









G. K. Chesteron:

An adventure is an inconvenience
rightly considered.

An inconvenience is an adventure
wrongly considered.

JANUARY ADVENTURE 2020



what's something that struck you from the lectures today?

what in your life experience made this especially interesting or impactful?

NOT - lecture to your thoughts, opinions, etc.

RATHER - lecture to your experience, story, real life

uncovering the family secrets

for slides - go to
www.brianmclaren.net



THE GREAT SPIRITUAL MIGRATION

A spiritual migration

from system of belief to way of life/
way of love



A theological migration

from violent supreme being
to nonviolent Spirit of Jesus



A walk from a subway to a seminary
shortly after 9/11/01



The genocide card in your back pocket



The history we don't tell ourselves

1st - 2nd Century: Anti-semitism

2nd - 3rd Century: Renewed suppression of women

4th Century: Conversion of/by Constantine

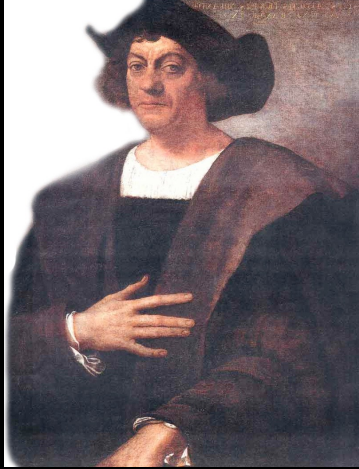
Multiple Centuries: Burning of witches

Multiple Centuries: Crusades

15th Century: Doctrine of Discovery

16th - 19th Centuries: Global Conquest/ African Slave Trade

In Fourteen Hundred and Ninety-Two, Columbus sailed the ocean blue.



In Fourteen Hundred and Fifty-Two, Pope Nicholas told European Christians what to do.

“...invade, search out, capture, vanquish, and subdue all Saracens and pagans whatsoever, and other enemies of Christ wheresoever placed, and the kingdoms, dukedoms, principalities, dominions, possessions, and all movable and immovable goods whatsoever held and possessed by them and to reduce their persons to perpetual slavery, and to apply and appropriate to himself and his successors the kingdoms, dukedoms, counties, principalities, dominions, possessions, and goods, and to convert them to his and their use and profit.” - Pope Nicolas V, Romanus Pontifex, 1452-4, Doctrine of Discovery





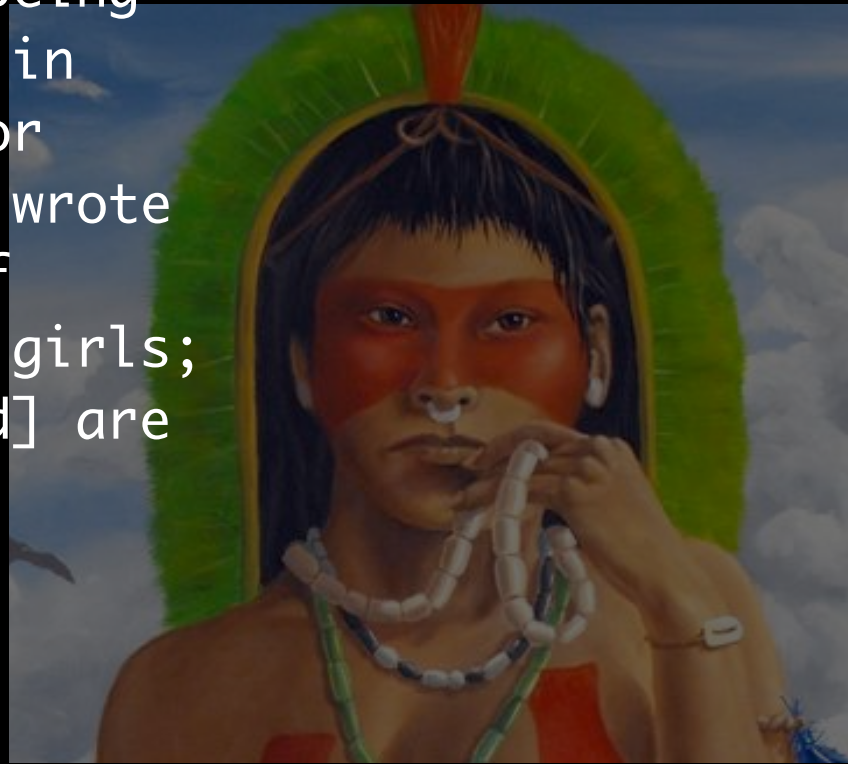
1495

2nd Voyage Return Cargo: 1600
male and female Taino slaves
for Spain

“It is possible, with the
name of the Holy Trinity, to
sell all the slaves which it is
possible to sell ... Here there
are so many of these slaves ...
although they are living things
they are as good as gold.”



The Spaniards who remained in Hispaniola were encouraged to take Taino slaves “in the amount desired.” Columbus himself gave a teenage girl to one of his crew, Miguel Cuneo, for his personal “use.” Cuneo wrote that she “resisted with all her strength” when he attempted to have sex with her, so he “thrashed her mercilessly and raped her.” Being given a Taino woman to rape was, in fact, a popular “company perk” for Columbus’s men. Columbus himself wrote to a friend, “There are plenty of dealers who go about looking for girls; those from nine to ten [years old] are now in demand.”

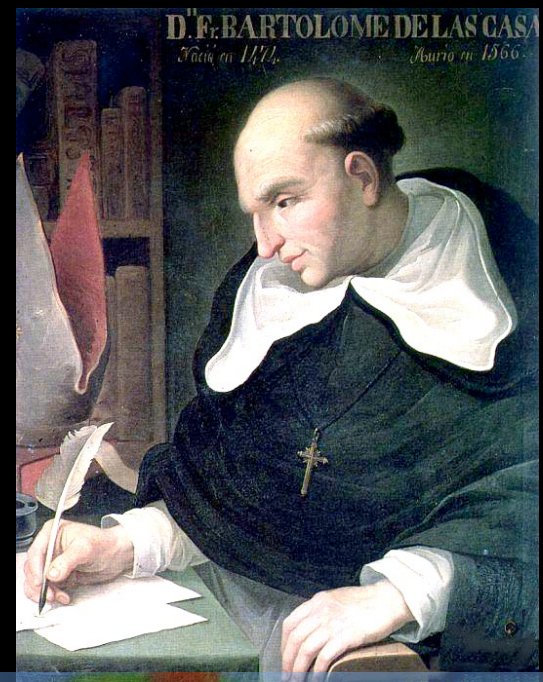


[W]e ask and require that you . . . acknowledge the Church as the ruler and superior of the whole world and the high priest called Pope and in his name the king and queen . . . our lords, in his place, as superiors and lords and kings of these islands and this mainland . . . , and that you consent and permit that these religious fathers declare and preach to you [I]f you do not do this or if you maliciously delay in doing it, I certify to you that with the help of God we shall forcefully enter into your country and shall make war against you in all ways and manners that we can, and shall submit you to the yoke and obedience of the Church and of their highnesses . . . , and we shall take away your goods and shall do to you all the harm and damage that we can, . . . and we protest that the deaths and losses that shall accrue from this are your fault . . .

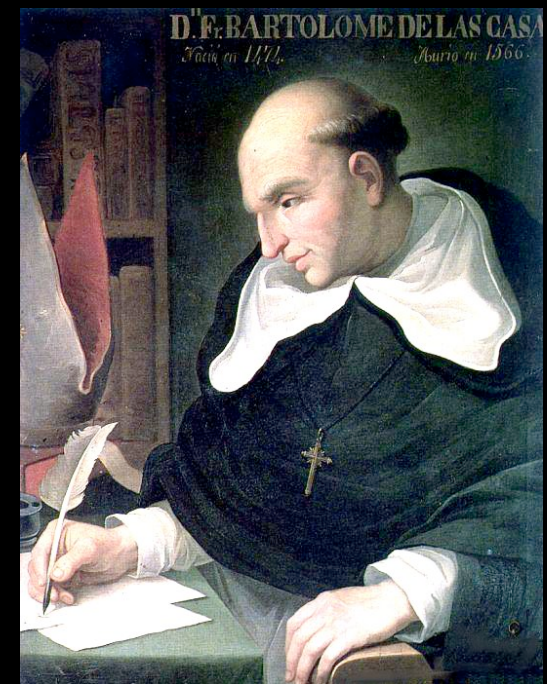
From the Spanish Requerimiento of 1513



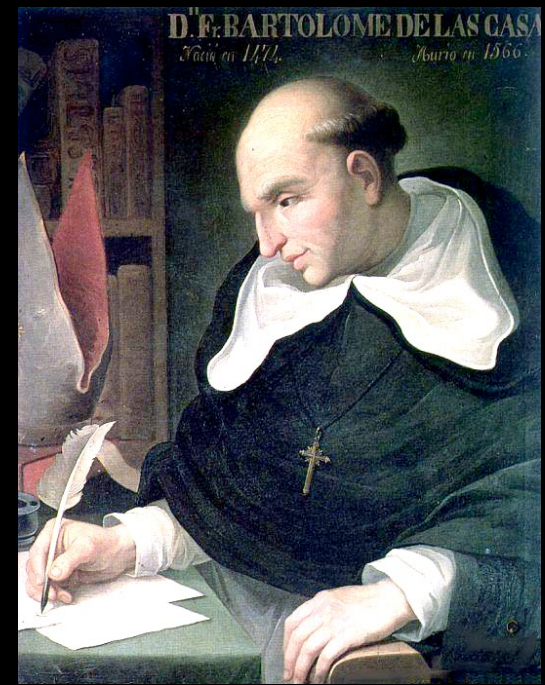
With my own eyes I saw Spaniards cut off the nose and ears of Indians, male and female, without provocation, merely because it pleased them to do it. ...Likewise, I saw how they summoned the caciques and the chief rulers to come, assuring them safety, and when they peacefully came, they were taken captive and burned.... They laid bets as to who, with one stroke of the sword, could split a man in two or could cut off his head or spill out his entrails with a single stroke of the pike.... They attacked the towns and spared neither the children nor the aged nor pregnant women nor women in childbed, not only stabbing them and dismembering them but cutting them to pieces as if dealing with sheep in the slaughter house.



They took infants from their mothers' breasts, snatching them by the legs and pitching them headfirst against the crags or snatched them by the arms and threw them into the rivers, roaring with laughter and saying as the babies fell into the water, "Boil there, you offspring of the devil! ... They made some low wide gallows on which the hanged victim's feet almost touched the ground, stringing up their victims in lots of thirteen, in memory of Our Redeemer and His twelve Apostles, then set burning wood at their feet and thus burned them alive.



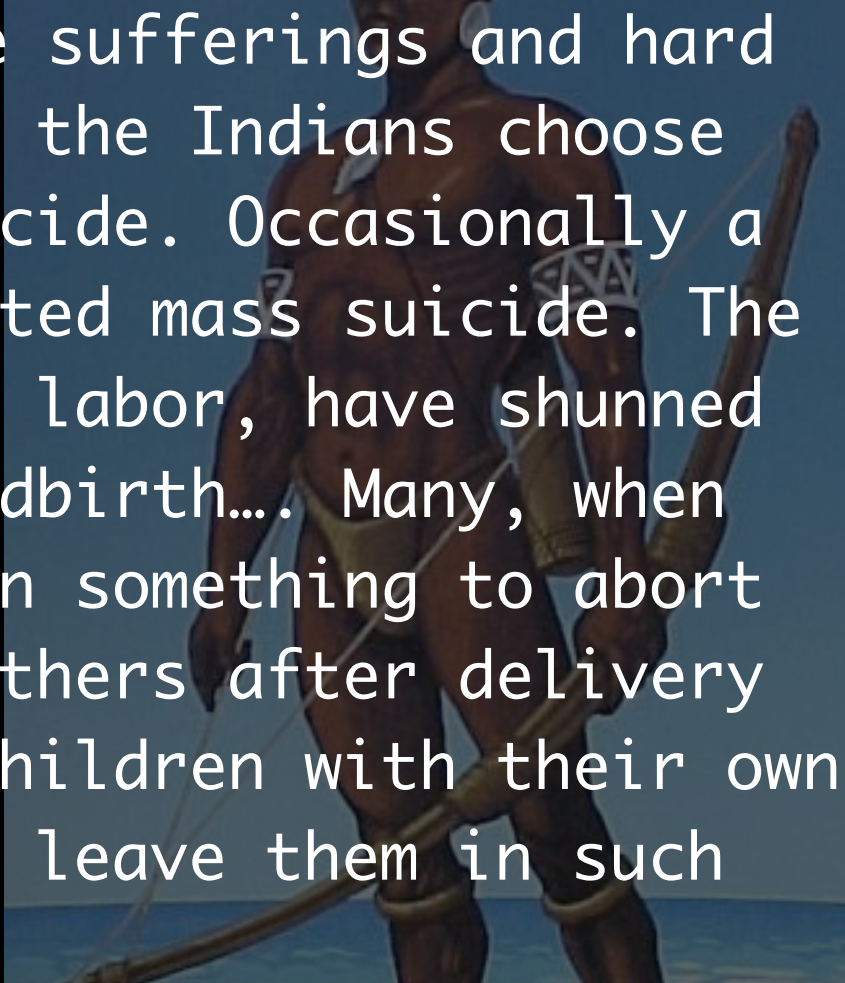
Their reason for killing and destroying such an infinite number of souls is that the Christians have an ultimate aim, which is to acquire gold, and to swell themselves with riches in a very brief time and thus rise to a high estate disproportionate to their merits.



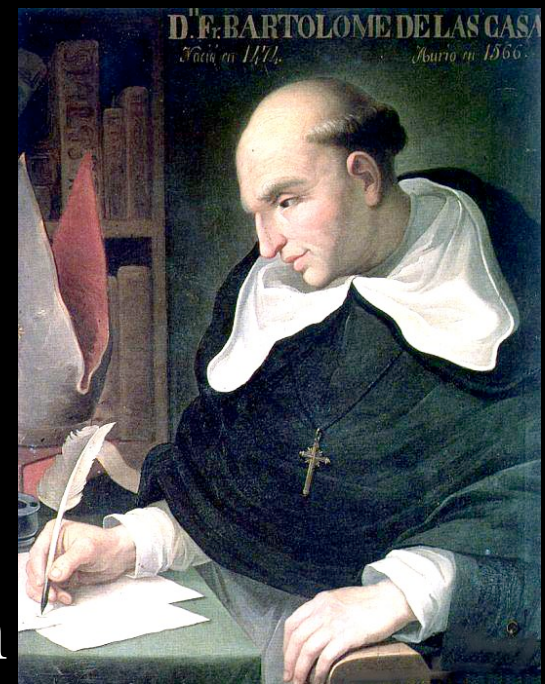


- Bartolome De Las Casas

As a result of the sufferings and hard labor they endured, the Indians choose and have chosen suicide. Occasionally a hundred have committed mass suicide. The women, exhausted by labor, have shunned conception and childbirth.... Many, when pregnant, have taken something to abort and have aborted. Others after delivery have killed their children with their own hands, so as not to leave them in such oppressive slavery.



“We can estimate very surely and truthfully that in the forty years that have passed, with the infernal actions of the Christians, there have been unjustly slain more than twelve million men, women, and children. In truth, I believe without trying to deceive myself that the number of the slain is more like fifteen million.”

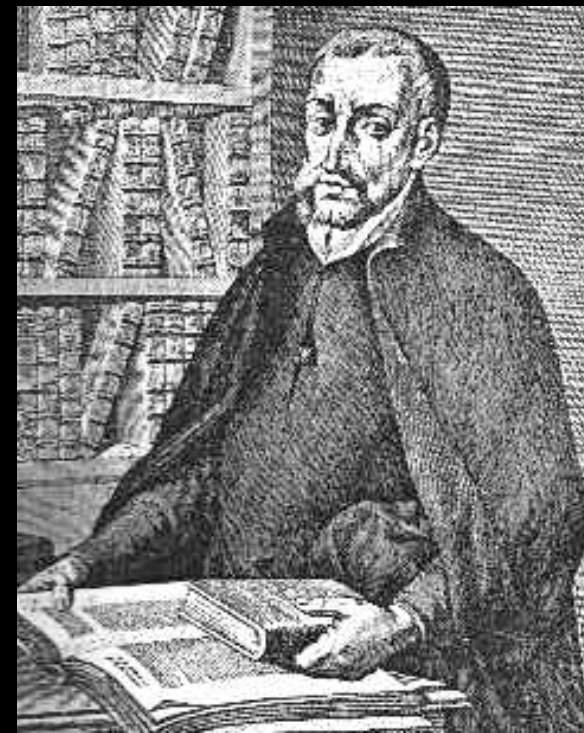
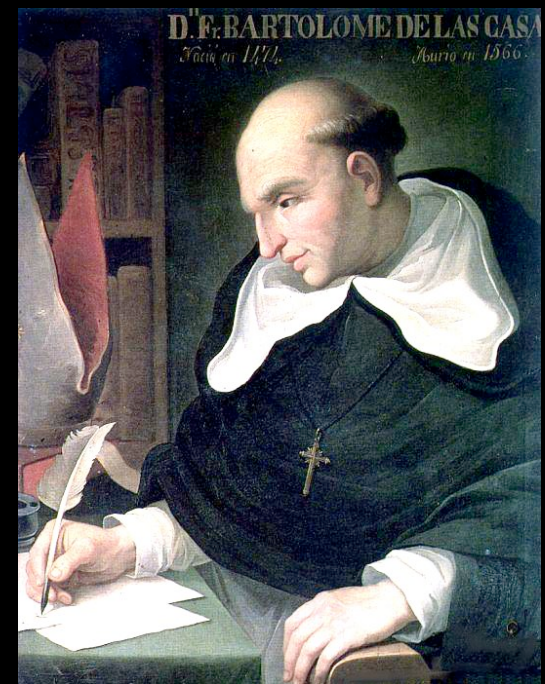


Of the estimated 300,000 Taino alive when Columbus “discovered” them in 1492, about 12,000 remained in 1516, fewer than 200 in 1546, and zero in 1555. What our history calls “the discovery of America,” Taino history might call “the arrival of the Christian genociders,” if, that is, any Taino survived to tell an alternate history. None did.

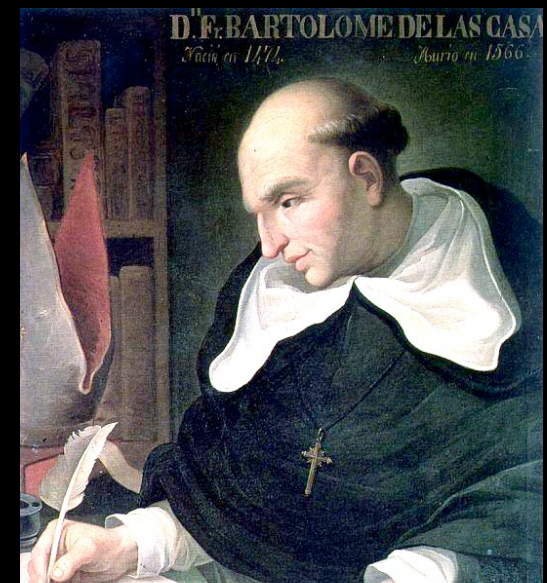


The Spanish have a perfect right to rule these barbarians of the New World and the adjacent islands, who in prudence, skill, virtues, and humanity are as inferior to the Spanish as children to adults, or women to men; for there exists between the two as great a difference as between savage and cruel races and the most merciful, between the most intemperate and the moderate and temperate, and, I might even say, between apes and men.

- Juan Gines de Sepulveda



The people of Hispaniola had their lives unjustly and savagely taken by, as de Las Casas repeatedly notes, professed Jesus followers, and they were not, as we all know, the only ones to meet such a fate. Millions of their indigenous sisters and brothers on Turtle Island were killed at the hands of other Europeans, as nation after imperial nation, bearing Christ on their lips and crosses on their military standards, followed suit. - Waziyatawin



From this vantage point, Christianity has nothing – absolutely nothing – to teach Indigenous people about how to live in a good way on this land. In fact, Christians have only demonstrated that there is something profoundly wrong with the cosmology and worldview behind more than five centuries of carnage—carnage that has yet to even slow down. Christians have so much negative history and dogma to overcome within their own tradition, I do not believe the religion is even salvageable. The world is deep in the throes of an ecological crisis based in Western economies of hyper-exploitation. The planet will not survive another 500 years of Christian domination.

- Waziyatawin, PhD, 2012



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It's time to disarm our understanding of God
and cut up the genocide card



