

Our Lady of Guadalupe is a Catholic title of Mary, mother of Jesus associated with a series of five Marian apparitions to a Mexican peasant named Juan Diego and his uncle, Juan Bernardino in December 1531. The venerated image on a cloak (tilmahtli) associated with the apparition is enshrined within the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. The basilica is the most-visited Catholic shrine in the world. (Wikipedia)

## ANSWERS ONLY TO THOSE WHO KNOW HOW TO ASK QUESTIONS

-HAJO HOLBORN

## The Historical Significance and Cultural Impact in America of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico

The 1531 Mexican apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe is clearly a major historical event that affected civilization in the Western Hemisphere. But how and why? In this presentation, historian David Thrower will explore the rarely discussed historical background of the event including the religious syncretism of Mexican indigenous tribes, the Scriptural underpinnings and justification for the Guadalupe apparitions, the role of Marian advocacy in American history, how the 1531 events impacted American culture, and finally how Marian advocacy can be a positive force for change in our contemporary culture.

## PRESENTER David Thrower

David was born in Parsons, WV, and received into the Catholic Church Easter 2000. He completed his Bachelor's at Southeastern University in 1996, his Master's at Franciscan University of Steubenville in 2018, and is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Liberty University. His dissertation research focuses on the Ideological Influ-



ences that Evolved National Socialism. Professionally David is a paralegal and teacher. He has a particular historical interest in Appalachian Studies, Late Roman Antiquity, World War II, and Church History. Other projects in development are a Genesis study and a History of American Big Bands.