

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).