

Outline

- I. Cortes
- II. Diseases
- III. Expeditions

- a. Leon
- b. Narvaez
- c. De Soto
- d. Coronado
- e. Spaniards and Priests

- I. On Cortes's voyage to the "Americas", he had 11 ships and 700 slaves, both Indians and Africans. He said it was to establish trade in this new land, but the people on the ship said that they would've needed goods to trade with, not cannons and weapons. They first landed in Tulum. Here there were 2 survivors of a shipwreck that the Spaniards had. These two men could be used as translators. One man agreed to go with Cortes, but the other didn't want to go. The Aztec people sent out spies to watch Cortes and his men. The Aztec people were very confident in their village but some say why did they send spies is they were so confident. The Aztec empire could have destroyed Cortes and his men but Montezuma (leader) decided against it because it was against their belief. This was a terrible mistake. They welcomed Cortes with gifts. Cortes had another person to translate for him. It was a woman named La Malinche, but they would have to go down through a chain of people translating for Cortes and the Indians to talk. Quickly La Malinche learned Spanish and was able to translate directly. The survivor was no longer needed. La Malinche is commonly seen as a traitor because she was an Indian on Cortes's side. She was among the first to unite Spaniards and Indians. **Mestizos - blending of races** The first military encounter was with the Tlaxcalans. At first these men attacked Cortes and his men with obsidian blades, but then created a peace. The Tlaxcalans had been under the Aztec empire and didn't like it, so they figured if they could team up with Cortes then they could overthrow the Aztec empire. They formed an alliance and this helped Spanish to overthrow Montezuma. The Spaniards had a divide and conquer technique. Due to this, there were many Indians fighting other Indians and not just Spaniards and Indians.
- II. Diseases were the most powerful weapon the "new people" brought. One of the first cases was small pox. This affected the entire area. The Spaniards were immune to it

because they brought it. This reduced the Aztec empire population by 50%. This was the single greatest cause of mortality. Small pox is highly contagious and spreads fast. The Indians couldn't bury enough people and were trying to run away from it. The disease was not an intended weapon of the Spaniards, but every time they came back they saw the pattern. The Spaniards used military actions to finish off the job.

III. Leon: Leon tried to invade the Indians but failed soon. The Indians were furious so killed him shortly after he got there.

Narvaez: Narvaez ship wrecked so the survivors wandered around the land and finally ending up in Mexico. They said there was fabulous wealth in the mainland at a village called Cibola.

De Soto: He tries to locate Cibola. He runs into the Timucuas and threatens that he will hurt them if they don't help him find the gold. The Timucuas killed Leon and wasn't going to let De Soto be different, so they said no you better watch your back. Soto took this threat seriously and continues on. Everywhere Soto is going he leaves diseases in his path, along with killing and capturing some Indians. De Soto dies on his expedition and his men continue on.

Coronado: He searches for the city full of gold. He does find a place called Cibola, but it is just a small village and didn't have any riches. Coronado is furious and takes his anger out of the Indians. He continues on but the Indian tribes say oh I know where that's at, it's that way. Finally the Pueblo people give him a guide to **Quivira**. Spaniards went to go find him, but he didn't have any gold either so they killed him. The Indians did this to try to get Coronado out of their land.

Spaniards and priests: When the Spaniards return they say their primarily coming back for god, to spread Christianity. This was to avoid outright slavery. They said they were helping the Indians. **Syncretism - blend of beliefs** the Indians blended their beliefs with the imported beliefs to seem like they were cooperating but they really weren't. **Virgin of Guatemala** (like Virgin Mary) was believed the protector of the Spaniards. This was an Aztec belief mixed with Christianity. **Black Legend** was used by other countries that invaded the Indian lands to say they weren't so bad compared to the Spaniards. But not everyone participated in the violence with the Indians.