

# Review of: "Clergy Vestment: An Analysis Of The Ecclesiological And Theological Journey Of African Pentecostal-Charismatic Churches In South Africa"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Clergy Vestment: An Analysis Of The Ecclesiological And Theological Journey Of African Pentecostal-Charismatic Churches In South Africa by Modisa Mzondi Qeios review

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1. There were no teachings, commands, and models about clergy vestment and church uniforms in the New Testament, and these were not explained in this study.
2. This intending author should tell his readers what the desktop research methodology means.
3. It is the study and not 'it.'
4. What is this numerical number one doing here? 'Church1'?
5. What is this numerical number one doing here? 'Church2'?
6. Deans (2014: 54-57) Close this gap between the publication year and the page.
7. Deans (2014: 54-57) mentions that after the Reformation, Christian leaders opted to use a plain black gown instead of the vestment associated with the Roman Catholic Church after Professor Andreas Karlstadt used his academic gown. Remove 'known.'
8. The main question is...  
This study's main research question is...
9. Let your reader know what you mean by the desktop research method.  
You have to briefly define desktop research and also mention why it is the best method for you to adopt to carry out this research.
10. Close this gap between the publication year and the page.
11. study
12. advances
13. One-sentence paragraphs are not allowed. Join this sentence to the above paragraph.
14. This appears to be a subheading....then bolden it.
15. Put a comma.  
For example,  
During the third century,...
16. Is

The first view is the dominant one within the Roman Catholic Church and Eastern Orthodox Churches to date.

17. Clergy vestment evolved from a simple outfit to an opulent outfit. Clergy vestment evolved from using a white colour, representing purity as an angelic garment mentioned in the Scriptures, to a mixture of various colours. Escue (1994:1) explains that:

Remove 'a'

18. Replace with 'a simple'

19. Clergy vestment evolved from using a white colour, representing purity as an angelic garment mentioned in the Scriptures, to a mixture of various colours.

My remark:

Mention the specific scriptures you are referring to here.

20. This quotation contains more than 30 words, so it should be indented.

21. This quotation contains more than 30 words, so it should be indented.

22. The latter emerged out of association with the American Methodist Episcopal Church (AME), while the former is an offshoot of American Zionism and Pentecostalism and other mission churches.

The former

23. This quotation contains more than 30 words, so it should be indented..

24. This quotation contains more than 30 words, so it should be indented.

25. This quotation contains more than 30 words, so it should be indented.

26. Over the years, clergy vestment and church uniform among African Indigenous Churches served to (a) mark sacredness, (b) identify priests and members of the church within the vast groups of African Indigenous Churches in South Africa, (c) communicate the teachings and beliefs of a church, and (d) fortify church members and leaders from evil/spiritual attacks. Larlham (1985:32-33) adds that clergy vestment and church uniform further linked them to African Traditional Religions (ATRs) and the new ideal of African Christianity.

My remarks:

Unfortunately, these services of clergy vestment and church uniform can never be proved with the New Testament. When Jesus, the Lord of the church, called his disciples, sent them on mission, and later prepared them on how they were to carry out the mission-mandate of the church, he never gave them any vestment or uniform. So, the so-called clergy vestment and every other form of church uniform represent human traditions and precepts that directly or indirectly militate against the will of God.

a) Clergy vestment and other varied kinds of church uniform do not mark sacredness in the New Testament

b) It does not mark out a true disciple or servant of God. An unbeliever can wear such attire and perform those functions, and there will not be any difference.

c) Clergy vestment communicates the teachings and beliefs of the churches of men and not that church Jesus is building, preparing to come and rapture.

d) In both the Old and New Testament scriptures, clergy vestment and other varied kinds of church uniform are never endowed with spiritual power to 'fortify church members and leaders from evil/spiritual attacks.'

e) The new ideal of African Christianity, which borders on clergy vestment and church uniforms, was not advanced in the New Testament.

The church is built upon the teachings, commands, and models of Jesus, not the models of the Old Testament. Jesus never taught, commanded, or modeled clergy vestment or any other form of church uniform.

27. Remove this, simply write, “traditional....”

28. Please put a comma here...this rejection, ...

29. Date and page numbers should be found and fixed.

30. Put the last name of the person you cited whose work here.

31. Discusses.

32. A local Zoé Bible Church website explains that the theological basis for embracing vestment is for “restoring protocol, order, ethics, and the grandeur of the house of God. 1 Samuel 10:4-10”<sup>4</sup>.

Remove.

33. Christ<sup>6</sup>.

What style of in-text citation are you using? Be consistent in using one.

34. 2019<sup>7</sup>.

What style of in-text citation are you using? Be consistent in using one.

35 2013<sup>8</sup>

What style of in-text citation are you using? Be consistent in using one.

36. He is behind the promotion and proliferation of the use of clergy vestments and the use of ecclesiological titles of Bishop and Archbishop among African Pentecostal-Charismatic Churches because of the theological influence of and association with academic institutions in the Commonwealth of Dominica that promote the use of vestments to display order and dignity in the church.

Use of ...

37. The use of vestments among archbishops, bishops, and priests in the Roman Catholic Church and Eastern Orthodox churches discussed above displays ecclesiastical hierarchy (see Ramsey n.d.:5).

Use of

38. The use of vestments among archbishops, bishops, and priests in the Roman Catholic Church and Eastern Orthodox churches discussed above displays ecclesiastical hierarchy (see Ramsey n.d.:5). Archbishops, bishops, and priests in these Christian traditions are theologically trained.

My remark

Sentimental statement

39. However, many of the pastors, prophets, apostles, bishops, and archbishops associated with SAUCIC have no basic theological training. Being offered the bishopric indirectly satisfies the theological training vacuum.

Remark

Sentimental statement

40. The article argues that the move to participate in the TRC and

tell your readers what TRC means

41. . They reflect a quest to acquire a new theological and

Remark

which theology?

Bible theology (Old or New Testament theology)

Or

African traditional theology?

42. The African Pentecostal-Charismatic Church leaders mentioned in this article present a development different from Christian leaders of African Indigenous Churches (AICs) who were resisting colonialism and missionary imperialism. They reflect a quest to acquire a new theological and ecclesiastical identity in the post-1994 South African context. The new democratic dispensation opened new doors and horizons that birthed new ecclesiological relations with other African Pentecostal Churches outside the country, in the African continent, the United States of America, and the Diaspora. These ecclesiastical relationships provided a break away from the pre-1994 South African Pentecostal church relations to new relations that brought ecclesiastical and theological identity.

Whilst Ethiopian church leaders, Mokone Mangena and others, found ecclesiastical and theological identity through associating with independent African American Churches who embraced the struggle of the emancipation of Africans in the United States of America (Roy 2000:102), the above-mentioned leaders found theological and ecclesiastical identity by associating with African Pentecostal Churches in the United States of America. Just like the Ethiopian church leaders, these leaders embraced the use of clergy vestment, liturgy (with some minor variations).

My remark

Ecclesiastical and theological identity that can never be proved with New Testament Theology...which Jesus and the his disciples modeled.

43 The objective of the article was to analyse the theological and ecclesiological trend of the use of clergy vestment among African Pentecostal-Charismatic Churches in the South Africa. The article traced the trend of using clergy vestment among African Pentecostal-Charismatic Churches in South Africa by looking at four prominent African Pentecostal-Charismatic Church pastors and two Pentecostal-Charismatic organisations. It first began by tracing clergy vestment in the first century among Church Fathers, the Roman Catholic Church, and the Eastern Orthodox churches. It then looked at the perceptions and the use of clergy vestments among African Independent Churches and the African sections of Classical Pentecostal Churches. The last section discussed three aspects that aid to understand the use of clergy vestment among African Pentecostal-Charismatic Churches in South Africa. The section showed that the theological and ecclesiastical shift in the use of clergy vestment among African Pentecostal-Charismatic Churches stem mainly from their association with African Pentecostals and related theological institutions in the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Dominica. This association provided them with a Pentecostal ecclesiological hierarchy, an ecclesiastical and theological identity that promote Pentecostal Christian leadership accountability.

My remark

Theology relates to what God says about himself and how God wants himself to be understood and worshiped. When

study is carried out to find out what God says about himself and how he wants himself to be worshipped, it is called theology. That is study of and about God.

It is wrong to call religion, what men do in their bid to identify with God or god , initiated by themselves theology.

So, the theological aspect of this study was not established.

#### Footnotes

1 Pentecostal-Charismatic Churches refers to independent churches established in the 1980s. (Anderson 2005 and Kgatle 2020)

#### My remark

All the footnotes were wrongly done.