Early Latin America: Conflicts of the Gods and of Cultural Paradigms

I. Spanish Conquest

A. “God, Gold, and Glory”

B. Case Studies

1. Hernando Cortés, Moctezuma, Quetzalcoatl, and Doña Marina
   a. Cortés’ letters to Charles V
   b. Aztec (Mexica) view, Broken Spears
   e. Inga Clendinnen, “Fierce and Unnatural Cruelty” (1991)

2. Francisco Pizarro, Atahualpa, Viracocha, and the Incas

C. Matthew Restall, Seven Myths of the Spanish Conquest (2003)

   1. myth of exceptional men
   2. myth of the King’s army
   3. myth of the White conquistador
   4. myth of completion
   5. myth of (mis)communication
   6. myth of native desolation
   7. myth of superiority

D. Columbian Exchange

1. Impact of Europe on the Americas
   a. population loss (smallpox, slave labor in silver mines, etc.)
   b. livestock increase

2. Impact of the Americas on Europe
   a. gold and silver bullion
   b. syphilis

3. Impact of the Americas on China

II. Faith, Doubt, and the Formation of Latin America

A. Ideological Positions of the Spanish toward the Indigenous People

1. Juan Ginés de Sepúlveda (1490–1573) — lower is subject to higher

2. Bartolomé de las Casas (1473–1566) — one world community

3. Gerónimo de Mendieta (1525–1604) — Indians will inherit the earth
B. Contemporary Spanish Views of the Incan Empire
   1. Pedro de Cieza de León (1518–1560) — wisely governed
   2. Bernabé Cobo (1580–1657) — oppressive tyranny

C. Jacob Bronowski on Inca cities, political structure, and architecture

D. Life in Colonial Latin America
   1. Cities of Latin America
   2. Livestock
   3. Foods
   4. Mixing of Gene Pools
      a. Mestizo
      b. Mulatto

E. Cultural Life
   1. Universities — Santo Domingo (1538); Lima (1551); Mexico City (1551)
   2. Spanish-American Baroque Art and Literature
      a. Aleijadinho (Antônio Francisco Lisboa)
      b. Sister Juana (Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz) (1651–1695)

III. Conflict between Spain and England

A. John Hawkins, and Sir Francis Drake
   1. Elizabeth I
      a. Francis Bacon
      b. James Froude
      c. Garrett Mattingly

B. The Armada of Philip II (1588)