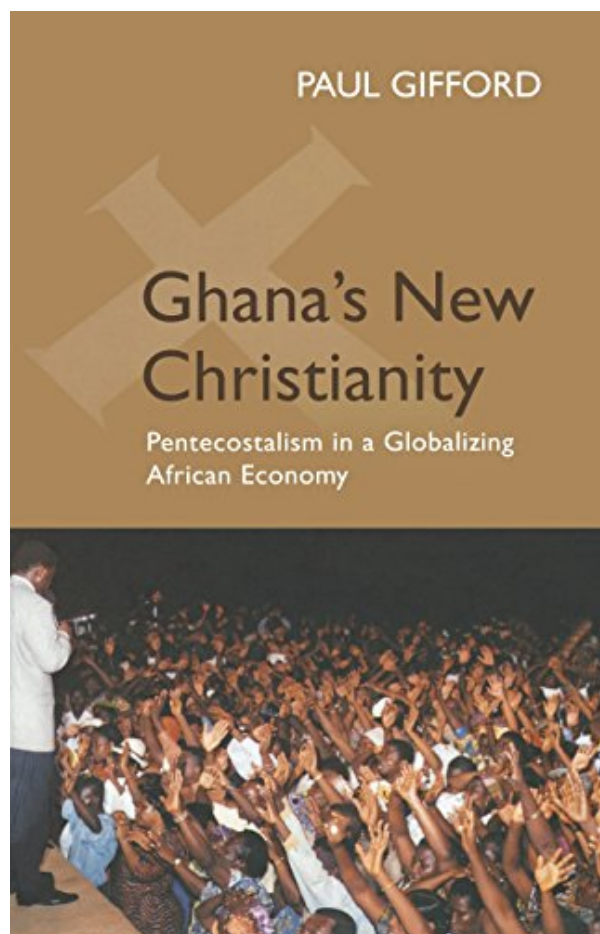


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"... a vibrant work that brings the reader into the plastic chair pews of these new churches, within earshot of the illustrious pastors who are so famous throughout Ghana. Gifford knows his subject intimately and has produced an insightful work about the biblical hermeneutics that are shaping the future of Christian beliefs."
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About the Author

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rich and perceptive

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This is an extraordinarily well researched and thoughtful study, addressing several aspects of Christianity in Ghana. Not only does Gifford provide rich detail of the preachers and their specific perspectives, but he analyzes the connections to the so-called "Prosperity Gospel" in the United States, with a beautiful, short section on its origins in the 19th century. In Ghana today, one cannot overestimate its impact. For example:

"The prosperity gospel is an integral part of Ghana's charismatic revival...these charismatic churches have grown by claiming to have an answer to Ghana's poverty...The aggressive, theologically driven quest for funds is the salient characteristic of many churches...It is justifiable to call this faith/prosperity gospel pervasive because it is not an incidental or an optional extra to this Christianity--it has been indispensable, for the seed faith element ('give and you will receive') has been the motor that has powered this entire explosion. All these buildings, pastors, programmes, vehicles, instruments and sound systems have had to be paid for, and in a situation of economic crisis."

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