

## W.E.B. DuBois – The Souls of Black Folk, ch. 1, 2, 10

## Forethought:

Two major themes: The “color line” & the “veil”

-Color line as a historical timeline of race

-Veil as a barrier to advancement

## Ch. 1:

p.45 – “Twoness” of the American Negro

African side and American side – The embrace and combining of the dichotomy will be easier than isolating one or the other

p.43 – Avoidance of real issue – “How does it feel to be a problem?”

p.49 – Being a poor man is hard enough, being a poor race in a society controlled by economics is “very bottom of hardships”.

p.51 – Efforts are in vain; impossibility of climbing out of the plight they are in.

p.52 – All issues need to be addressed once – liberty, culture, education – all need to be established in order to truly be free, but none can be accomplished alone without losing some of the others.

p.52 – Power of the ballot; Freedom as necessities to assure that there is no “second slavery”. But the power to vote is not enough.

## Ch. 2:

p. 57 – attempts at employment

p. 58 – No consistent approach to what to do with freedmen latching onto Union armies

Reasons for latching onto armies?

Freedom is worthless without employment, shelter, and opportunity.

p. 59 – Field Order #15 – lays out territory for freemen

Gov’t bureaus to aid in employment, land, schooling, etc.

p. 70 – Gov’t bureaus fail to have significant or universal effect until the Freedmen’s Bureau is established

p. 71 – “Thrifty” Negroes do well to expand lands owned

Freedmen’s Bureau provides aid to the youths with schooling

Ch. 10:

p. 216 – 2 characteristics of religion:

- 1) almost entirely Baptist & Methodist
- 2) social institution antedated home life

p. 217 – Church existed during slavery and in the first days of emancipation, before there was ever a private home life for freedmen.

p. 212 – Music of religion originates in Africa, serves as a tie to a previous culture

p. 214 – “Church stands as conservator of morals, strengthener of family life, and final authority on what is good and right.”

p. 216 – Importance of Negro Preacher; his role as leader of the people – “bard, physician, judge, and priest”...ties to the African medicine man or tribal chief.

Comparisons Between Hebrew Prophets and Negro Preachers:  
Prophets role is less all-encompassing, but he is still the undoubted leader of the people. The Preacher is the leader in almost all aspects of life.

p. 223-225 – Differences in attitude between Northern and southern Negroes

p. 224 – “The price of culture is a Lie.”

p. 225 – “For White People Only” sentiment in last paragraph of the chapter.