

2013 2014 Rccg Sunday School Student Manual

Visions of the Good Life Christianity and Controversies over Homosexuality in Contemporary Africa Wonders Above, Signs Below The News Nigerian Pentecostalism and Development The Deseccularisation of the City Ezra Chitando Eugene Baron Richard Burgess David Goodhew Visions of the Good Life Christianity and Controversies over Homosexuality in Contemporary Africa Wonders Above, Signs Below The News Nigerian Pentecostalism and Development The Deseccularisation of the City *Ezra Chitando Eugene Baron Richard Burgess David Goodhew*

there is something wrong with us and the world we find ourselves in in the christian tradition the concept of god s salvation describes the divine intervention to overcome this brokenness however such language might easily be misunderstood in the increasingly secular west to make the reality of the doctrine of salvation understandable relevant and attractive for europeans in the west we might begin to think of it more in terms of relationship well being and wholeness using a biblical term salvation is about the shalom of the reign of god this volume explores the lived salvation practices of faith communities and missions and their conceptualisations in the west how is the good life perceived and practiced contributors are clive marsh jan martijn abrahamse dejan aždajić k francis adebayo philip bartholomä janel kragt bakker nigel rooms karen zwijze koning hans schaeffer berdine van den toren lekkerkerker jack barentsen chris james sake stoppels annemieke de jonge bert roor evelien van duffelen harvey kwiyani james butler kathy ross ross lockhart and stefan paas

issues of homosexuality are the subject of public and political controversy in many african societies today frequently these controversies receive widespread attention both locally and globally such as with the anti homosexuality bill in uganda in the international media these cases tend to be presented as revealing a deeply rooted homophobia in africa fuelled by religious and cultural traditions but so far little energy is expended in understanding these controversies in all their complexity and the critical role religion plays in them complementing the companion volume public religion and the politics of homosexuality in africa this book investigates christian politics and discourses on homosexuality in sub saharan africa the contributors present case studies from various african countries from nigeria to south africa and from cameroon to uganda focusing on pentecostal catholic and mainline protestant churches they critically examine popular christian theologies that perpetuate homophobia and discrimination but they also discuss contestations of such discourses and emerging alternative christian perspectives that contribute to the recognition of sexual diversity social justice and human rights in contemporary africa

in the face of climate change biodiversity loss increasing pollution and the destruction of natural

habitats how can christians responsibly care for the environment and sustain life building on emerging ecotheological and social action scholarship this book brings together twenty scholars to develop a pentecostal missiology addressing the environmental crisis rich and comprehensive the authors engage in critical biblical analysis of texts that provide an imperative for creation care theological pentecostal scholarship on mission and environmentalism case studies from around the globe that illuminate current and emerging pentecostal environmental mission praxis and ecumenical dialogue between pentecostal churches and the wider church s past this is a must read for all scholars church leaders and christians engaged in missional work as it intersects with environmental care

this book examines the contributions both intentional and unintentional of nigerian pentecostal churches and ngos to development studying their development practices broadly in relation to the intersecting spheres of politics economics health education human rights and peacebuilding in sub saharan africa pentecostalism is fast becoming the dominant expression of christianity but while the growth and civic engagement of these churches has been well documented their role in development has received less attention the nigerian pentecostal landscape is one of the most vibrant in africa churches are increasingly assuming more prominent roles as they seek to address the social and moral ills of contemporary society often in fierce competition with islam for dominance in nigerian public space some scholars suggest that the combination of an enchanted worldview an emphasis on miracles and prosperity teaching and a preoccupation with evangelism discourages effective political engagement and militates against development however nigerian pentecostalism and development argues that there is an emerging movement within contemporary nigerian pentecostalism which is becoming increasingly active in development practices this book goes on to explore the increasingly transnational approach that churches take often seeking to build multicultural congregations around the globe for instance in britain and the united states nigerian pentecostalism and development spirit power and transformation will be of considerable interest to scholars and students concerned with the intersection between religion and development and to development practitioners and policy makers working in the region

major cities have long been seen as centres of secularisation however the number of congregations in london grew by 50 between 1979 and the present london s churches have been characterised more by growth than by decline in the decades since 1980 the desecularisation of the city provides the first academic survey of churches in london over recent decades linking them to similar developments in other major cities across the west produced by a large team of scholars from a range of disciplines this volume offers a striking and original portrait of congregational life in london since 1980 seventeen chapters explore the diverse localities ethnicities and denominations that make up the church in contemporary london the vitality of london s churches in the last four decades shows that secularisation is far from inevitable in the cities of the future this study necessitates a significant reassessment of the dominant academic portrayal of christianity in britain and the west which has mostly depicted cities as secular spaces within a secularising culture it will be of great interest to scholars working across a wide range of disciplines including history sociology religious studies and theology

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