

The Crusades



http://www.art-prints-on-demand.com/kunst/emile_signal/taking_of_jerusalem.jpg

Background

During the Middle Ages, the Roman Catholic Church served as a source of stability and gave people hope. This granted the Church great influence over the people and their lives. The Pope possessed more power than even kings.

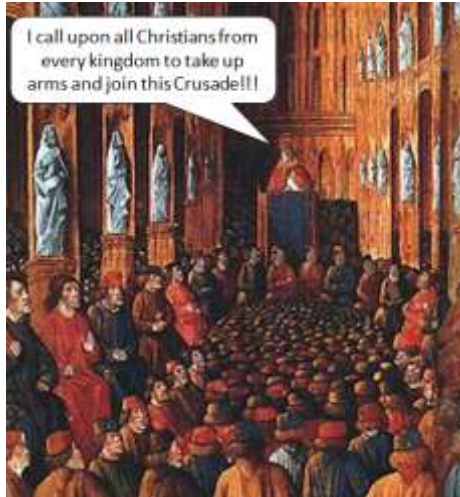
As Islam diffused throughout the Middle East, control over the **Holy Land (Palestine)** fell to the Muslims. The Holy Land is an area that has religious significance to followers of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. To Christians, it is important because it is where Jesus was born, spread his teachings, and died.

European Christians often took pilgrimages to the Holy Land to see locations of biblical importance. For many years, traveling these long distances was not a problem. However, over time, a new group of Muslims called the **Turks** began to expand and gain control of the Holy Land. Taking a pilgrimage became a dangerous journey. This upset Christians and caused a desire to regain control the Holy Land in the name of Christianity.

Question: Why is the Holy Land important to the three monotheistic religions?

Pope Urban II Calls for A Crusade

The Turks began to attack the Byzantine Empire. Although the Byzantines practiced a different form of Christianity, they asked **Pope Urban II**, who is Catholic (not Orthodox like the Byzantines) for help.



http://www.emersonkent.com/images/against_infidels.jpg

Pope Urban II called on all Christians in Europe to retake the Holy Land from the Muslims. He encouraged kings, lords, and knights to stop fighting amongst themselves, and take up arms for a noble cause. This cause became known as **the Crusades**, a Latin word for "cross."



Notice the red cross on the Crusaders shield and armor.

http://www.taamata.it/crusader_1600.jpg

Motivations to Take up the Crusades

In his speech, Pope Urban II promised forgiveness of all sins and admission into heaven to those who fought. Anyone from a monk to a criminal would get into heaven. People joined the fight for other reasons, too.

- Some wanted to gain land. Having land meant power during the Middle Ages. Inheritance and feudalism limited chances to gain land in Europe.
- Others wanted to find treasure and riches, even if this meant stealing.
- Spreading Christianity was also a motivation.

It is important to understand that the reason for fighting in the Crusades was never the same and changed over time.

Question: What would motivate you to fight in the Crusade?

The Crusades

There wasn't just one Crusade; there were many taking place over several centuries. From the European Christian standpoint, the First Crusade was a success. They regained the Holy Land... but only temporarily. Muslim armies slowly chipped away at the new Christian kingdoms, and once again regained control of the entire Holy Land. Later Popes continued to call for Crusades, which achieved very little.



https://wccshoeing.files.wordpress.com/2012/06/crusades_final.jpg

Question: How did Crusaders get to the Holy Land?

Question: Which Crusade had participants that traveled the farthest?

Results of the Crusades



<https://images.thetrumpet.com/52e6f144!h.300.id.9951.m.fill.w.540>



[http://wikitranslators.org/w/images/thumb/2/22/%D0%9A%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%B3%D0%B0_%D0%B4%D0%BE%D0%B1%D1%80%D1%8B%D1%85_%D0%BD%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B2%D0%BE%D0%B2_\(Ms._297\),_fol._122v.jpg/120px-%D0%9A%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%B3%D0%B0_%D0%B4%D0%BE%D0%B1%D1%80%D1%8B%D1%85_%D0%BD%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B2%D0%BE%D0%B2_\(Ms._297\),_fol._122v.jpg](http://wikitranslators.org/w/images/thumb/2/22/%D0%9A%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%B3%D0%B0_%D0%B4%D0%BE%D0%B1%D1%80%D1%8B%D1%85_%D0%BD%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B2%D0%BE%D0%B2_(Ms._297),_fol._122v.jpg/120px-%D0%9A%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%B3%D0%B0_%D0%B4%D0%BE%D0%B1%D1%80%D1%8B%D1%85_%D0%BD%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B2%D0%BE%D0%B2_(Ms._297),_fol._122v.jpg)

The Crusades have had long-lasting impacts and results.

1. Tension and mistrust increased between Muslims, Jews, and Christians.
2. The power of the Pope and the Church decreased. Many lives had been lost in the wars.
3. Kings became more powerful. Many nobles had lost their fortunes and land. Kings gained this land, and challenged Church's authority.
4. Trade increased between Europe, Asia, and Africa. Crusaders had brought back to Europe new goods, foods, and ideas from Asia that Europeans were interested in.
5. As trade increase, Europeans sought out new trade routes. Centuries later, this will impact the Age of Exploration in the Western Hemisphere.
6. People began to leave the manors and move into cities, which also sparked an interest in travel.

Question: Summarize and explain the effects (results) of the Crusades.