Latin American Understandings of Christ

Noted theologian Samuel Escobar offers a magisterial survey and study of Christology in Latin America. Starting with the first Spanish influence and moving through popular religiosity and liberationist themes in Catholic and Protestant thought of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, *In Search of Christ in Latin America* culminates in an important description of the work of the Latin American Theological Fraternity (FTL). Escobar chronologically traces the journey of Latin American Christology and describes the milestones along the way toward a rich understanding of the spiritual reality and powerful message of Jesus.

Escobar writes: “Today it is important for both Protestantism and Catholicism to thoroughly understand how the encounter between evangelical preaching and the existing religiosity played out. All of us need to ask the question, who is Christ today in Latin America? After long and complex processes of cultural change, how have interpreters of Latin American life and culture in the twentieth century perceived Christ? This book aims to construct a partial response to these questions along theological, historical, and cultural lines.”

IVP Academic is pleased to release this important work, originally published in Spanish as *En busca de Cristo en América Latina* for the first time in English.

- Offers theological, historical, and cultural analysis of Latin American understandings of Christ
- Discusses the sixteenth-century Spanish Christ, popular religiosity, and developed theological reflection
- Covers the full spectrum of theological traditions in Latin America
- Examines the figure of Jesus Christ in the context of Latin American culture of the twentieth century
- Places liberation theology within its social and revolutionary context
Samuel Escobar, Leading Latin Theologian

Samuel Escobar, a native of Peru and a leading Latin American theologian, was one of the key participants in the 1974 International Congress on World Evangelization at Lausanne, Switzerland. He is professor emeritus of missiology at Palmer Theological Seminary and a past president of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students. His books include The New Global Mission and La Palabra: Vida de la Iglesia.

Escobar served as the general director of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship in Canada from 1972 to 1975. Along with his wife, Lilly, he served on staff with the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students in Latin America for twenty-six years.

He is an ordained Baptist minister and a distinguished writer. Escobar graduated from San Marcos University in Lima and obtained a PhD at Complutense University in Madrid, Spain. In 1997 he received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from McMaster University in Hamilton, Canada. In addition to his work at Palmer Theological Seminary, Escobar has taught at the Baptist Seminary of Madrid and Eastern University in Pennsylvania.