

Church History



Church History

- *Introduction to Church History*
- *The Ancient Church* AD 1st-3rd centuries
- *The Rise of Christendom* AD 4th-5th centuries
- *The Early Middle Ages* AD 6th-10th centuries
- *The Age of Crusades* AD 11th-13th centuries
- *The Renaissance* AD 14th-15th centuries
- *Conquest and Reformation* AD 16th century
- *The Age of Enlightenment* AD 17th-18th centuries
- *The Age of Revolution* AD 19th century
- *The Modern Age* AD 20th century
- *The Postmodern Age* AD 21st century



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- *The Early Middle Ages* AD 6th-10th centuries
- *The Age of Crusades* AD 11th-13th centuries
 - *West vs. East*
 - *The First Crusade(s)*
 - *The Crusades Become a Fad*
 - *Kill 'em All—Let God Sort 'em Out... (part 3)*



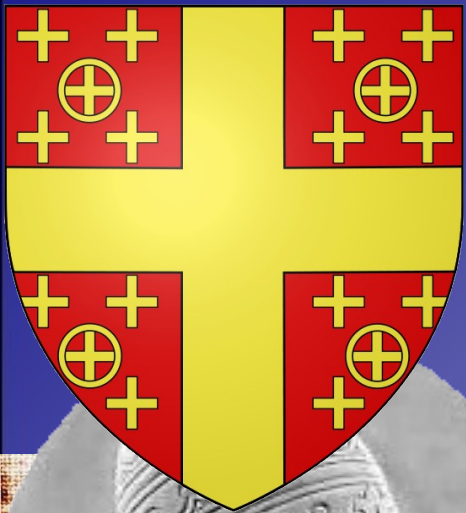
The Age of Crusades

- Lots of bad things were going on...

1202

The Fourth Crusade went badly

- Pope Innocent III wanted to make his mark, so he called on all of Europe to come and help retake the Holy Land
 - Most of Europe didn't answer the call, but the Venetians used it as an opportunity to get back at Constantinople by raiding their ports
 - And then they attacked and ransacked the city of Constantinople itself
 - A new, *Latin* Empire of the East was formed...



The Age of Crusades

- Lots of bad things were going on...
 - 1202 The Fourth Crusade went badly
 - 1206 Temüjin (AKA Genghis Khan) rose to power
 - He conquered Asia, levelling almost every city on the continent and killing 40 million people...
 - That was 11% of the world's population...



The Age of Crusades

- Lots of bad things were going on...

1202 The Fourth Crusade went badly

1206 Temüjin (AKA Genghis Khan) rose to power

1208 The Albigensian Crusade began

- Pope Innocent III *really* wanted to slap a decent Crusade on *someone*, so he turned his sights on France and decided to call a Crusade against the Cathars and the Waldensians

- In one form or another, the Albigensian Crusade went on for nearly fifty years, slaughtering anyone seen as a possible heretic... without trial...

- 20,000 were killed on a single day, when the Crusaders attacked the city of Béziers

- It is from this Crusade that we get the modern phrase, "Kill 'em all—let God sort 'em out!" (the words of Pope Innocent to Simon de Montfort, who was leading the Crusade)



The Age of Crusades

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1202 The Fourth Crusade went badly

1206 Temüjin (AKA Genghis Khan) rose to power

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1215 The Fourth Lateran Council was held

- Among the 69 canons decided at this Council were the emotive defence of transubstantiation, the requirement for all Muslims and Jews who were living in Christian territories to wear a symbol on their clothing to show they're pagans, and the absolute insistence on a Fifth Crusade

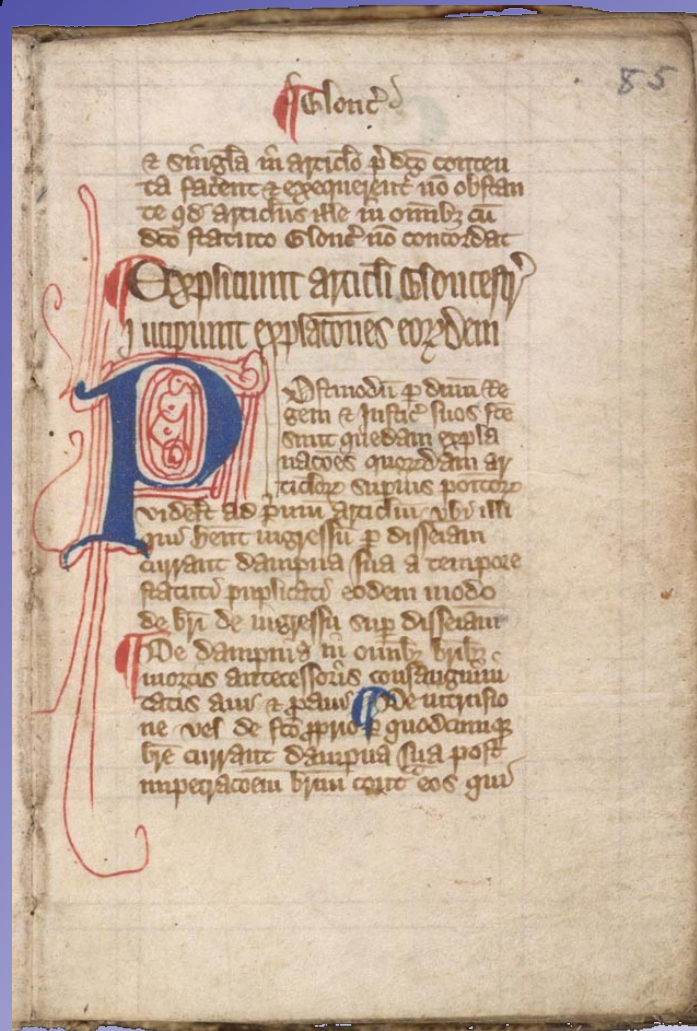
- And Innocent demanded that—to avoid the problems of the Fourth Crusade—it *must* be under the direct supervision of the Pope

- In this way, Innocent hoped that he would secure his lasting legacy as a soldier for the truth of God...



The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - 1215 was also the same year that King John was forced by his own nobles to sign the *Magna Carta*...



The Age of Crusades

- Lots of bad things were going on...
 - 1217 The Fifth Crusade began
 - Pope Innocent was excited to get the Crusade going, but he passed away in June of 1216 so the Crusade was picked up by his successor, Pope Honorius III (who was much more friendly toward various religious orders, and immediately provided a charter for Dominic to officially begin his order of Dominicans)



The Age of Crusades

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- In fact, Honorius officially called upon the holy *military* orders to come join the Crusade —the Hospitallers, the Knights Templar, and the newly-formed Teutonic Knights



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- In fact, Honorius officially called upon the holy *military* orders to come join the Crusade—the Hospitallers, the Knights Templar, and the newly-formed Teutonic Knights
 - In fact, about the only one he *didn't* call was Emperor Friedrich II, since the Emperor and the Pope were feuding at the time
 - (NOTE: Very few French knights came on this Crusade, either—why was that?)
(Because *they* were busy fighting the *Albigensian* Crusade in their *own* country)



The Age of Crusades

- Lots of bad things were going on...
 - 1217 The Fifth Crusade began
 - Luckily, King András II of Hungary had a huge force at his command, bringing 20,000 knights
 - The Venetian navy convoyed them to Acre, and from there, they marched on Jerusalem
 - But the Muslims had demolished the city walls and fled from the city, remembering what had happened during the *First* Crusade, so taking the city was relatively easy...
 - ...*holding* it would be the hard part...

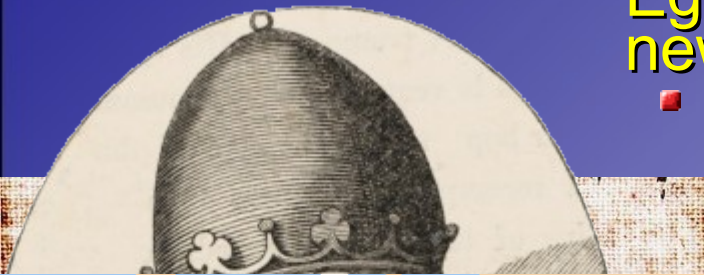


The Age of Crusades

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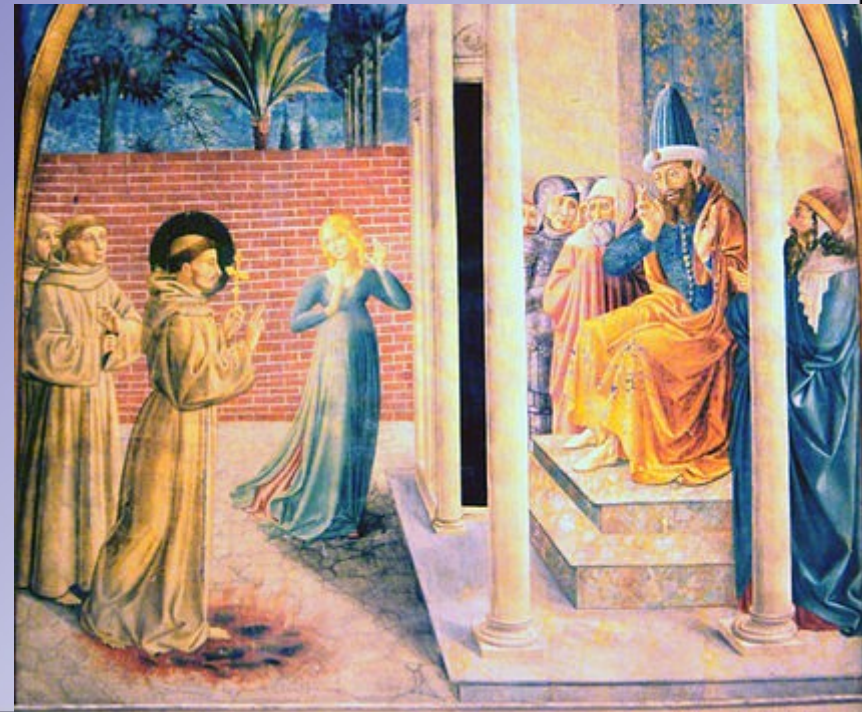
1217 The Fifth Crusade began

- Luckily, King András II of Hungary had a huge force at his command, bringing 20,000 knights
- András—deathly ill—then took his knights and went back home, but with the influx of new German troops, the Crusaders marched on to Egypt and laid siege to the city of Damietta under new Sultan al-Kamil (the nephew of Saladin)
- The siege went on for over a year, with thousands of Crusaders and Egyptians dying of starvation and disease



The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - The siege was so traumatic that news of it travelled back to Europe
 - In response, Francis of Assisi travelled down to Egypt and crossed the enemy line into Damietta to meet with al-Kamil, in an attempt to convert him to Christianity and thus lift the siege
 - It didn't accomplish anything, but you have to give Francis points for trying...



The Age of Crusades

- Lots of bad things were going on...
 - 1217 The Fifth Crusade began
 - Nonetheless, by November, Damietta finally fell to the Crusaders
 - They followed that victory up by marching south to attack Cairo
 - But unexpected flooding, lack of supplies, and a devastating night attack by Al-Kamil's forces forced them to have to surrender
 - (NOTE: It didn't help that they had been hoping for reinforcements from Friedrich, which he was kept from providing because the Pope was still angry with him)



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 - As a result, the Crusaders were forced to return both Damietta and Jerusalem
 - In return, the Ayyubids allowed them to retreat back to Europe, and agreed to honor an eight-year cease-fire
 - They also promised to return the True Cross to the Crusaders
(NOTE: They didn't actually have the True Cross, but it still made for a great, face-saving treaty point)



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 - The Fifth Crusade was another massive failure, and much of Europe blamed the Papacy for two botched Crusades in a row



The Age of Crusades

- But there were *good* things going on, too
1225 Thomas Aquinas was born...
(whom you should remember from Sara's
discussion of medieval art)
(we'll come back to him in 50 years...)



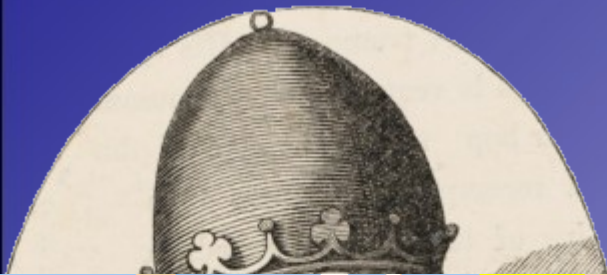
The Age of Crusades

- 'Cuz there were more *bad* things going on...
 - 1227 The Teutonic Knights invaded Europe
 - In 1225, to ease tensions, Honorius supported Friedrich's bid to become King of Jerusalem
 - To build up his forces to prepare for a promised Sixth Crusade in 1227, he then gave the Teutonic Knights land not only in Acre, but also in Northern Europe
 - But you'll notice that the land in Europe was not actually part of Friedrich's territory...



The Age of Crusades

- 'Cuz there were more *bad* things going on...
 - 1227 The Teutonic Knights invaded Europe
 - In 1225, to ease tensions, Honorius supported Friedrich's bid to become King of Jerusalem
 - But since King Konrad I of Poland asked for their help against the pagan Baltic Prussians in 1226, that kind of made the geography academic
 - Over the next fifty years, the Teutonic Knights slaughtered almost the entire *race* of indigenous Prussians... before moving on to Livonia, and Lithuania, and ultimately Poland
 - (NOTE: Remember, all of this supposedly started to *defend* Poland)



The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - On the plus side, that meant the world's toughest knights just happened to be trying to conquer Poland at the same time that the *Mongols* just happened to be trying to conquer Poland in 1241



The Age of Crusades

- But it wasn't all *completely* bad...

1227

1228

The Teutonic Knights invaded Europe

Emperor Friedrich launched a Sixth Crusade

- Attempting to fulfil his vow to Pope Honorius, Friedrich left to invade the Holy Land in 1227 but then had to return home when he fell victim to an epidemic in the region

- (NOTE: Even the head of the Teutonic Knights agreed that they should turn back at that point)

- (NOTE²: New Pope Gregory IX still used the retreat as a convenient political excuse for excommunicating the Emperor)



The Age of Crusades

- But it wasn't all *completely* bad...

1227

1228

The Teutonic Knights invaded Europe

Emperor Friedrich launched a Sixth Crusade

- Attempting to fulfil his vow to Pope Honorius, Friedrich left to invade the Holy Land in 1227 but then had to return home when he fell victim to an epidemic in the region
- So in 1228, Friedrich turned around and went on his *own* Crusade, completely ignoring the Pope
 - He took not only all of his own considerable forces, but also both the Knights Hospitaller and Templar hoping that the show of force would impress Sultan al-Kamil enough that *he'd* blink *first*
 - Luckily, al-Kamil's forces were tied up with fighting in Syria, so he returned Jerusalem—along with a narrow corridor that also included Nazareth—without a single drop of blood being spilled
 - The precedent had now been set for the idea of a *diplomatic* Crusade...



The Age of Crusades

- But there was still a lot of bad going on..

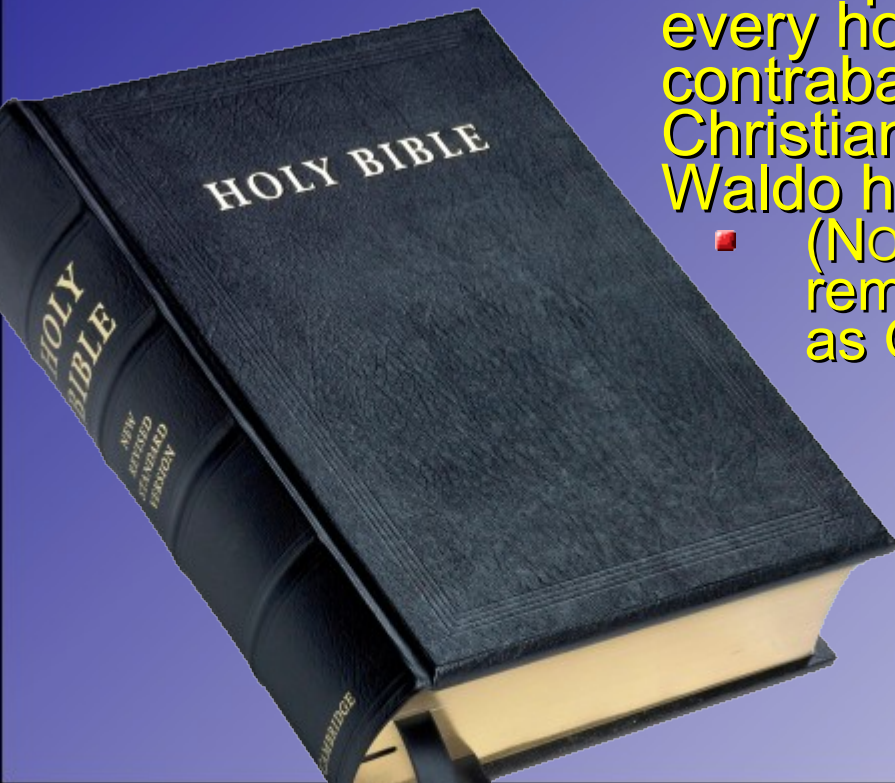
1227 The Teutonic Knights invaded Europe
1228 Emperor Friedrich launched a Sixth Crusade
1229 The Council of Toulouse met

- In an attempt to gain control over the growing number of differing orders and sects that were interpreting the Bible on their own, Pope Gregory called a Council against heresy
 - It set up an *Inquisitio* (or “enquiry”) for each parish that would have the authority to seek out and punish anyone potentially guilty of heresy
 - Comprised of a priest and a handful of laymen, these *Inquisitios* would have the legal right of search, seizure, and punishment of heretics
 - The homes of any heretics would be destroyed, and anyone coming to their aid in any way would be immediately excommunicated
 - But all of that *still* didn't deal with the *root* problem...



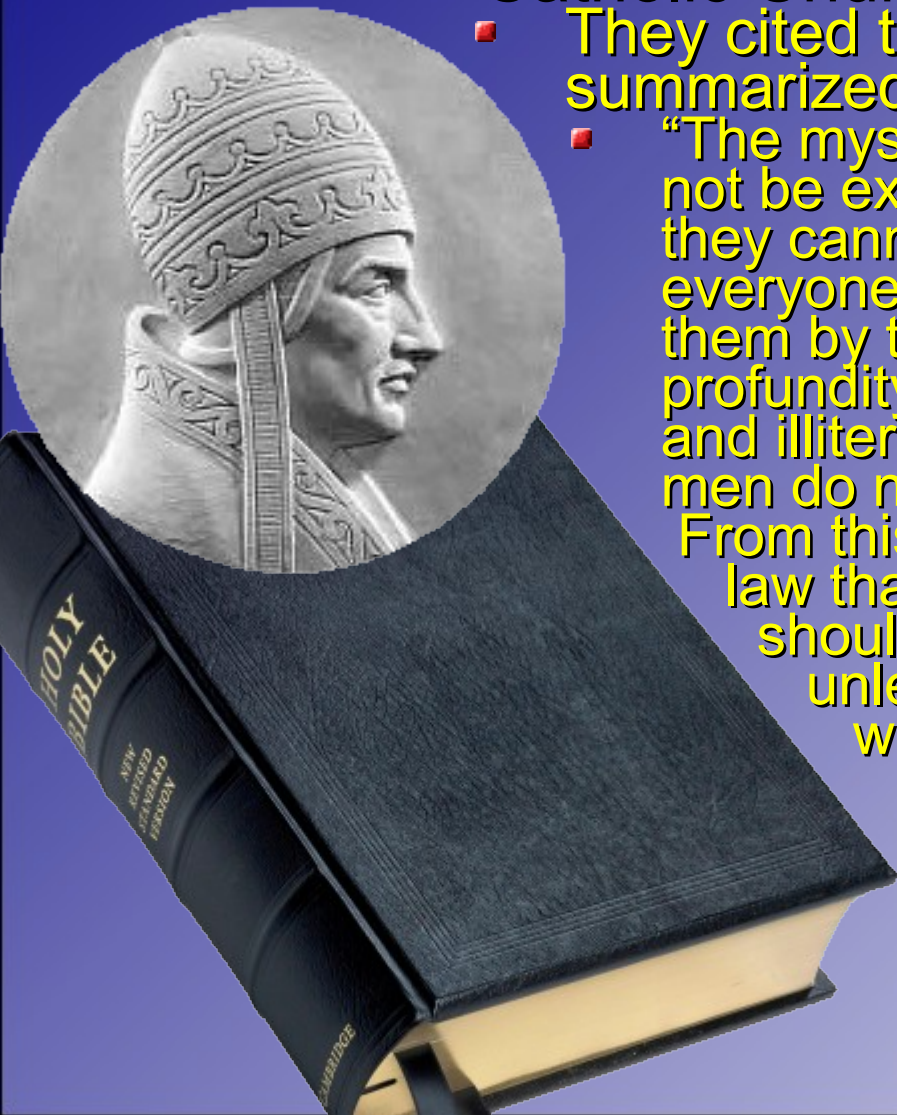
The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - To deal with the root problem, the Roman Catholic Church banned the Bible itself
 - Perceiving it dangerous for non-priests to have access to the Holy Scriptures, the Council of Toulouse place the Bible on the Forbidden Books list, and threatened excommunication and/or death to anyone who would attempt to own a copy
 - The Inquisitio was tasked with ransacking every home in their parishes to look for contraband Bibles and to punish all those Christians who might attempt—like Peter Waldo had—to read it
 - (NOTE: Psalters were allowed, but only if they remained untranslated, in their original *Latin*, as God *intended*)



The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - To deal with the root problem, the Roman Catholic Church banned the Bible itself
 - They cited the rationale that Pope Innocent III had summarized back in 1199:
 - “The mysteries of the sacraments of faith should not be explained everywhere to everyone, since they cannot be understood everywhere by everyone, but only to those who can conceive of them by their faithful intellect... Such is the profundity of divine Scripture, that not only simple and illiterate men, but even prudent and learned men do not fully suffice to investigate its wisdom... From this it was rightly once established in divine law that the beast which touches the mountain should be stoned; that is, so that no simple and unlearned man presumes to concern himself with the sublimity of sacred Scripture, or to preach it to others.”
 - How does this mindset *still* sometimes infect the modern Church?



The Age of Crusades

- But there was still a lot of bad going on..
 - 1227 The Teutonic Knights invaded Europe
 - 1228 Emperor Friedrich launched a Sixth Crusade
 - 1229 The Council of Toulouse met
 - 1231 The Papal Inquisition was founded
 - When parish-level efforts proved inadequate to stemming the tide of individual interpretation, Gregory established a *Papal* Inquisition
 - This Inquisition was methodical, led by well-trained Dominicans (and by bishops trained by the Dominicans)
 - The idea was that heretics might be converted back to Catholicism with the proper combination of learned, theological disputation and judicial strong-arming
 - (NOTE: Torture wasn't part of the initial mandate of the Papal Inquisition)
 - (NOTE²: That wasn't allowed until Pope Innocent IV changed the rules in 1252...)



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- When parish-level efforts proved inadequate to stemming the tide of individual interpretation, Gregory established a *Papal* Inquisition
- Still, because of the Inquisition's excesses Bavarian Bishop Eberhard II declared that Pope Gregory IX was the Antichrist, referring to him as "that man of perdition, whom they call Antichrist, who, in his extravagant boasting, says, 'I am God, I cannot err'..."
 - Eberhard was excommunicated, which put the German bishops even more at odds with Rome...



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 - 1235 The Mongols invaded Europe
 - Genghis Khan's son, Ögedei (the new Great Khan), commanded his nephew, Batu, to conquer Russia...

