Langston Hughes is a literary figure that today epitomizes blackness and black art. During the span of his career he engaged with political and social issues that revolved around blackness and it was this very engagement that caused trouble for Hughes. Following the release of his poem “Goodbye Christ”, which was published in 1932 without his permission, Langston Hughes faced numerous consequences for the radical tone of the poem. “Goodbye Christ” is a poem that boldly rejects Christianity and Capitalism through an evaluation of the use of religion in America. Hughes also uses “Goodbye Christ” to comment on the institution of slavery and the fact that African Americans would no longer be manipulated for the use of whites. He dispels Christ along with that manipulation and claims independence through the use of Communism. Through this poem Langston Hughes shows obvious support for the Communist party and this support was the source of his suffering. J. Edgar Hoover, the Director of the FBI was the first to draw attention to Hughes’ radicalism and this attention would snowball until Langston Hughes was forced to denounce his support for the Soviet Union. His life began to get even more complicated as his reputation became tarnished and his writing took a lighter tone; this tone change created tension between Hughes and other black writers who felt as if he had sold out. The social climate during the time that this occurred was racially charged and Langston Hughes’ life serves as a lens through which to analyze the position of Blacks in Society. Using the poem “Goodbye Christ” as well as a evaluation of the consequences Hughes suffered there after, this thesis will discuss the development of the black voice and will shed light on how social context would shape Langston Hughes’ writing.