

Davins Manasse

Dr. Nathaniel Perez

SOC147NOS

22 February, 2023

### Reflection - The Black Church

The Black Church video is an interesting lesson on the rise of the black church. It brought perspective and understanding to so many questions I was intrigued about. We see how and why the black church existed in the first place. It wasn't something that black people gathered together and did rebelliously to separate themselves from the local church. Instead, it was white racist Christians who emphasized segregation. It baffles me to see how individuals have the word of God and still live in darkness. The behavior is due to their distorted view of God. When you have a distorted view of God, you will have a distorted view of self, which will lead you to have a distorted view of others.

White Christians didn't fully understand that God emphasized equality through Christ. The cross has brought reconciliation between God and mankind. To deny someone the right to worship with you due to the color of their skin is not only prideful and arrogant but it's a disrespect to God's idea of equality and oneness in him. The video taught me that the whites encourage the blacks to have their church by themselves. That was referred to as the invisible institution. They had their own dogma and modus operandi. It was the only time they felt free.

The other aspect of the development of the black church that caught my attention was how the pastors and leaders went to HBCU colleges to get their education. Lastly, the first

denomination was the African Methodist Church. It was indeed an interesting video that brought much enlightenment and leaves me open to learn more about the history of the church.