



Religion and Revolution in Mexico's North: Even Unto Death . . . Tengamos Fe

Philip R. Stover

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Religion and revolution reverberated through northern Mexico like the thunder and lightning of its wild and fierce storms. *Religion and Revolution* in Mexico's North reveals the motivation behind the madness and the role religion played in the very struggle for the soul of Mexico. During the revolution, many lived and died; lost in a thousand fields and unnamed pueblos, meaningless except to the few who knew and loved them, and who would never see them again. Whatever their cause, in the words of Philippians 2:8, they were faithful, even unto death.

This award-winning book is for those who love Mexico and who want a research-based, yet highly readable account of the role religion played in the conflict. Often lost among the myths were the millions driven by forces they couldn't comprehend. They were knights, bishops, castles, and yes, pawns in the revolutionary chess matches that nearly resulted in the checkmate of Mexican civilization.

This book, appropriate for a great backyard read or for a college-level supplementary textbook will engage the reader with a narrative style that is backed by over 1400 citations and 400 references. It is a history of the intersection of religion and revolution in the history of Mexico. Special focus is placed on the north of Mexico and the Mexican revolution time period. Read about curanderos, Cientificos, Cristeros, revolutionaries, healers, and those who gave their lives as martyrs for their faith. Read about how the Catholic Church was the dominant force in Mexico for centuries and how it combined with the Spanish military in the conquest of Mexico. Learn about Mormons, Mennonites, and Masons as they struggled, yet wielded influence in revolutionary Mexico. Read about how Protestants grew in influence during the revolution, especially in the form of Pentecostalism. Discover how Protestant theology drove, what in essence was a revolutionary faith. Understand how and why Protestantism grew in Mexico and gained support from liberals.

Religion and Revolution explains how popular religion has always been grounded in the Mexican village and how personal faith, more than priestly formalities drives local Mexican religion. The reader will learn about the personal faith of the major revolutionaries in the north of Mexico including Porfirio Diaz, Francisco Madero, Pascual Orozco, Victoriano Huerta, Pancho Villa, Alvaro Obregon, Venustiano Carranza, and Plutarco Elias Calles. Learn about all the forms of anticlericalism active in Mexico during the revolutionary time frame. The reader will better understand how religion worked, in many cases as a primary cause of the various revolutionary forces that rocked Mexico for decades. Discover why people were willing to be martyred as advocates for faith, or as those who fought to diminish its power, especially as represented in Mexico's Catholic Church.

It took Phil Stover four years to write this book, but La Llorona has been crying for her children for centuries. She sobs for all those who have been lost in Mexico's turbulent past and present. Listen carefully, dear reader. Perhaps in the pages of this book you too will hear her cries!

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