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Christian Thought

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Book Review

“The Mestizo Augustine”

The book consists of a man named Augustin who was born in an African colony ruled by the Romans. He had Roman and African ancestry through his parents. Obviously because of his two "nationalities" he had a cultural conflict between being African or Roman. After several thoughts he came to the conclusion that becoming a Christian was a good way to use his two birthplaces to spread Christianity. He constantly battles opposing beliefs by trying to expand his belief. During the reading, the main character asks himself various questions about God and seeks to give instructions about Christianity. He also wonders about the evil in the world and relates it to God.

The book obviously talks about Christianity but also about different practices of the Christian religion. The interesting thing about this story is that Augustine through the Romans and what he saw in them became a Christian. In the book he relates that the qualities he saw in them made him reflect and made the decision to follow God's way. It is very interesting how Augustin saw two totally different cultures and through that he could obtain his own conclusions. There were numerous influences that Augustine had on the part of his family. You have to understand that there was a very important conflict between cultures. At first it seemed like a difficult thing for

him to deal with but I feel that as time went by he realized that he could use it to his advantage. It must be said that the miscegenation gave him the opportunity to merge both cultures and get closer to God. During the first chapters Agustin introduces himself as a character and explains what his relationship with God is like before he became a Christian. During this reading you can see how he gradually gets closer to the hand of God. After the three chapters he begins to confront and have to understand the different religions that exist, at first it is difficult for him to understand them but he also understands that each one has a belief and they have to be tolerated. Finally, at the end of the book he explains how it was for Agustin having to deal with the Christian belief in relation to the miscegenation that he was living. As he said at the beginning he realized the advantage that he had and began to try to spread the religion and refute other beliefs. I think this book can be analyzed today as a way to integrate immigrants from the United States with the Christian religion. Although they are many years of difference in broad strokes, it relates two cultures that did not understand each other 100% and the Christian religion manages to unite them in a certain part. He also shows that we are always going to find other beliefs and that even though we do not share them, we must always respect them. Finally, this book can also help many people who have doubts about Christianity.

Without a doubt one of the most important criticisms is the one I mentioned previously. The fact that the author manages to identify and recognize the “miscegenation” by calling it by his name may reflect something that is happening in today's society. It is also necessary to highlight how he explains Agustin's changes of thought. At first, he was not a believer in the Christian religion and as time went by, he understood and shared the religion. Mention that he had the ability to listen to people who preach the religion and every day he found more sense of it.

Finally, mention and highlight that this book seems to be for all ages. Personally, English is my secondary language, I had no problem reading it, this means that reading can spread across different cultures and in this way make the Christian religion even more widespread.

As a conclusion it can be said that the book teaches readers what God is. Despite all kinds of conflicts, he will always be there.

I would recommend the book to those people who intend to learn more about God and who recently came to the Christian religion.