



Book Launch: Friday, 27 February 2015, 15:00 hours at FENZA

Faith & Encounter Centre Zambia, Lusaka

Unseen Worlds: Dealing with Spirits, Witchcraft, and Satanism

Author: Bernhard Udelhoven

Publisher: FENZA

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472 pages

Witchcraft accusations and witchcraft experiences break down communities. In Zambia, as in other African countries, they give rise to much violence and abuse. Under the surface, they hinder many development projects and cooperation.

Christian Churches can play a unique role in addressing witchcraft related violence, if they manage to enter the social, symbolic and spiritual worlds in which witchcraft plays itself out. Church answers have largely focused either on sidelining beliefs in witchcraft and spirits into the world of superstition or on magnifying them within the idiom of spiritual warfare, which can trap the helper in a maze of suspicions, fear and accusations. *Unseen Worlds* offers a third way for the helper, which is person-centred, not demon-centred, building on people's own experiences and moving towards transformation.

The book addresses pastors, teachers, counsellors, prayer companions, deliverance ministries, college students, historians, anthropologists, development workers and family helpers.

Unseen Worlds offers a culturally sensitive approach to spiritual healing and deliverance that does not divorce spiritual matters from corresponding human conditions, relationships and family issues. The approach starts with the affected person's own experience and concepts. While categories of "true" and "false" are not easily applied to spiritual attacks, any experience that touches a person on a deep level always has a spiritual dimension that this book explores and responds to.

The approach was developed during a research period of eight years, commissioned by FENZA. It builds on relational experiences of life and Zambian notions of selfhood and goes beyond the timeworn divide of the "superstitious" versus the "real". Addressing the pastoral Christian ministry, the book proceeds from a Catholic and ecumenical perspective, while building on insights of the social sciences, of experienced charismatic ministries, and also of Zambian traditional healers, cultural experts and mediators in instances of witchcraft accusations.

Author: Bernhard Udelhoven, Catholic priest working in Zambia since 1989, studied theology and social anthropology. He headed the FENZA research project on Satanism in Zambia, of which this book is a fruit. Presently he works in St. Lawrence Parish, Misisi (Lusaka).

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Website with downloadable high-resolution pictures and further information:

www.fenza.org/unseen_worlds.html

The book will be available for sale during the launch at a subsidised price of 80 Kwacha.

How to help people affected by witchcraft or demons

How to intervene when witchcraft accusations rip communities apart

How to help pupils who claim contact with occult forces

How to help people accused to be witches or Satanists