

INTRODUCTION

On May 15, 2018, I celebrated sixty years of priesthood as a missionary of the Society of the Divine Word. This jubilee, for me, has been a time of reflection on what God had done to me and for me and on how I have responded to God's call.

This Diamond Jubilee seemed to me to be a good time to bring together a few biographical articles in book form, entitled *Sixty Years of Priestly and Missionary Life: The History of a Journey*. It would serve as a kind of autobiography. It adds little to what I have already published; but, on the other hand, not everybody who is not a professional academic has access to the articles I have published on my journey of faith.

There could also be an advantage to reading the various articles of this collection side by side since all of them, in different ways, express my struggle with some key themes like the role of culture in our religious traditions and the challenges they present to our Christian tradition as well as the deepening of our faith based on the theory of evolution. Most probably these topics are new to many readers, and the different approaches taken in the various articles might be a help to others in their own spiritual journey.

The articles were originally written for an academic journal, the *Verbum SVD*, hence there are extensive annotations which are retained and which hopefully will enrich the reader's understanding of the issues being discussed.

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