

Reverend Marcia L. Dyson

The Reverend Marcia L. Dyson has been hailed as one of our nation's foremost religious figures and spiritual writers. Her special brand of wisdom and insight has been shared in leading pulpits across America, on lecture stages at many of the nation's outstanding universities, and on the pages of some of our country's most provocative magazines and books. As an ordained minister, stirring public speaker and gifted writer, Rev. Dyson has carried out a ministry of healing to wounded women, neglected children and suffering men throughout America and around the globe.

Rev. Dyson is a native of Chicago, where she attended high school and the University of Illinois and Chicago State University, where she graduated with a degree in business. She served as the first chief of staff for Operation Push's International Trade Bureau under the leadership of Rev. Jesse Louis, Sr. Rev. Dyson became a prominent media and public relations specialist, serving as a vice-president of some of Chicago's leading public relations firms, including the Margie Korshack and Robert Dale Agencies. She was also appointed by Mayor Richard Daley to serve as the Public Information Officer for the Mayor's Office of Special Events for the City of Chicago.

In recent years, Rev. Dyson has gained wide notice for her lucid, eloquent essays that have probed the personal, political and religious dimensions of the black female experience. She has treated the historic strengths and gender inequalities of the black church. Her path-breaking essays on these subjects have appeared in *Essence Magazine*, where she serves as a Contributing Writer. Rev. Dyson is busy at work on several books, including a novel entitled *Don't Call Me Angel* that explores the spiritual development of an African-American woman, as well as the cultural and racial elements of the sixties and seventies, and a spiritual memoir entitled *God Sings Soprano: Discovering the Female Voice of God*. Whether she appears in the pulpit, on the auditorium stage or the printed page, Rev. Marcia L. Dyson is one of our country's most provocative, insightful and healing voices

Currently, Rev. Dyson is a Research Associate at the University of Pennsylvania, where she heads the module on the Brazilian Diaspora for the Africana Studies Program. She is also a regular cultural and political commentator on WHUR-FM radio in Washington, DC where she speaks to truth and power on issues concerning race, gender inequality, international politics and national concern.