


# James Arthur Baldwin



*“No one in Christendom appears seriously to be frightened by the operation and the nature of white power.”*

*—James A. Baldwin*

Baldwin was an unapologetic radical and social critic as well as a playwright and author. He was critical of Christianity, the United States' anti-communist agenda, and how that sentiment props up white supremacy, racism, and power.

On July 7, 1968 Baldwin stood in for Martin Luther King, Jr. three months after King's assassination to deliver a speech entitled, "White Racism and the World Community," at the World Council of Churches event in Uppsala, Sweden.

He discussed a stage of Kwame Ture's political development, observing his transition, "from petitioner to revolutionary," in relation to the idea of self-determination, Black Power, and white power. Listen to the recording from the PHS archives.