

*Schillebeeckx* (11 vols.) and may prove helpful to a new generation's immersion into the prodigious work of the Flemish theologian.

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*Prophetic Rage: A Postcolonial Theology of Liberation.* By Johnny Bernard Hill. The Prophetic Christianity Series. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2013. Pp. x + 179. \$ 25.

Writing on the 30th anniversary of the March on Washington, Hill presents black liberation theology for a new generation of thinkers by locating this theology within a contemporary globalized context and postmodern culture. He contends that Christian prophetic rage “offers a new vision for resisting and overcoming empire . . . and its related tentacles of racism, patriarchy, violence and militarism” (6). Unlike other accounts of black theology that identify white supremacy as the major threat to black life, H. convincingly argues that the most imminent hazard today is the nihilism that ensues from the contemporary experience with empire.

To redress the reality that “black identity has become so intertwined with capitalism, consumerism and whiteness as normative cultural standard” (111), H. focuses on the prophetic sources that can nurture an authentic black identity capable of confronting the internalized oppression and the exclusionary character of Western culture. This means looking back—“remembering rightly” (Miroslav Wolf)—in order to move forward. H. privileges the faith expression of slave religion and the African American experience of oppression in identifying the contours of a contemporary black theology, and turns to Martin Luther King’s vision of the beloved community and Desmond Tutu’s reconciling spirituality, to illustrate how prophetic action and spiritual resistance can overcome the forces of empire.

To further his argument, H. offers rich reflections on the call for a more just and sustainable economic system that benefits the common good. He advances Afrocentrism as an inclusive philosophical perspective to resist the systems of patriarchy, sexism, and marginalization. In these reflections, H. deftly brings into conversation a wide array of voices, including W. E. B. DuBois, Malcom X, Cornel West, Cheick Anta Diop, and Molefe Kete Assante. H. ultimately turns to Jesus as the transfigured son and prophet who confirms God’s promises and nurtures the creative struggle for justice and reconciliation.

Though scholarly in emphasis, this slim, clearly written volume is accessible to a wide audience. A passionate and powerful book, it begins to lay the groundwork for constructing a postcolonial theology of liberation from the black American perspective.

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