

What reasons does the <i>Requerimiento</i> give to justify making war against the Native Americans and enslaving them?	What counterarguments does Bartolome de las Casas use to argue against these practices?
• They said that one of the last popes (that were “governor of all the men”) gave those islands and lands to the actual king and queen of Spain and their successors, with everything that is on them according to some writings. • It doesn’t matter if you’re Christian, Jewish, or any other religion or belief, the Pope has authority over all of us because God gave him the power. • The Native people are “barbarians” • They are not Christian, and must be forced to accept Christianity for the sake of their souls	• The indians were barbarians because they weren’t Catholic, but not because they weren’t capable of govern themselves. They had societies just like the Spaniards • The Spaniards vigorously defended themselves against the Romans even though they were “uncivilized barbarians” at the time. • The way to convert the indians into Christianity is not with guns and violence. They were capable of going to the church and as de las Casas said, being taught about the word of God.

The *requirimiento* is using the name of God to threaten the Natives. It is not giving them any real choice - convert to Catholicism, or they will be killed or made slaves.