

# Dissolving Dream The Improbable Story Of The First Baptist Maori Mission

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this study focuses on the historical interactions between māori and baptists through the lower waikato baptist māori

mission in the mid 20th century in aotearoa new zealand it was unique in that it was the first mission amongst māori supported by the wider baptist union of churches and would precipitate an outburst of multiple works across the country however much of its progression eventual conclusion and overall impact has been largely undocumented forgotten except by those who experienced it directly an attempt to fill the gap in the literature this qualitative study positions mātauranga māori at the centre of the research using oral narratives from māori knowledge held in māori communities about māori baptist engagement in the lower waikato is explored as is the significance of these stories for the baptist movement generally utilising kaupapa māori methodology the various phases of the mission and other significant events that followed are historically and theologically interpreted from māori perspectives as a counterbalance to other forms of telling and writing history by doing so the study weaves together unique māori christian perspectives providing a timely contribution to local and national dialogue about christian mission and ministry in aotearoa new zealand today

this book examines encounters between the christian church and maori christian faith among maori changed from maori receiving the missionary endeavours of pakeha settlers to the development of indigenous expressions of christian faith partnerships between maori and pakeha in the mainline churches and the emergence of destiny church the book looks at the growth development and adaptation of christian faith among maori people and considers how that development has helped shape new zealand identity and society it explores questions of theology historical development socio cultural influence and change and the outcomes of pakeha interactions with maori

the explosive expansion of christianity in africa and asia during the last two centuries constitutes one of the most remarkable cultural transformations in the history of mankind because it coincided with the spread of european economic and political hegemony it tends to be taken for granted that christian missions went hand in hand with imperialism and colonial conquest in this book historians survey the relationship between christian missions and the british empire from the seventeenth century to the 1960s and treat the subject thematically rather than regionally or chronologically many of these themes are treated at length for the first time relating the work of missions to language medicine anthropology and decolonization other important chapters focus on the difficult relationship between missionaries and white settlers women and mission and the neglected role of the indigenous evangelists who did far more than european or north american missionaries to spread the christian religion belying the image of christianity as the white man s religion

the study is concerned with the study of relationships which exist between historical religions and society which include the influence which religion has upon and its significance for society and the influence of society upon religion p 8 introduction

vols for 1892 1941 contain the transactions and proceedings of the society

this extensive resource traces significant aspects of baptist history from the seventeenth through the twentieth centuries it surveys basic beliefs events and experiences evident in baptist communities leonard explores the effect of the baptist identity on not just america but on the world and includes the emergence of english british irish and caribbean baptists to name a few also skillfully covered is the influence of the baptist faith in the united states including the development of african american baptists and the numerous denominations that emerged in the twentieth century

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