

# **The Crusades: A Quest for the Holy Land**

World History I

# What are the Crusades?

- ✧ A long series of Wars between Christians and Muslims
- ✧ They fought over control of Jerusalem which was called the “Holy Land” because it was the region where Jesus had lived, preached, and died.



# Causes of the Crusades



Muslim Turks captured Jerusalem from the Byzantine Empire



Muslims stopped Christians from Visiting Holy Land

Christian pilgrims were attacked

Byzantine Empire feared attack on Constantinople

# The Call to Arms



- ✧ Alexius of the Byzantine Empire asked his Christian brothers
- ✧ Pope Urban II gathered as many Christians as he could and called for their help
  - Speech known as “Council of Clermont”
    - He wanted them to fight against the Turks and return the Holy Land to the Christians
    - Promised those who went would gain riches and a direct passage to Heaven
- ✧ Who answered?
  - Feudal Lords
  - Knights
  - Peasants

# The First Crusade (1096-1099)

## ✧ Peasant army

- Untrained
- Lacked military equipment
- Many killed by Muslim Turks

## ✧ Knights

- Succeeded in capturing Jerusalem



# The First Crusade, 1096–99



# Second Crusade (1147-1149)



- ✧ After victory many Christians went back home
- ✧ The Turks eventually took back much of the territory
- ✧ King of France and Emperor of Germany sent troops to stop the Turks
- ✧ Saladin leads the Muslim Turks to victory, defeating the Christians
  - He was considered a very wise ruler. He was known for his kind treatment of fallen enemies. Many Christians saw him as a model of knightly chivalry

# The Second Crusade, 1147–49





# Third Crusade (1189-1192)

✧ Led by Richard the Lionhearted King of England

- He led his men against the Turks trying again to take back the land
  - Despite the war, eventually they came to a truce with Saladin, leader of Muslims
  - Christians who were unarmed could come into the city

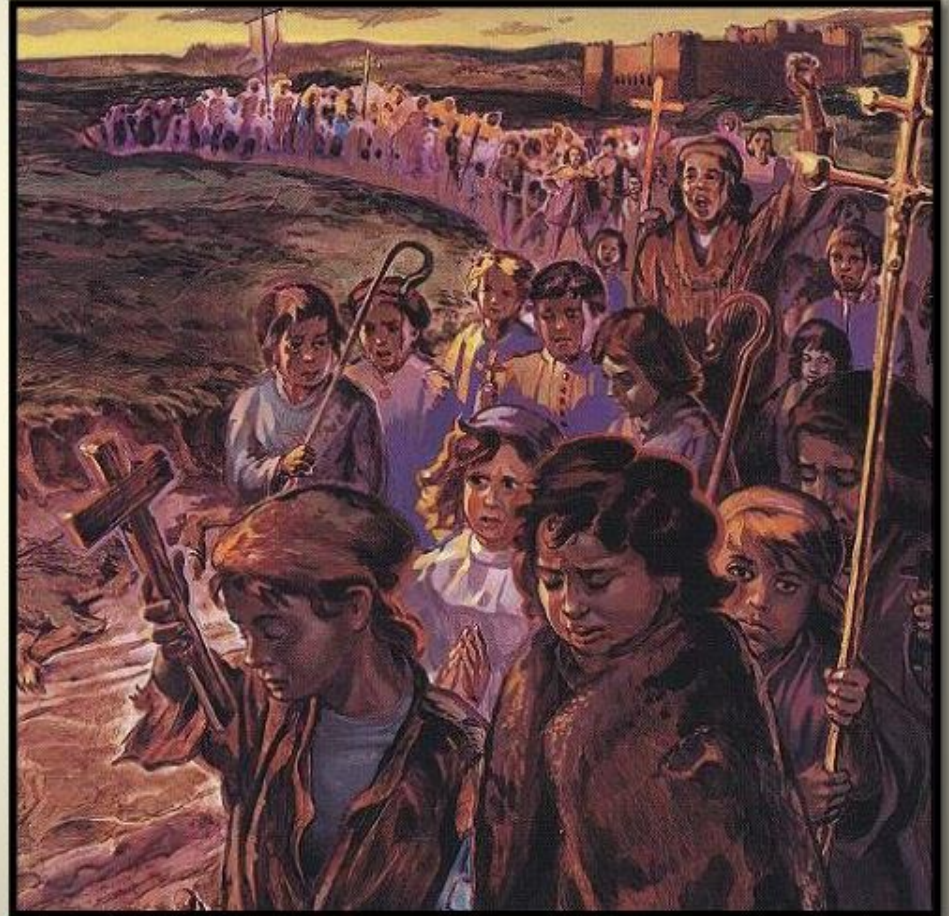


# The Third Crusade, 1189–91



# Children's Crusade - 1212

- ✧ 20,000 – 30,000 children ventured out on the crusade
- ✧ Their goal was to take back the Holy Land themselves
- ✧ Most died of disease, starvation, and many others were sold into slavery



# Why Did the Crusades Fail?



- ✧ After the 1<sup>st</sup> attempt, each attempt was weaker with less emphasis on winning
- ✧ People soon became most interested in making money and getting goods
- ✧ They focused on stealing from Byzantine and Islamic Empires

# Effects of the Crusades

- ✧ Broke down feudalism in most countries
  - Leaders left to fight in battle, lost their land
- ✧ Improved technology in Europe
  - More modern ships
  - Tools, weapons, goods
- ✧ Opened up trade throughout the Middle East, Europe, and Asia
- ✧ Spread culture, religion, ideas

