

TWO PASTORAL MODELS

Rutilio Grande and the pastoral team in Aguilares, 1972-1977.

TRADITIONAL PASTORAL MODEL

1. Salvation (from *hell*) = forgiveness of sin and sanctifying grace → immortality of the soul.
2. The Church is the vehicle of grace.
Extra ecclesiam (catholicam) nulla salus.
3. The means of salvation are the sacraments, especially baptism which remits original sin.
4. The great danger is mortal sin. The remedy is confession (and Catholic marriage).
5. Morality = obeying God and other legitimate authorities. Sin is disobedience: drunkenness, sexual disorder, foul language; a series of prohibited actions.
6. God is one who punishes.
7. The clergy enjoy a monopoly in administering the means of salvation.
8. Religious practice (*cultus*) nourishes the life of sanctifying grace. Especially Mass, but also popular devotions.
9. Silence regarding the social (dis)order, a legitimating silence. Christ came not to change this world but to lead us to another world.

NEW PASTORAL MODEL

- 1.' Salvation = Reign of God, which signifies new persons and true human community, beginning in this world. It is already present but not yet fully present.
- 2.' The Church is sacrament and herald of God's Reign.
- 3.' The means of salvation are the *Word of God + Sacraments*. The church's mission is to evangelize.
- 4.' The meaning of sin expands to include social sin, structural sin -- injustice.
- 5.' Morality is re-defined as following Jesus and as efficacious love.
- 6.' God is the great Liberator.
- 7.' The Church is the People of God, the Body of Christ; each one has charisms and a vocation. Lay ministries.
- 8.' Traditional symbols are transformed in accord with the mission of evangelizing for the Reign of God.
- 9.' The church exercises its prophetic mission (denounce and announce).