

2007

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Recommended Citation

Dentice, Dianne, "Christian Identity Theology: Diversity, Dissension, and the Quest for a White Centered Universe [Abstract]" (2007). *Faculty Publications*. Paper 19.
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Christian Identity Theology: Diversity, Dissension, and the Quest for a White Centered Universe {Abstract}

This paper addresses the issue of Christian Identity (CI) Theology within the contemporary American separatist movement. There is dissension among certain groups as to the importance of religion to broader movement objectives. Some activists within the separatist movement firmly believe that whites are the chosen people of God and the United States is the Promised Land. There is also disagreement among Christian Identity adherents as to how to best define their belief system. I have done a qualitative analysis of Stormfront, an online discussion forum for white nationalists and I interviewed several white racial activists about religion and their belief system. I also attended two Klan rallies, one of which was a Klan group with strong CI ties. Findings indicate that the contemporary separatist movement lacks central organization and one strong leader to pull the various factions together. However, its publications, online presence, and adherents' belief in white superiority have resulted in a synthesis of racial ideology I term meta-racism which includes Christian Identity, paganism, and eugenics.