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building on insights into the social functions of language especially its interpersonal dimensions blount constructs a culturally sensitive model of interpretation that provides a sound basis for ethnographic and popular as well as historical critical readings of the biblical text blount's framework does more

than acknowledge the inevitability of multiple interpretations it foments them his analysis demonstrates the social intent of every reading and shows the influence of communicative context in such diverse readings of the bible as rudolf bultmann s the peasants of solentiname the negro spirituals and black church sermons then blount turns to mark s account of the trial of jesus where he shows how this hermeneutical scheme helps to assess the emergence and validity of multiple readings of the text and the figure of jesus blount s expansive interpretive proposal will help scholars and students open up the possibilities of the text without abandoning it

while the explicit althusserian engagement with marx s capital remained largely limited to reading capital after 1968 nick nesbitt argues this theoretical intervention remained insistent adopting the form of a general theory of materialist dialectic the book thus analyzes the althusserianist theory of a materialist dialectic across diverse sites including althusser s unpublished archive macherey s exposition of spinoza s ethics and badiou s logics of worlds while simultaneously bringing this fully developed theory of materialist dialectic to bear anew on the reading of capital itself to show that spinoza s influence on marx is far greater and that of hegel increasingly diminishing than has been previously thought

new historicism and cultural materialism emerged in the early 1980s as prominent literary theories and came to represent a revival of interest in history and in historicising literature their proponents rejected both formalist criticism and earlier attempts to read literature in its historical context and defined new ways of thinking about literature in relation to history this study explains the development of these theories and demonstrates both their uses and weaknesses as critical practices the potential future direction for the theories is explored and the controversial debates about their validity in literary studies are discussed

the oxford handbook of postcolonial biblical criticism is a comprehensive treatment of a relatively new form of scholarship generally speaking postcolonialism aims to critique and dismantle hegemonic worldviews and power structures while giving voice to previously marginalized peoples and systems of thought this approach has inevitably engaged with the text and reception of the bible a scripture that western colonizers introduced to and often imposed upon their colonial subjects with a globally diverse list of contributors the handbook aims to cover the perspective and context of the authors of the bible as well as the modern experiences of imperialism resistance decolonization and nationalism

john h mcclendon iii s clr james s notes on dialectics left hegelianism or marxism leninism is the first ever book devoted exclusively to james s magnum opus notes on dialectics hegel marx lenin the seed for this study was planted over thirty years

ago when james handed the author his personal copy of notes james s contribution to dialectical philosophy and his vast intellectual and scholarly output is rivalled only by the seemingly bottomless depths of mcclendon s own analysis and erudition mcclendon provides a thorough going critique of james s exploration into the dialectic of hegel marx and lenin while challenging all the seminal texts on james s notes a book of this magnitude is rare this is ever more the truth when it is focused on a giant like james who stands at the nexus of so many disciplines philosophy history sociology caribbean studies cultural studies african and african american studies clr james s notes on dialectics left hegelianism or marxism leninism is a must read for anyone concerned with how revolutionary theory is a guide to contemporary struggles

a spirit is haunting contemporary thought the spirit of hegel all the powers of academia have entered into a holy alliance to exorcize this spirit vitalists and eschatologists transcendental pragmatists and speculative realists historical materialists and even liberal hegelians which of these groups has not been denounced as metaphysically hegelian by its opponents and which has not hurled back the branding reproach of hegelian metaphysics in its turn progressives liberals and reactionaries alike receive this condemnation in light of this situation it is high time that true hegelians should openly admit their allegiance and without obfuscation express the importance and validity of hegelianism to the contemporary intellectual scene to this end a small group of hegelians of different nationalities have assembled to sketch the following book a book which addresses a number of pressing issues that a contemporary reading of hegel allows a new perspective on our relation to the future our relation to nature and our relation to the absolute

in this book walter brueggemann raises a variety of contemporary and intriguing questions on the relation of society and text in the old testament among them the hidden agendas that underlie the making and reading of scripture the conflictual tension in ancient israel the cry to god of the oppressed and god s response the political dimension of mercy theodicy violence horses and chariots brueggemann opens to a variety of readers a compelling picture of subversive paradigm and social possibility in the hebrew bible

in this book marx s theory of ideology is re examined and contrasted with the position of althusser on the basis of the marxist theory of ideology the existing reading methods are examined and found to be inadequate and a new method is proposed law is examined as a classical form of ideology and its role as an ideological force in society is described in this examination classical marxist theory is criticised a method for reading the ideological composition of law is outlined the book can be seen as a contribution to social theory and methodology and as a critique of recent structuralist approaches to ideology and

society it is a detailed attempt to explore the basic marxist position that ideologies are reflections of social relations and an attempt to see what this means in theory and in the practice of sociological research this book will be of considerable interest to students and researchers in the humanities and social sciences backcover

first published in 1977 this book presents a comprehensive and lucid guide through the labyrinths of semiology and structuralism perhaps the most significant systems of study to have been developed in the twentieth century the authors describe the early presuppositions of structuralism and semiology which claim to be a materialist theory of language based on saussure s notion of the sign they show how these presuppositions have been challenged by work following althusser s development of the marxist theory of ideology and by lacan s re reading of freud the book explains how the encounter of two disciplines psychoanalysis and marxism on the ground of their common problem language has produced a new understanding of society and its subjects it produces a critical re examination of the traditional marxist theory of ideology together with the concepts of sign and identity of the subject

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