When Theology Listens To The Poor

Leonardo Boff

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Rarely do publishers now care to print books on such thick high quality paper, with durable hardcovers and ink as the series of books which Harper's published a generation ago of a few of the brilliant Catholic theological works of Friar Leonardo Boff, including this present volume which serves not only as solace, comfort and a guide for the searching Catholic soul, but also a joy to hold and to handle, without fear of falling apart, of gentle Franciscan brown coloration. Thus we find in this scholarly theological text a careful lay out and exploration of issues relevant our Faith and the Poor to whom first the Gospel of Jesus was preached Christmas eve to the shepherds in the night fields. The first of seven sections examines a "creative acceptance of Vatican II from the Viewpoint of the poor," including the Council as both point of arrival and of departure, opening a chance of Christianity for the Poor. The second section examines the Mission of the Church in Latin America as following the Good Samaritan in healing a broken people, promoting and defending the rights of the poor and of a minimally decent living standard. Friar Leonardo finds the Good Samaritan alive and well and living in Bahia. The third section further presents the Rights of the Poor as the Rights of God, and explores, as does the final sections of Sacramentum Caritatis, the commitment of the Church to Human Rights, particularly in bring these rights for the first time to the poor. A chapter of this section presents the Theological foundations of rights for the impoverished masses. This central section ends with the role of evangelization as a service of God and promotion in defense of Human Rights.
When Theology Listens to the Poor
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