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The Black Church Reflection

The lecture that Dr.Charles Galbreath gave was very educational and informational. There were things that I learned that I had not previously known. There were many things that I found interesting in this recorded lecture and that was one of the points that he made quite early. That point is: “African education was the oral instruction that emerged through music, dance, poetry, folk tales, rituals, proverbs, stories, and historical accounts” (Galbreath 24:42). Black people didn’t attend school so everything that they learned was through oral instruction. Another point that was interesting was that Black people were not allowed to congregate and worship the name of Jesus together. This resulted in the Black Church being referred to as an “invisible institution.” This caused them to get together after their masters had gone to sleep.

The Black Church gave slaves a sense of identity and community. This is something that was scarce during that time. Slaves are constantly being told what to do, as well as being treated poorly. So the church acts as an escape, a safe haven...a home. A home in a place where they don’t feel welcomed, or seen. They don’t feel respected or heard. They aren’t treated like people but like property because in the eyes of a the white man, that’s all they are and that’s all they’ll grow to be. Anything beyond that is a fantasy.

In conclusion the lecture was very interesting. I learned a lot about the Black Church. There was so much about the lecture that stood out to me. There was a lot of information to take in. It makes me upset how black people were treated and how they are still being treated today. It is absolutely heartbreaking because I know that we serve a God that doesn't stand for this.