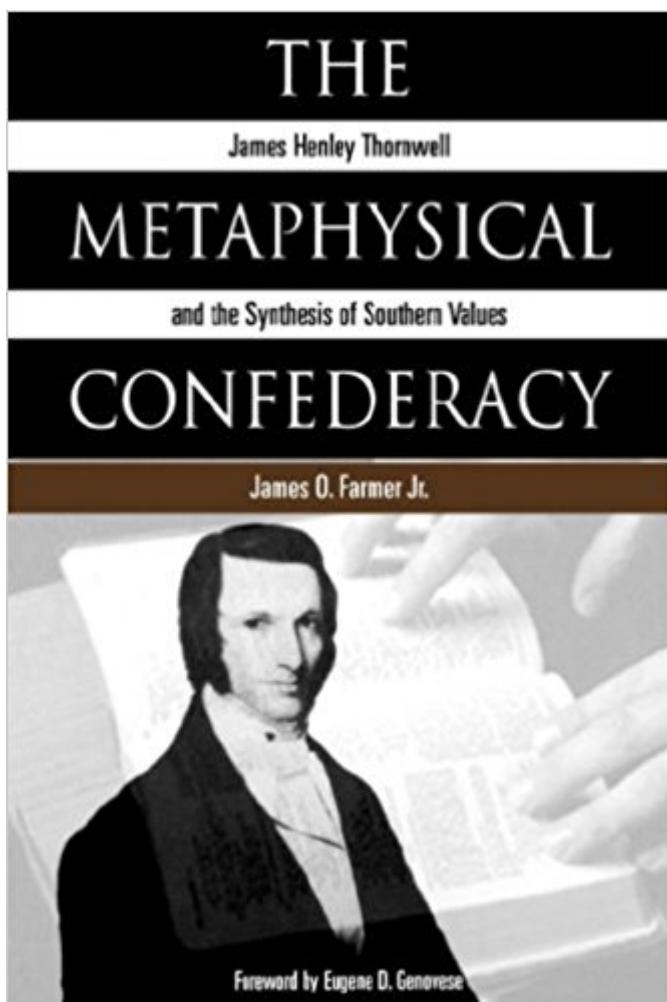


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# The Metaphysical Confederacy: James Henley Thornwell And The Synthesis Of Southern Values



## **Synopsis**

Book by Farmer, James Oscar Jr.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"James O. Farmer's intellectual biography of James Henley Thornwell...is a major contribution to southern--indeed, to American--intellectual and religious history." -- Ralph E. Luker, author of *The Social Gospel in Black and White*"This is a book to be read and pondered for insights into the enduring dilemma of race, religion, and politics in American life." -- John M. Mulder, president, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

James O. Farmer, Jr. is professor of history at the University of South Carolina, Aiken.

He makes the argument that the Old South, its finest intellectual hour seen in Thornwell, was much superior intellectually than the North. By the way, this is published by the scholarly Mercer University Press, so it ain't no hick from the sticks writing. Thornwell also warned of the coming religious crisis, that which we call the Civil War. While criticizing unbiblical aspects of Southern slavery, he primarily warned against the rising humanistic and unitarian tide from the North which would overwhelm the South, not only militarily, but also--and more deadly--spiritually. If I can restate the thesis in different terms: with the fall of the Confederacy, we saw the last bastion of a thoroughly Christian civilization destroyed. America would move from a decentralized republic to a consolidated Empire (which subsequent decades proved chillingly).

Have not read it yet; but have read other things by and about him. The book arrived in good time; as well as in good condition, as advertized.

Dr. Farmer proves himself to be an expert on his subject matter. He develops his themes superbly and keeps his reader interested and involved. An excellent display of talent and knowledge!

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