

ANALYSIS OF THE THEOLOGICAL CONTENT IN THE HYMNODY USED BY
EVANGELICALS IN MEXICO IN RELATION TO THE MEXICAN RELIGIOUS
CONTEXT

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this thesis is to analyse the theological content and meaning of songs and hymns more frequently used in congregational worship by different groups of Evangelicals in Mexico in relation to the Mexican religious context.

The aim of this research project is to provide suggestions for a more integral use of that hymnody as a tool to communicate the Gospel. Simultaneously some key aspects of the religious context are evaluated as conceptual bridges to contextualise the Gospel in this particular cultural setting.

The thesis includes a critical evaluation of Christian hymnody as a factor in the process of contextualisation of Evangelicals in Mexico and how its theological content might be related to the key issues arising from the Mexican religiosity studied.

The outcome of the research reveals that religion has been an important and constant phenomenon in the predominant popular culture of Mexico, affecting and covering every aspect of life. This religiosity is characterized by some outstanding features as the sense of ritual, the sense of mysticism, the sense of sacrifice, the sense of festivity or celebration and the sense of community. These key issues were selected as the frame of reference to study the relationship between the theological concepts in three categories of Christian hymnody studied (i. e. hymns, songs, and psalms) and these concepts expressed in the Mexican religious context.

At the end, this study concludes that hymnody can communicate the Christian faith powerfully in different cultural contexts. Therefore it also can address key issues of one particular cultural setting. In this case, the specific category of hymns demonstrates more suitability to address the key concepts found in Mexican religiosity than the other categories of hymnody.