



# Dalit Theology and Dalit Liberation

Problems, Paradigms and Possibilities

Peniel Rajkumar, The United Theological College, India

New Critical Thinking in Religion, Theology and Biblical Studies



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In fulfilling the long-awaited need for a constructive and critical rethinking of Dalit theology this book offers and explores the synoptic healing stories as a relevant biblical paradigm for Dalit theology in order to help redress the lacuna between Dalit theology and the social practice of the Indian Church. Peniel Rajkumar's starting point is that the growing influence of Dalit theology in academic circles is incompatible with the praxis of the Indian Church which continues to be passive in its attitude towards the oppression of the Dalits both within and outside the Church. The theological reasons for this lacuna between Dalit theology and the Church's praxis, Rajkumar suggests, lie in the content of Dalit theology, especially the biblical paradigms explored, which do not offer adequate scope for engagement in praxis.

## Contents

Preface; Introduction: Answering some questions - the why, what and how of Dalit theology; Questioning some answers - critical analysis of Dalit theology; The way forward; A Christian ethical framework of action. Reading for Liberation: Revisiting Dalit Christology; Rethinking agency, re-signifying resistance; Re-configuring Dalit praxis - re-imagining the other; Conclusion; Bibliography; Index.

## About the Author

Peniel Rajkumar, an Anglican Priest, is a lecturer in Christian Social Ethics at The United Theological College, Bangalore, India. Prior to coming to India he served as an Assistant Curate at St. John the Evangelist Church, Upper Holloway in the Diocese of London and was involved in part-time lecturing at the University of Kent at Canterbury.

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