

AN INVESTIGATION OF TEACHINGS IN AFRICAN
INITIATED CHURCHES ON ATTITUDES TOWARDS
WEALTH IN SELECTED CHURCHES IN TIGANIA,
WEST DIVISION OF MERU COUNTY KENYA

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ABSTRACT.

The purpose of this study is to explore the intricate interconnection between religion, spirituality and pursuits of economic opportunities among religious entrepreneurs. The study investigates religious resources in the enactment of entrepreneurship. It focuses on the intersection between religion, spirituality, and wealth investments for providing understanding of religious entrepreneurship. The study more specifically seeks to investigate the dangers of the prosperity gospel devaluation of human life and worship of material things in the African-Instituted churches, to review the importance of teachings verses offerings. The study was to find out how serious these African Initiated were and how their teaching influence the believer in order to grow in numbers. There is need to balance profane and sacred in theological discussion. The prosperity gospel, the idea that God guarantees truly faithful believers physical health and financial wealth is not new. However, cable and satellite television broadcasting have turned prosperity preachers into celebrities that have followers similar to musicians and movie stars. A movement and a theology that once seemed like an aberration among black churches now appear to be mainstream. The problem of these churches is that, people tend to worship material things with respect that God is not central. Second, human being is not respected as the bearer of the image of God hence no respect for human right and dignity. Methods for collecting data, like questionnaires, interviews, archival research and participant observation to be used. The researcher has carefully analyzed the possible sources of errors in each of these techniques. The data was presented by use of mixed design in order to ensure that data collected was objective (valid and reliable). The basic interest of this study has been to critically examine Kenya's brand of Pentecostalism (prosperity gospels) and its implication for the work and mission of the church of Christ in Tigania West.

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