

What Does Native Salvation Look Like?

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Abstract.

Because of the nature in which the gospel was communicated in the colonial era, the recipients of that gospel had never have a chance to fully explore what it meant to be Christian as their own cultural selves. And, because of the way in which the Christianity was translated in the West and its forceful transmission to their subjected people, the delicate features of their own cultural worldview were never reflected in the making of their own theology. It is imperative that the new opportunity should be given to the people who had never given a chance before to explore the Christianity through their own cultural lenses and ideas. A natural process of transmission of Christian faith has been through languages and cultures of the peoples. But, a construction of local theology involves broader and deeper interactions with the entire culture since culture largely defines who they are as a people. The reason for reconstructing one's own cultural religious identity and connecting and attributing to their own Christian self-understanding may be obvious: validation of the authenticity of the peoplehood of God. The paper asks, What does Native salvation look like?, and discusses how the fundamental religious values embedded and survived, through the historical process, in a native American worldview can give understanding of the gospel to a native American person.