black church:

Institutional foundation of the Black community

1. The buildings
2. The budget
3. The organization
4. The leadership
5. The community service
6. The regular meetings
7. The cultural performances
8. The morality
9. The literacy
10. The tradition



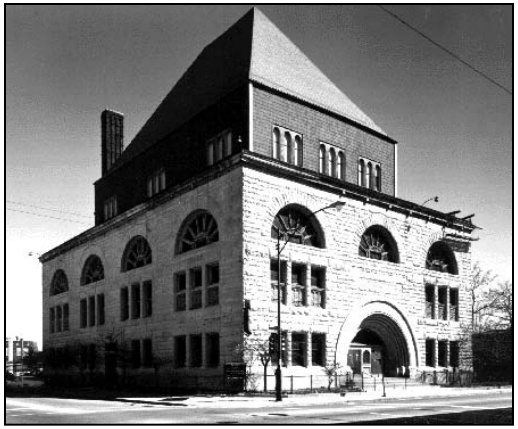


The African American church in the urban context

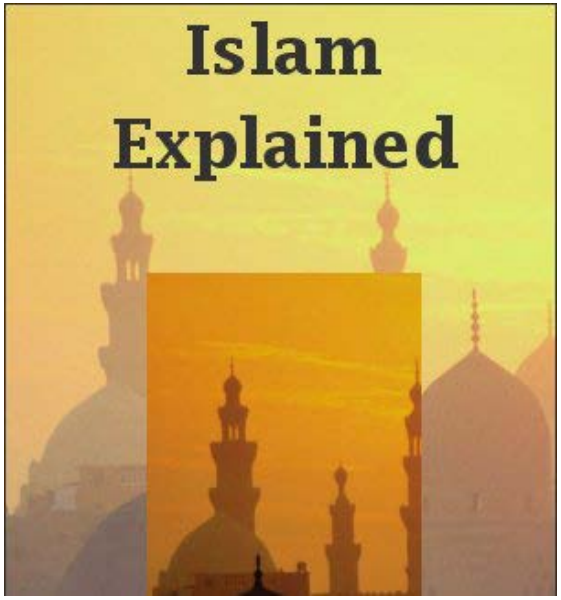
1.The storefront church

2.The bought church

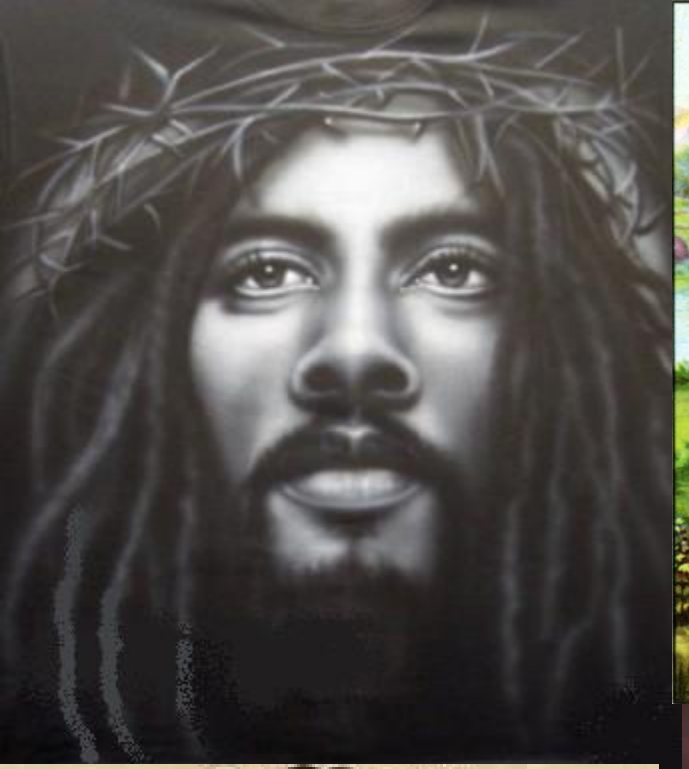
3.The built church

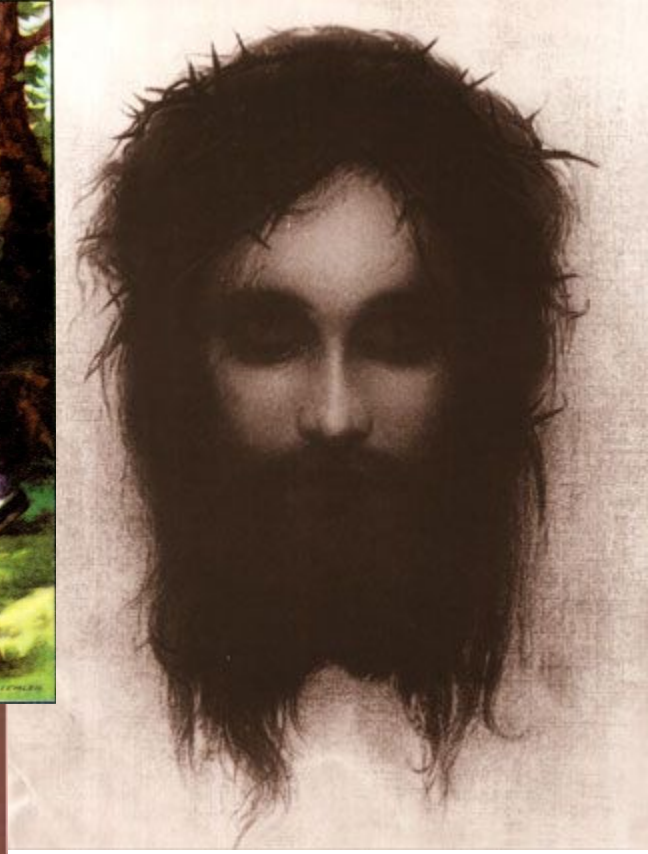


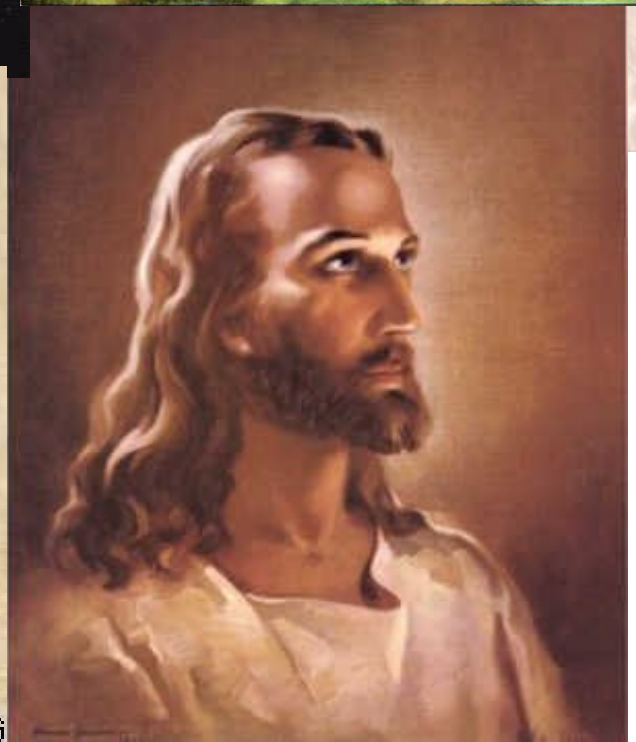
Black Power gave birth to Black Liberation Theology



1. Rethink Africa in the history of religion
2. Rethink the identity of Jesus
3. Rethink the relationship between politics and religion
4. Rethink the relationship between body and spirit
5. Rethink the importance of traditional African religion
6. Rethink the importance of the African Diaspora
7. Rethink the role of women in religious leadership





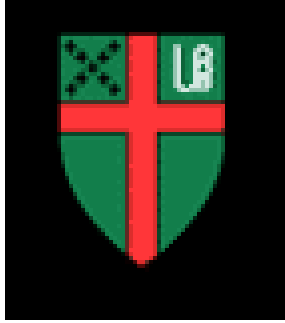


JESUS:

What did he look like? What difference does it make? Why do some Black people insist on Black images in religious worship? Do white gods work?

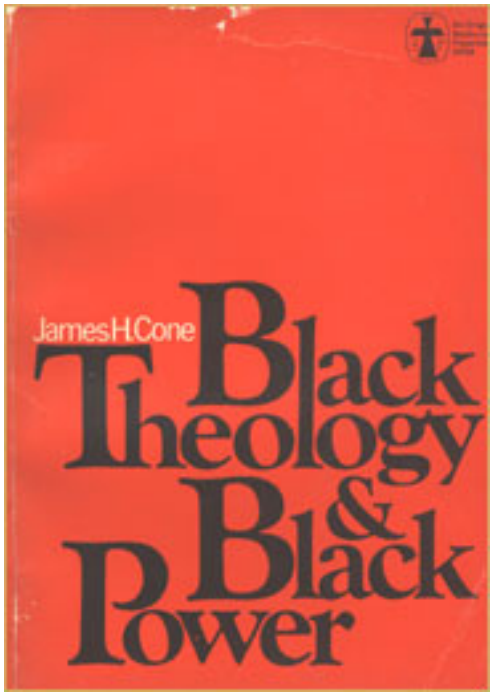
AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH
FOUNDED 1796
The Freedom Church

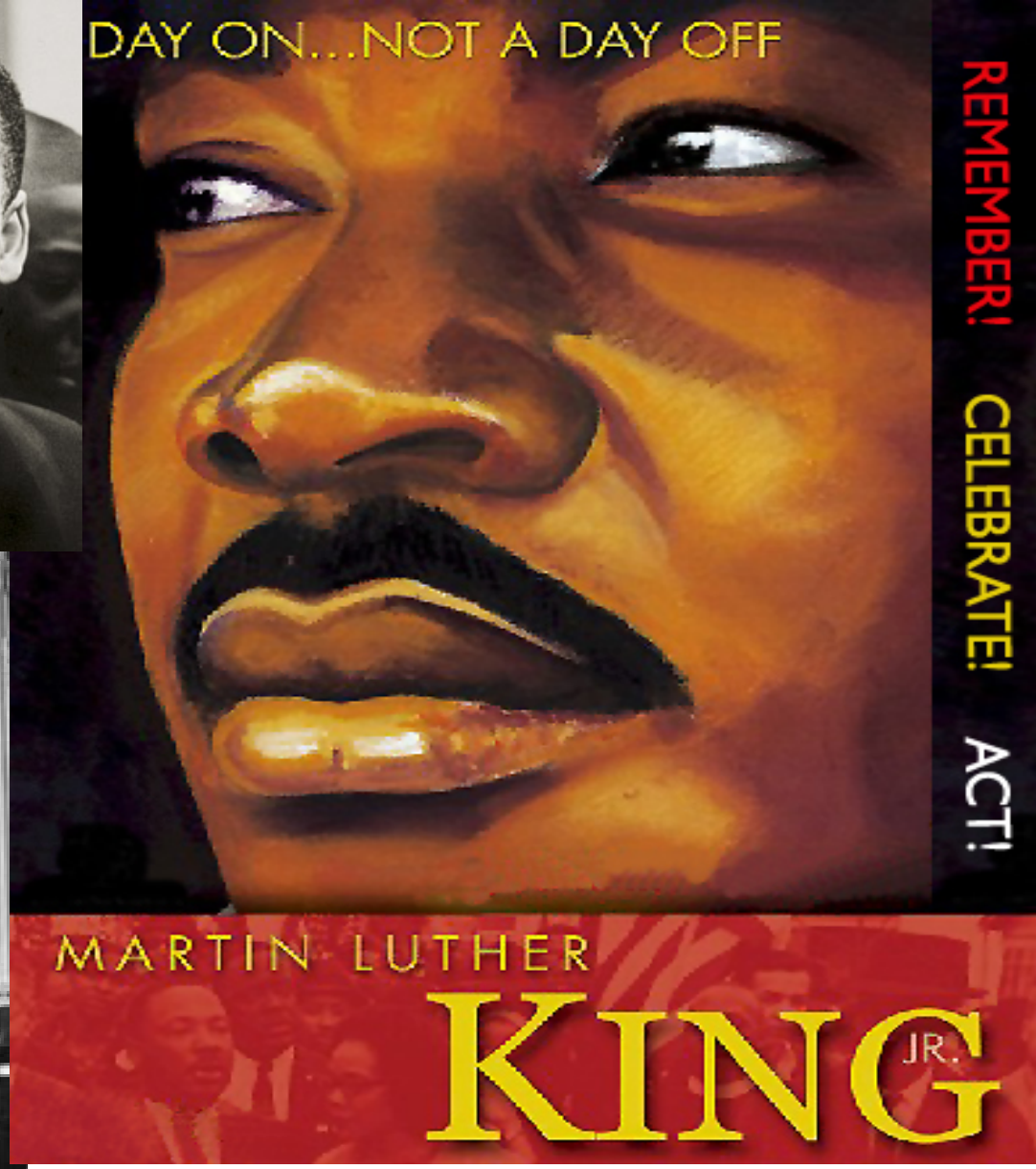
NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, USA
INCORPORATED



THE HISTORY OF
BLACK
CATHOLICS
IN THE
UNITED STATES

NATIONAL BLACK PRESBYTERIAN CAUCUS

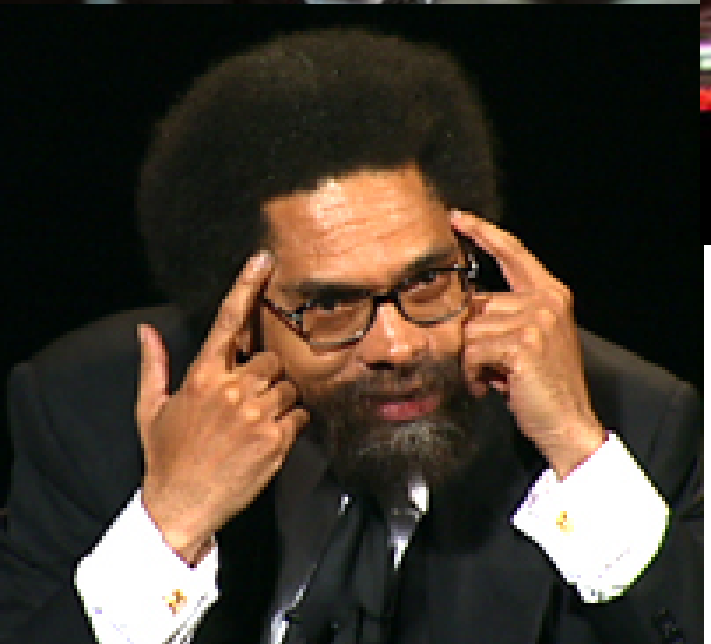

James H. Cone
Black Theology & Black Power



http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-825131597890389087&q=martin+luther+king+god&total=111&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=8

Malcolm X

http://www.columbia.edu/cu/ccbh/mxp/video/mx0026v.ram



Cornel West

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James Cone, Theologian

http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=9003107176884524910&q=james+cone&total=53&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=0

Martin Luther King + Clay Evans = Jesse Jackson

Clay Evans

http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-6047384369450592235&q=clay+evans&total=109&start=0&num=10&so=0&type=search&plindex=4