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Christianity and the Culture of Relativism in the Anthropologies of Joseph Ratzinger and Stanley Hauerwas: (Rediscovering the Truth of Christianity)

By Charles Ssenyondo, STL, STD

Xlibris Corporation. Paperback. Condition: New. 312 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 0.9in. Joseph Ratzinger rates relativism as the greatest challenge of the Church today. What he describes is not a new phenomenon but his theology highlights its origins and magnitude. Stanley Hauerwas fights the same battle on the Protestant side. This book attempts to discover and streamline their deliberations, showing their meeting points and where they differ, and remedies they offer to combat the crisis. It seeks to argue out the best response to relativism that can most appropriately benefit both Western and African Christendom. Despite being a Western phenomenon, relativism is no longer an exclusively Western problem. It is, rather, imposing itself as the new world culture, depicting all other cultures and perspectives as inferior. Ratzinger christened this the Dictatorship of Relativism, while Hauerwas calls it Policing of Christian Values. While Ratzinger's greatest worry is relativism's denial of Truth (mostly from outside the ekklesia), for Hauerwas, relativism is not a force from without (of the Church) but part and parcel of the people's modern ways of life, in which Christian values are persecuted in the name of peaceful existence. Both perspectives point at a crisis of cultures where the...


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