

ELMER T.
CLARK

THE SMALL SECTS IN AMERICA

an authentic study of almost 200
little-known religious groups

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The Small Sects in America



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Small Sects In America:

The Small Sects in America Elmer Talmage Clark, 1957 Small Sects in America Elmer T. Clark, 1999-07-01 The principles of religious freedom untrammelled access to and the right of individual interpretation of the Holy Scriptures and the privilege of worship according to the individual conscience which were promulgated by the Protestant Reformation have given rise to a multiplicity of religious sects in the U S Chapters the sectarian spirit in American Christianity pessimistic or Adventist sects perfectionist or subjectivist sects charismatic or Pentecostal sects communistic sects legalistic or objectivist sects characteristics of the small sects egocentric or new thought bodies esoteric or mystical bodies Originally published in 1937 *America's Alternative Religions* Timothy Miller, 1995-01-01 This is a source of reliable information on the most important new and alternative religions covering history theology impact on the culture and current status It includes a chapter on the Branch Davidians **Introduction to New and Alternative Religions in America** William M. Ashcraft, Eugene V. Gallagher, 2006-10-30 Most new or alternative religious are gravely misunderstood by members of the religious mainstream Labeled cults or sects groups and their members are often ridiculed or otherwise disregarded as weird and potentially dangerous by the populace at large Despite their efforts at educating the general public the various anti and counter cult activists have in fact promoted much more mis understanding than accurate understanding of the religious lives of some of their fellow citizens Consequently they have helped to create a very hostile environment for anyone whose religious practices do not fit within a so called mainstream This set rectifies the situation by presenting accurate comprehensive authoritative and accessible accounts of various new and alternative religious movements that have been and are active in American society and it addresses ways of understanding new and alternative religions within a broader context Determining what actually constitutes a new or alternative religion is a subject of constant debate Questions arise as to a new faith s legitimacy beliefs methods of conversion and other facets of a religious movement s viability and place in a given culture How a religion gains recognition by the mainstream which often labels such new movements as cults is fraught with difficulty tension and fear Here experts delineate the boundaries and examine the various groups beliefs movements and other issues related to new faiths and alternative beliefs Readers will come away with a fuller understanding of the religious landscape in America today Volume 1 History and Controversies discusses the foundations of new and alternative religions in the United States and addresses the controversies that surround them This volume helps readers better understand what makes a new or alternative belief system a religion and the issues involved Volume 2 Jewish and Christian Traditions explores the various new religions that have grown out of these two Abrahamic faiths Groups such as the Shakers the People s Temple the Branch Davidians Jehovah s Witnesses and others are examined Volume 3 Metaphysical New Age and Neopagan Movements looks at Shamanism Spiritualism Wicca and Paganism among other movements as they have developed and grown in the U S These faiths have found new and devoted followers yet are often misunderstood Volume 4 Asian Traditions

focuses on those new and alternative religions that have been inspired by Asian religious traditions From Baha i to Soka Gakkai from Adidam to the Vedanta Society contributors look at a full range of groups practicing and worshiping in the U S today Volume 5 African Diaspora Traditions and Other American Innovations examines the various traditions linked to the African diaspora such as Rastafarianism Santeria and the Nation of Islam alongside traditions that are truly American incarnations like Scientology UFO religions and Heaven s Gate Some of the new and alternative religions covered in these pages include Shamanism Wicca Black Israelites Santeria Scientology Elan Vital Hare Krishna Soka Gakkai and many more

Religion in America Willard L. Sperry,2014-02-06 First published in 1945 this book was originally intended to convey some idea of the present state of religion in America *Religious Behaviour* Michael Argyle,2006-05-17 No study of religious practice ancient or modern is complete without reference to the work of sociologists on religious practice The volumes in The Sociology of Religion set of the International Library of Sociology explore the social economic and behavioural contexts of religious activity Contagious Conflict Arie Nicolaas Jan Den Hollander,1973 *Mystics and Messiahs* Philip Jenkins,2000-04-06 In *Mystics and Messiahs* the first full account of cults and anti cult scares in American history Philip Jenkins shows that contrary to popular belief cults were by no means an invention of the 1960s In fact most of the frightening images and stereotypes surrounding fringe religious movements are traceable to the mid nineteenth century when Mormons Freemasons and even Catholics were denounced for supposed ritualistic violence fraud and sexual depravity But America has also been the home of an often hysterical anti cult backlash Jenkins offers an insightful new analysis of why cults arouse such fear and hatred both in the secular world and in mainstream churches many of which were themselves originally regarded as cults He argues that an accurate historical perspective is urgently needed if we are to avoid the kind of catastrophic confrontation that occurred in Waco or the ruinous prosecution of imagined Satanic cults that swept the country in the 1980s Without ignoring genuine instances of aberrant behavior *Mystics and Messiahs* goes beyond the vast edifice of myth distortion and hype to reveal the true characteristics of religious fringe movements and why they inspire such fierce antagonism *The Statesman's Year-Book* S. Steinberg,2016-12-26 The classic reference work that provides annually updated information on the countries of the world *The Statesman's Year-Book 1962* S. Steinberg,2016-12-27 The classic reference work that provides annually updated information on the countries of the world Judaising Movements Tudor Parfitt,Emanuela Semi,2013-12-16 The history of Judaising movements has been largely ignored by historians of religion This volume analyzes the interplay between colonialism a Judaism not traditionally viewed as proselytising but which at certain points was struggling to heed the Prophets and become a light unto the Gentiles and the attraction for many different peoples of the rooted historicity of Judaism and by the symbolic appropriation of Jewish suffering This book will look at the role of colonialism in the development of Judaising movements throughout the world including New Zealand Japan India Burma and Africa Particular attention will be paid to the Lemba tribe of Southern Africa A remarkable parallel movement in

1930s Southern Italy will also be dealt with The history of the converts of San Nicandro is seen in the context of currents of Jewish universalism messianism and Zionism Gender issues are also discussed here as the converted women assumed powers they had not hitherto enjoyed

Training Disciplined Soldiers for Christ Tim W. Callaway,2013-04-17 The comparative scarcity of academic attention given Prairie Bible Institute located at Three Hills Alberta Canada serves as the primary motivation behind this book This work should therefore be regarded as an attempt to contribute to and refine the very small amount of research available regarding how Prairie Bible Institutes first half century should be understood and interpreted by students of North American church history Drawing on an insiders perspective of PBI former PBI staff kid Tim W Callaway challenges the adequacy and accuracy of Canadian scholar Dr John G Stackhouse Jr s inference that the kind of sectish evangelicalism that typified PBI in the twentieth century was substantially different from the characteristics that define the traditional understanding of American fundamentalism The undertaking contained in these pages advances the perspective that Prairie Bible Institute during the L E Maxwell era did in fact reflect the influence and attributes of American fundamentalism to a far greater extent than what Stackhouse allowed for in his research

The Holiness-Pentecostal Tradition Vinson Synan,1997-08-25 Called a pioneer contribution by Church History when it was first published in 1971 this volume has now been revised and enlarged by Vinson Synan to account for the incredible changes that have occurred in the church world in the last 25 years

Psychiatry and Religion Dinesh Bhugra,2013-04-15 The argument of this book is that the divide between psychiatry and religion is an artificial one and that there is much room for understanding the same phenomena from different perspectives In it thirteen senior mental health professionals and pastoral workers come together to explore what their different philosophies have to offer each other for the benefit of the individuals in their care The book as a whole sets the relationship between psychiatry and religion in historical context provides detailed information about specific religions and the significance of their belief systems for mental health management examines the relationship between psychopathology psychiatry and religion

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The Church of God and Saints of Christ Elly M. Wynia,2014-01-21 First Published in 1994 The Church of God and Saints of Christ was founded in Lawrence Kansas on November 5 1896 by William Saunders Crowdy During the first forty five years of his life Crowdy was a Baptist however in 1892 he began to have visions about establishing the true church Since its initial formation in Kansas the Church of God and Saints of Christ has spread widely in the United States and abroad It s most unusual feature of the faith is its synthesis of Jewish and Christian elements

A Religious History of the American People Sydney E. Ahlstrom,2004-01-01 This classic work winner of the 1973 National Book Award in Philosophy and Religion and Christian Century s choice as the Religious Book of the Decade 1979 is now issued with a new chapter by noted religious

historian David Hall who carries the story of American religious history forward to the present day Praise for the earlier edition An unusual and praiseworthy book It takes a modern almost anthropological view of history in which worship is a part of a web of culture along with play love dress and language B A Weisberger Washington Post Book World The most detailed most polished of the works in its tradition Martin E Marty New York Times Book Review An intellectual delight that one does not so much read as savor America The definitive one volume study by the leading authority Christianity Today No one writing or thinking hereafter about America s past will be able to ignore Ahlstrom s magisterial account of the religious element American Historical Review **The Statesman's Year-Book 1964-65** S. Steinberg,2016-12-26 The classic reference work that provides annually updated information on the countries of the world The Statesman's Year-Book 1965-66 S. Steinberg,2016-12-26 The classic reference work that provides annually updated information on the countries of the world

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