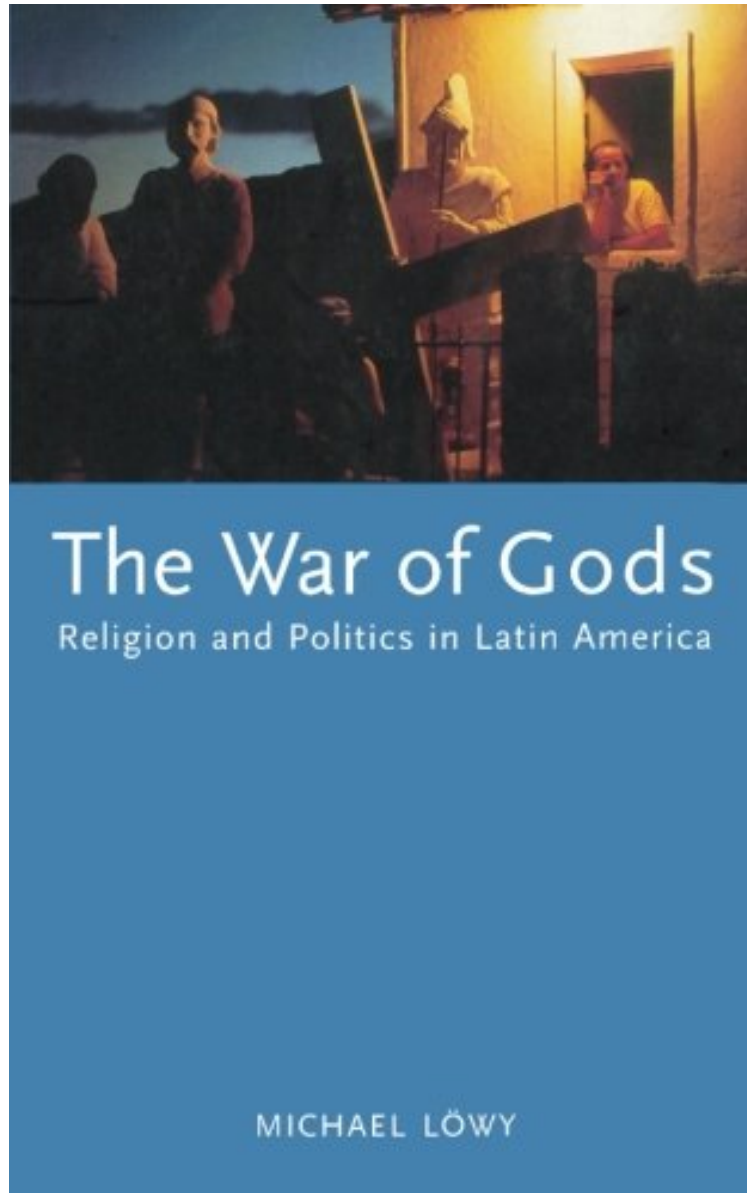


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# The War of Gods: Religion and Politics in Latin America

*Michael Lowy*

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**Michael Lowy : The War of Gods: Religion and Politics in Latin America** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The War of Gods: Religion and Politics in Latin America:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great intro to Liberation Theology By Josh Behrens Incredible overview of Liberation Theology from a Marxist perspective. Taught me so many things, especially from a more political, materialist perspective.

The War of Gods traces the intimate relationship between religion, politics and social issues in Latin America over the last three decades, as liberation theology has reinterpreted the vocation of the Catholic Church and as Protestantism has made inroads on traditional Catholic strongholds. In the 1960s liberation theology addressed itself to the problems of a continent racked by poverty and oppression. Comprising a network of localized communities and pastoral organizations, it soon became something much more than a doctrinal current. Liberationist Christianity defined itself in a multitude of social struggles, particularly in Brazil and Central America. Many of the most momentous events in the continent's recent history - the Nicaraguan revolution, the development of the PT (Workers Party) in Brazil, the tortuous ascent of President Aristide in Haiti and the uprising in Chiapas - have borne witness to the influence of a distinctive liberationist Christianity. Michael Lowy proposes here a new interpretation inspired by the sociology of culture - both of liberation theology and of the rival religious projects in Latin America.

From the Back Cover The War of Gods traces the intimate relationship between religion, politics and social issues in Latin America over the last three decades, as liberation theology has reinterpreted the vocation of the Catholic Church and as Protestantism has made inroads on traditional Catholic strongholds. In the 1960s liberation theology addressed itself to the problems of a continent racked by poverty and oppression. Comprising a network of localized communities and pastoral organizations, it soon became something much more than a doctrinal current. Liberationist Christianity defined itself in a multitude of social struggles, particularly in Brazil and Central America. Many of the most momentous events in the continent's recent history - the Nicaraguan revolution, the development of the PT (Workers' Party) in Brazil, the tortuous ascent of President Aristide in Haiti and the uprising in Chiapas - have borne witness to the influence of a distinctive liberationist Christianity. Michael Lowy proposes here a new interpretation - inspired by the sociology of culture - both of liberation theology and of the rival religious projects in Latin America. About the Author Michael Lowy is Research Director of Sociology at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris. His previous books include *Redemption and Utopia: Liberation Judaism in Central Europe*, *Marxism in Latin America* and *The War of the Gods: Religion and Politics in Latin America*.