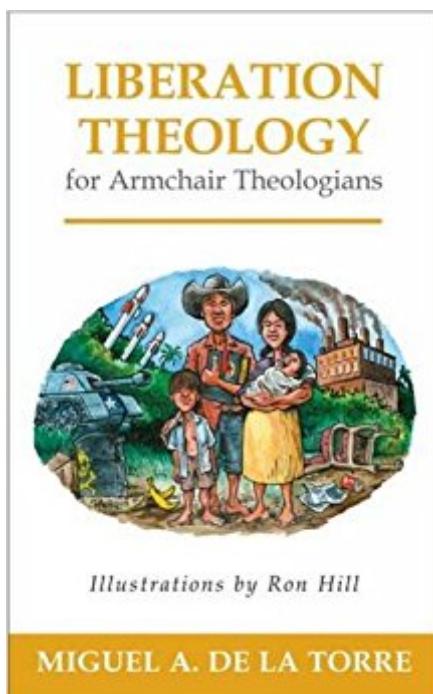


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Liberation Theology For Armchair Theologians



Synopsis

In this helpful addition to the Armchair Theologians series, Miguel A. De La Torre provides a concise overview of the global religious movement known as liberation theology that focuses on defining the major themes of this movement, as well as dispelling some common misconceptions. Liberation theology attempts to reflect upon the divine as understood from the poor, the marginalized, and the disenfranchised. The key figures, historical developments, and interfaith manifestations are all explored in this thorough introduction. Expertly written by De La Torre and accompanied by Ron Hill's illustrations, this book will serve as a primary text for those who may have little knowledge of or have never heard of liberation theology.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Miguel A. De La Torre is Professor of Social Ethics and Latino/a Studies at Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado, and the author or editor of more than twenty-five books, including *Beyond the Pale: Reading Theology from the Margins*. He was the 2012 President of the Society of Christian Ethics.

A very good read! I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in liberation theology and justice for people who live in the margins.

Good read

As an historian of theology, I was interested to familiarize myself more with the modern concept of Liberation Theology. Unfortunately this book left much to be desired. Unlike the others in the series, it was written with a strong bias that came through in every page. It isn't an historical work as much as a polemical one, and it's difficult to get through the bog of presumptions, assumptions, and preferential tilt. I like the Armchair Theologian series, but I fear they chose the wrong author for this subject. I prefer my history without inclination, prejudice, or an agenda, and this book proffered all three with undesired generosity. If you're already a fan of Liberation Theology and are looking for a book to regurgitate your talking points, this is it. If you're looking for an historical introduction to Liberation Theology, look elsewhere.

Enjoyed reading the book and becoming familiar with the concept of Liberation Theology. As Christians I am just always amazed how we separate ourselves from other Christians of different Countries, and write in favor of our own ethnicity (Latino) as I thought was emphasized here. That was a damper for me, because all races have experienced injustices in the past. The US is full of down trotted Immigrants. I am one of them. Europe was invaded and forced into Christianity by the Romans, just as the Indians were by the Spanish European Conquerors etc. It always amazes me that some would or could conceive in a justice of past historic events, two hundred or of a thousand years ago. It reasons to me more of a perpetuation or a revenge cycle masked as Justice (alas, and eye for an eye). What happens when your not being able to repair or do justice to past historic events, (which I think is not possible no matter the amount of money or aid one pays or on to war) but repents, learns from the sufferings, does not repeat it, forgives one another as God has forgiven us, and remember that no Nation is greater or incapable of meting out horrific and cruel injustices when their survival is threatened. The book was a good read, and his knowledge of political events amazing, (learned a lot), but it left me with little realistic steps to reconcile the past with the present. For me it is an offering of a "wanting justice", of wrongs committed by others from the political and economical business arena/spectrum of the past and present, but no reconcilable new beginnings or systems. The Theology of HOPELESSNESS is not the beginning or the end for me, but the recognition that a change in attitude and thinking, knowledge and perception of the "other" unknown, as well as dialogue is needed.

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