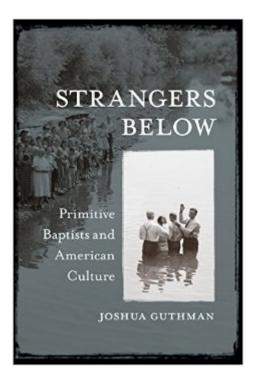
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Strangers Below: Primitive Baptists And American Culture





Synopsis

Before the Bible Belt fastened itself across the South, competing factions of evangelicals fought over their faith's future, and a contrarian sect, self-named the Primitive Baptists, made its stand. Joshua Guthman here tells the story of how a band of antimissionary and antirevivalistic Baptists defended Calvinism, America's oldest Protestant creed, from what they feared were the unbridled forces of evangelical greed and power. In their harrowing confessions of faith and in the quavering uncertainty of their singing, Guthman finds the emotional catalyst of the Primitives' early nineteenth-century movement: a searing experience of doubt that motivated believers rather than paralyzed them. But Primitives' old orthodoxies proved startlingly flexible. After the Civil War, African American Primitives elevated a renewed Calvinism coursing with freedom's energies. Tracing the faith into the twentieth century, Guthman demonstrates how a Primitive Baptist spirit, unmoored from its original theological underpinnings, seeped into the music of renowned southern artists such as Roscoe Holcomb and Ralph Stanley, whose "high lonesome sound" appealed to popular audiences searching for meaning in the drift of postwar American life. In an account that weaves together religious, emotional, and musical histories, Strangers Below demonstrates the unlikely but enduring influence of Primitive Baptists on American religious and cultural life.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great. The writing itself had a nice rythym to it. I think it captured the Primitive Baptist mindset. <u>Download to continue reading...</u> Strangers Below: Primitive Baptists and American Culture Primitive Culture Volume I (Dover Thrift Editions) Primitive Culture, Volume II (Dover Thrift Editions) Primitive Physic: An Easy and Natural Method of Curing Most Diseases Savage Harvest: A Tale of Cannibals, Colonialism, and Michael Rockefeller's Tragic Quest for Primitive Art Wide Cut Primitive Rug Hooking Primitive Hooked Rugs for the 21st Century Coming of Age in Samoa: A Psychological Study of Primitive Youth for Western Civilisation (Perennial Classics) Comprender una sociedad primitiva / Understanding a Primitive Society (Spanish Edition) Baptists in the Balance: The Tension Between Freedom and Responsibility Quakers and Baptists in Colonial Massachusetts Baptists and Their Doctrines (Library of Baptist Classics) Cruise Confidential: A Hit Below the Waterline: Where the Crew Lives, Eats, Wars, and Parties? One Crazy Year Working on Cruise Ships (Travelers' Tales) The Anabaptists and Contemporary Baptists: Restoring New Testament Christianity Baptists and Reformed in Dialogue Trapped: How the World Rescued 33 Miners from 2,000 Feet Below the Chilean Desert Baptists through the Centuries: A History of a Global People Not a Silent People: Controversies That Have Shaped Southern Baptists Baptists in America: A History What Baptists Believe

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