

Church History



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- *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



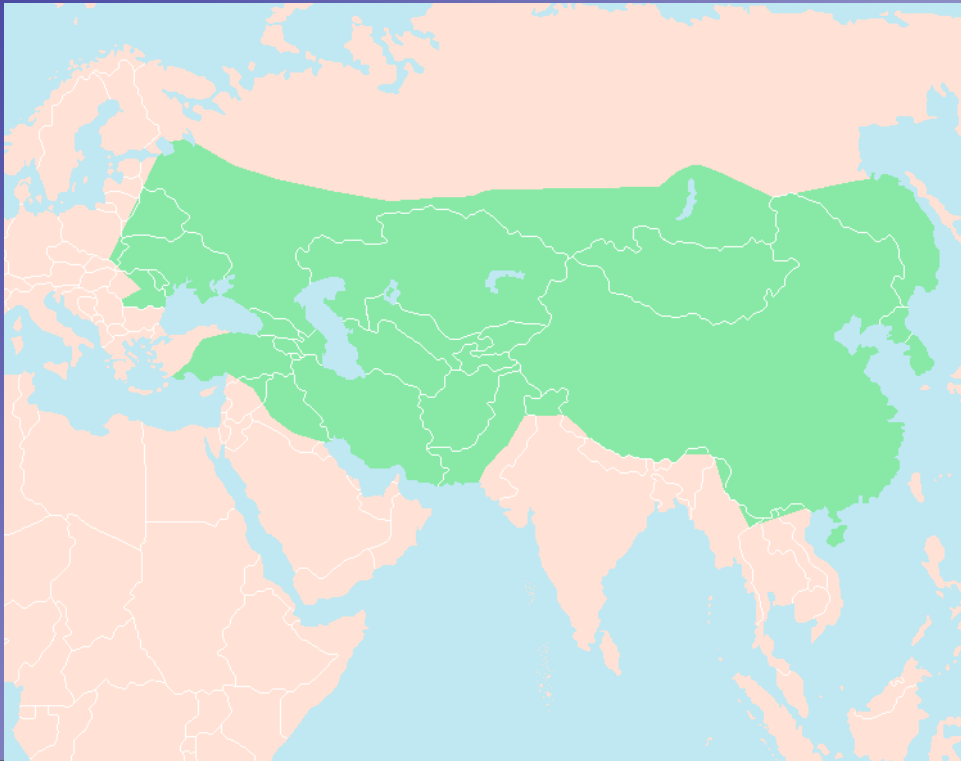
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- *The Rise of Christendom* AD 4th-5th centuries
- *The Early Middle Ages* AD 6th-10th centuries
- *The Age of Crusades* AD 11th-13th centuries
 - *West vs. East*
 - *The First Crusade(s)*
 - *The Crusades Become a Fad*
 - *Kill 'em All—Let God Sort 'em Out... (part 4)*



The Age of Crusades

- Europe was in a time of massive upheaval...
 - 1235 The Mongols invaded Eastern Europe
 - Genghis Khan's son, Ögedei (the new Great Khan), commanded his nephew, Batu, to conquer the Rus'...
 - They spent nearly two years preparing for the invasion—and in *less* than three *more* years, they succeeded in taking most of the major Russian cities, sacking Kiev in 1240



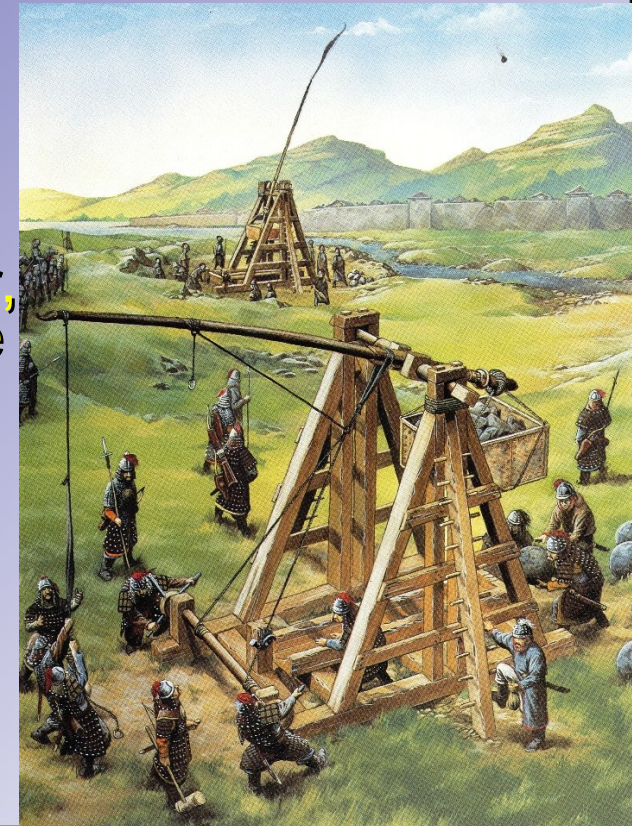
The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Much of the credit for their success rests on Ogedei's brilliant general, Subutai
 - As one source summarized his military career, “He directed more than twenty campaigns in which he conquered thirty-two nations and won sixty-five pitched battles, during which he conquered or overran more territory than any other commander in history...”



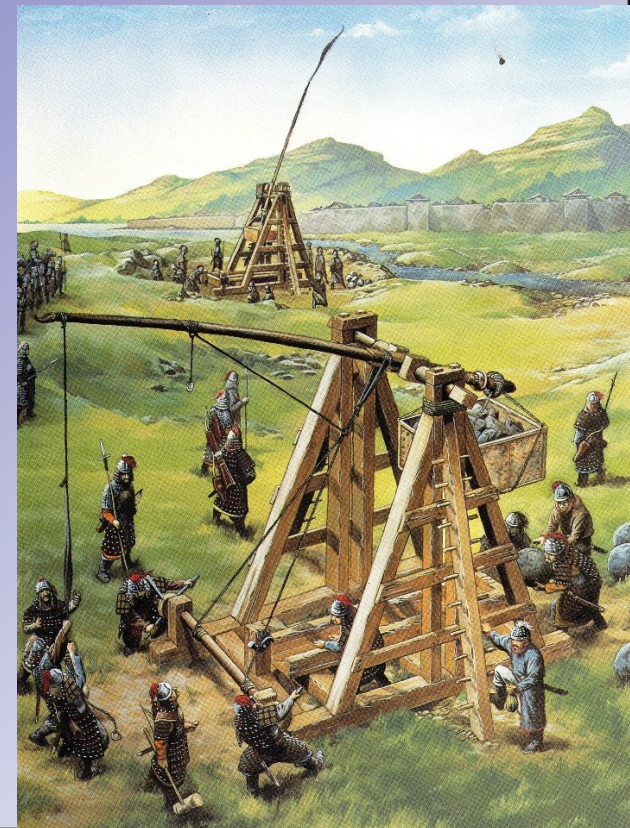
The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Much of the credit for their success rests on Ogedei's brilliant general, Subutai
 - Part of Subutai's genius came from his willingness to make use of new military technologies with which to wage war
 - He embraced new siege warfare tactics and created new siege engines
 - In doing so, he was also an innovator in cavalry tactics, disregarding the traditional European hand-to-hand melee attacks in favor of smaller, faster, cavalry units made up of archers who could attack from a distance



The Age of Crusades

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 - Part of Subutai's genius came from his willingness to make use of new military technologies with which to wage war
 - He embraced new siege warfare tactics
 - He embraced new technologies like *gunpowder*...
 - While the Chinese were still using it primarily for entertainment, Subutai weaponized it and used it in laying siege to cities



The Age of Crusades

- Europe was in a time of massive upheaval...
 - 1235 The Mongols invaded Eastern Europe
 - Subutai led his three armies into Europe itself
 - One followed the Danube River into southern Hungary
 - One crossed the Carpathian Mountains into Romania
 - And one entered into Poland, just as the Teutonic Knights were invading



The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - If you'll remember, the Teutonic Knights were taking advantage of a forced cease-fire in the Holy Land to wage a Crusade in Northern Europe
 - Originally, it was supposed to be against the pagan Baltic Prussians, but that soon gave way to a wholesale expansion for the Holy Roman Empire
 - So on April 9, 1241, the world's toughest knights faced the world's best cavalry at the Battle of Liegnitz, in central Poland...
...and the Christians *lost*...



The Age of Crusades

- Europe was in a time of massive upheaval...
 - 1235 The Mongols invaded Eastern Europe
 - Subutai pressed ever westward, and on Christmas Day, 1241, he defeated King Béla IV of Hungary, destroying Pest—the largest city in Hungary—and slaughtering half the population
 - The Mongols were now poised to take on the Holy Roman Empire itself, head to head...
...and that's when they all left...



The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - An interesting tradition among the Mongols was that when the Great Khan died, everyone came back to his funeral to do homage to his memory, and so that a successor could be chosen
 - So when Batu heard in early 1242 that Ögedei Khan had died, he packed up Subutai and all of their troops and headed back East, just as Ögedei had done at the death of Temüjin
 - Ögedei's eldest son, Güyük, was chosen to replace him
 - Envious of Batu's victories in Europe, Güyük chose to reassign Subutai to his own invasion plans in China... and thus, Europe was spared...



The Age of Crusades

- Europe was in a time of massive upheaval...
 - 1235 The Mongols invaded Eastern Europe
 - 1242 The Teutonic Knights fought on Lake Peipus
 - With the Mongol retreat, the Teutonic Knights saw an opportunity for advancement
 - They moved North and attacked the Rus' of the Christian Novgorod Republic at Dorpat
 - Overwhelmed, the Rus' called for their exiled prince, Aleksandr, to come lead their forces



The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Aleksandr had been exiled by his brother, Fyodor, who feared him coming to power when their father, Yaroslav II, passed away
 - Even though Fyodor had died in 1233, Aleksandr was still in exile when the Crusaders arrived
 - In fact, he was serving with the Mongols, learning how to deploy mounted archers
 - Knowing that he was a capable military commander, Aleksandr's people offered him the throne if he could defeat the Crusaders
 - (NOTE: He had earlier come to their aid in 1240 when the Swedes had invaded, defeating them at the Battle of Neva and thus saving Russia)
 - (NOTE²: The Rus' had therefore given him the name, "Aleksandr of Neva," or "Aleksandr Nevsky")



The Age of Crusades

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 - 1235 The Mongols invaded Eastern Europe
 - 1242 The Teutonic Knights fought on Lake Peipus
 - Aleksandr's cavalry and archers met the Crusaders in the narrow pass leading to Lake Peipus, near Dorpat
 - Feigning retreat, Aleksandr lured the Knights onto the frozen lake to fight
 - After close-quarter fighting for hours with heavy cavalry, Aleksandr then retreated again, calling in his own lighter, mounted archers to press the attack on the ice
 - In the warming afternoon sun, the exhausted Crusaders retreated deeper onto the middle of the frozen lake...
...and onto the thinner ice...
 - Hundreds of Teutonic Knights died that day, and Aleksandr was canonized as an Orthodox saint for saving both Russia and its Church



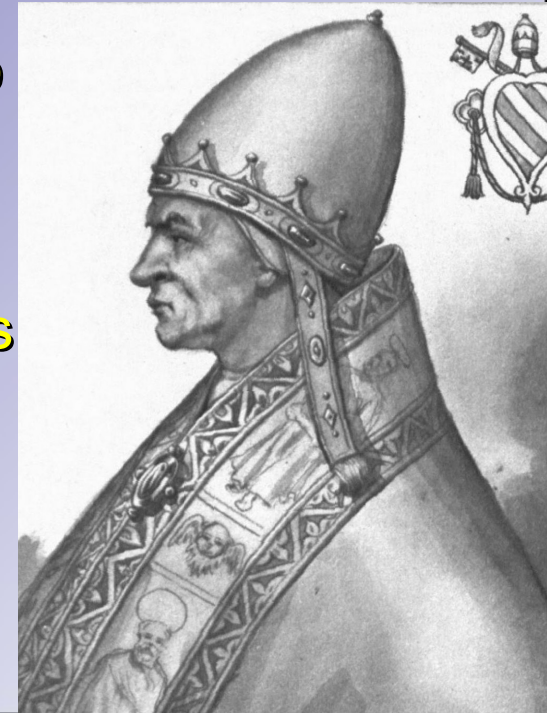
The Age of Crusades

- **Europe was in a time of massive upheaval...**
 - 1235 The Mongols invaded Eastern Europe
 - 1242 The Teutonic Knights fought on Lake Peipus
 - 1245 **The Roman Catholic Church took charge**
 - Pope Gregory IX had actually gone to war against Emperor Friedrich II
 - (the Emperor was from the Swabian House of Hohenstaufen, based in Waiblingen, while the Pope was from the rival Northern Italian / Bavarian House of Welf)
(in Italian, the Houses were known as the “Ghibellini” and the “Guelfi,” and their feud lasted for centuries)



The Age of Crusades

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 - Pope Gregory IX had actually gone to war against Emperor Friedrich II
 - **New Pope Innocent IV continued the aggression**
 - In response, Friedrich laid siege to Rome, and Innocent slipped out in 1244 in disguise, relocating to Lyon, in France
 - From there, he officially used his Papal authority to depose Friedrich as the emperor
 - He used the Church's treasury to bribe local German kings and nobles to betray Friedrich
 - Friedrich, in return, used his power to place his own friends and family in positions as bishops and cardinals



The Age of Crusades

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 - Pope Gregory IX had actually gone to war against Emperor Friedrich II
 - New Pope Innocent IV continued the aggression
 - **Innocent called together a Council while in Lyon**
 - He preached on his own struggles against the Emperor, likening them to the pains Christ endured on the cross
 - As a result, the Church decided to standardize the colors of vestments worn by Church leaders
 - Priests would wear black, bishops wear amaranth, and cardinals wear red
 - Thus, cardinals should henceforth wear a red biretta and garments to demonstrate their unique closeness to God



The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - When European colonists first came to the New World and saw an entirely new class of birds with a distinct red color and crest, they thought that they looked like cardinals... and the name stuck



The Age of Crusades

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 - **Innocent called together a Council in Lyon**
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 - **Innocent also used the Council as an opportunity to call for a Seventh Crusade...**



The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - When the Mongols invaded Persia, they'd pushed the Khwarezmians into new territories
 - Even as the Mongols receded back into Asia, the Khwarezmians pushed forward to conquer more
 - In 1245, they took Jerusalem, moving southward to connect with their allies, the Egyptian Mamluks
 - Innocent could not let that go unanswered (even though Jerusalem was no longer in the hands of Christians anyway)



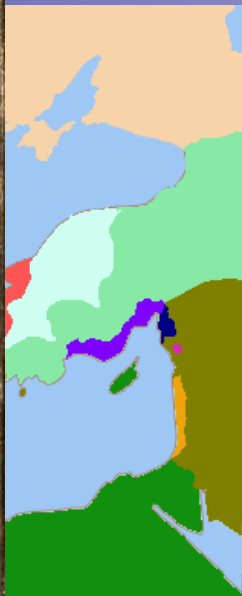
The Age of Crusades

- **Funky little teaching moment—**
 - When the Mongols invaded Persia, they'd pushed the Khwarezmians into new territories
 - **Innocent called on King Louis IX of France to lead the Seventh Crusade to re-take Jerusalem** (because King Béla IV was still too weak to do it, and Emperor Friedrich II had no desire to do it)



The Age of Crusades

- **Funky little teaching moment—**
 - When the Mongols invaded Persia, they'd pushed the Khwarezmians into new territories
 - Innocent called on King Louis IX of France to lead the Seventh Crusade to re-take Jerusalem
 - **At the same time, he sent a letter to Güyük Khan, demanding in the name of God that he stop his Mongols from marauding against Christians...**
...and *start* marauding against the Khwarezmians
 - **Güyük sent back a reply, demanding the total submission of the Pope and all of Europe**
 - But soon after that letter, Güyük was poisoned, and was succeeded by his cousin, Möngke (who turned his attentions to the East)



The Age of Crusades

- Europe was in a time of massive upheaval...
 - 1248 King Louis led the Seventh Crusade
 - He set sail from southern France, and made his base at Cyprus
 - The Latin Empire of the East asked for his help against the Nicaean Empire (i.e.; the former Byzantine Empire), which had barely survived the onslaught of the Mongols, and was now vying for control of Constantinople but Louis made for Damietta, planning to recapture the jewel of the Fifth Crusade
 - He conquered the city easily, but hadn't counted on the Nile flooding (which was the same mistake that the Fifth Crusade had made), and his army was stuck in Damietta for the rest of the year



The Age of Crusades

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 - He conquered the city easily, but hadn't counted on the Nile flooding
 - Then he marched on Cairo (yet another mistake that the Fifth Crusade had made), and the Crusader armies were annihilated
 - A further loss at the siege of Mansourah what was left the Crusaders in tatters



The Age of Crusades

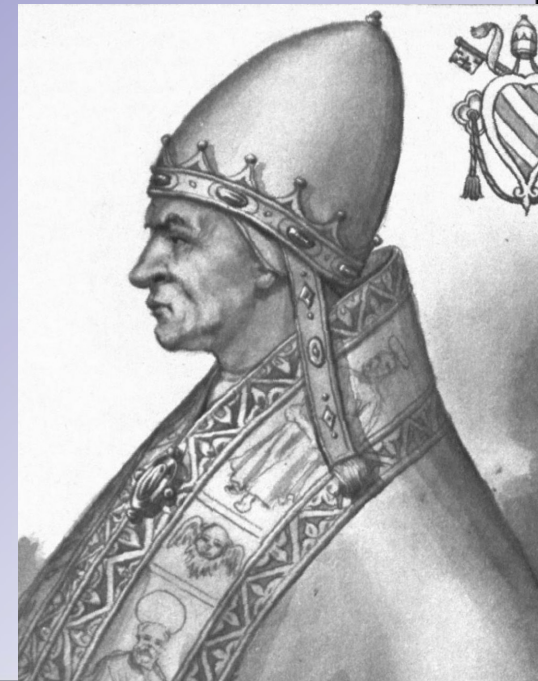
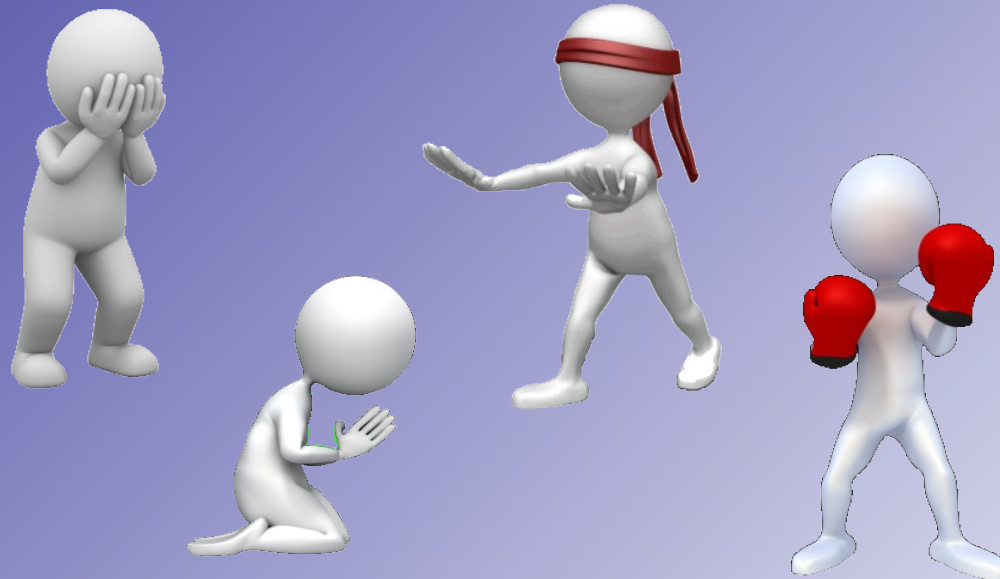
- Funky little teaching moment—
 - In fact, the losses were so devastating (both in scope and in emotional pain) that many European Christians lost faith that God even cared about Christianity any more
 - As one Templar poet wrote:

“Anyone who wishes to fight the Turks is mad, for Jesus Christ does not fight them any more. They have conquered, they will conquer. For every day they drive us down, knowing that God—who was awake—sleeps now, and Muhammad waxes powerful...”



The Age of Crusades

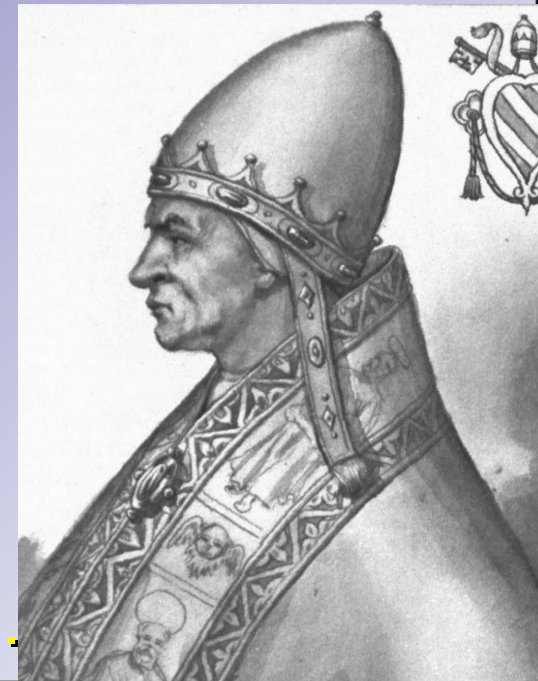
- Europe was in a time of massive upheaval...
 - 1252 Innocent upped the ante with the Inquisition
 - As is often the case with humanity, when we lose one battle and are tempted to lose faith, we can do one of several things:
 - 1) We can lose all hope and fall away
 - 2) We can trust God and seek His wisdom
 - 3) We can put blinders on and go through life pretending that nothing happened
 - 4) We can feed our aggression and focus on battles that we feel like we *can* win



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- With his Seventh Crusade in ruins and his Teutonic Knights losing battles across Northern Europe, Innocent authorized the use of torture for his Inquisitors to root out heresy at the peasant level—since *that's* a battle that he felt that he *could* win...



The Age of Crusades

- Europe was in a time of massive upheaval...
 - 1252 Innocent upped the ante with the Inquisition
 - 1260 Kind of a big year in history...
 - First off, exiled Byzantine general Michael VIII (who had been serving as a mercenary with the Seljuk Sultanate of Rum)



The Age of Crusades

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 - 1260 Kind of a big year in history...
 - First off, exiled Byzantine general Michael VIII executed a successful coup, taking over the dying Nicaean Empire from its incompetent ruler
 - As one of his first acts, he allied himself with Genoa against the Latin Empire of the East
 - As anyone who's played Diplomacy would know, mutual enemies can make the strangest bedfellows
 - Both the Byzantines and Genoa had a common enemy in Venice, who was blocking Genoa's access to shipping in the Mediterranean Sea



The Age of Crusades

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 - As one of his first acts, he allied himself with Genoa against the Latin Empire of the East
 - So Roman Catholic Genoa supported Greek Orthodox Nicaea against Roman Catholic Constantinople to gain access to shipping rights in the Mediterranean
 - The Latin Empire of the East ceased to exist, and the Byzantine Empire of Constantinople was reborn



The Age of Crusades

- Europe was in a time of massive upheaval...

1252

1260

Innocent upped the ante with the Inquisition

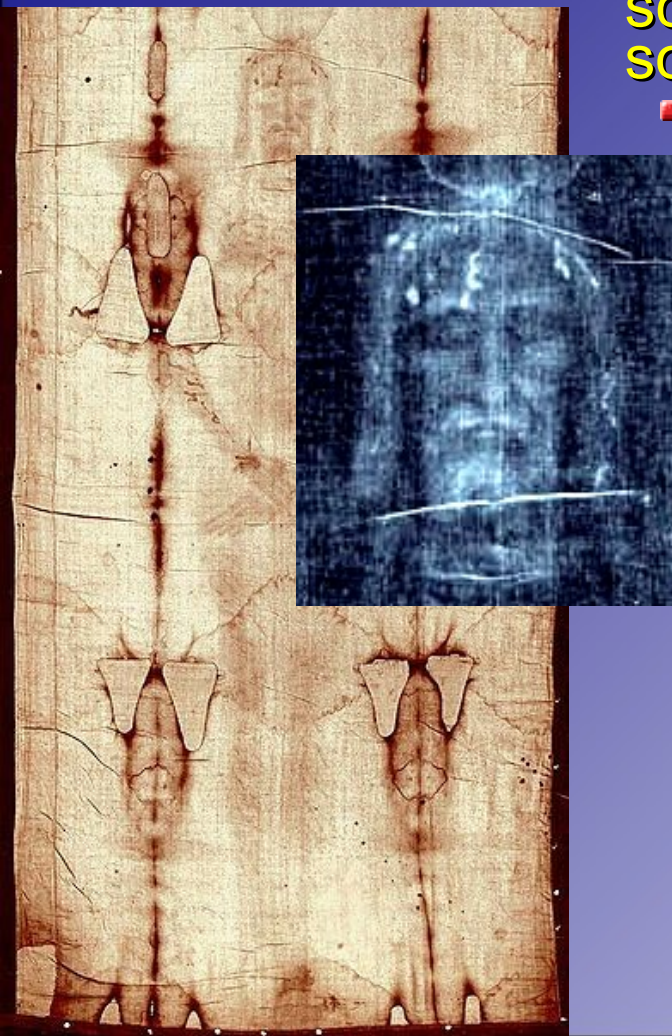
Kind of a big year in history...

- That same year, if we can trust the dating that scientists have done, was the earliest that someone could have created the Shroud of Turin

- Revered for centuries as an uncanny “negative image” of Christ that was supposedly burned into His burial shroud when He resurrected, one of the Shroud's most enduring legacies is that it gave centuries of Christians a clear, mental image of what Jesus looked like... to Europeans...

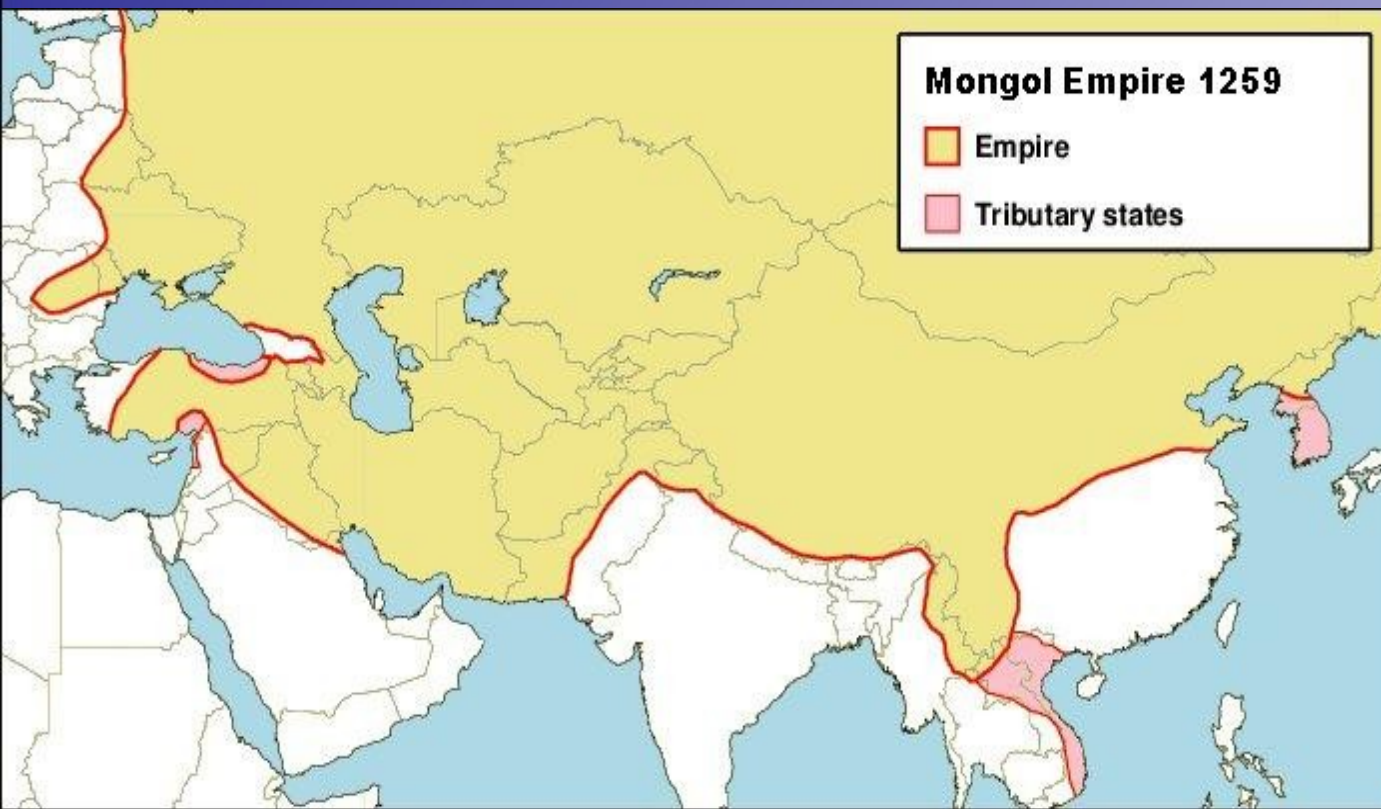
- (NOTE: The first documented reference to the Shroud was in 1390, when Bishop Pierre d'Arcis wrote a letter to the Pope, affirming that it should be dismissed as a forgery, citing that the forger had actually confessed)

- (NOTE²: It's noteworthy, however, that no one can figure out exactly *how* it was produced...)



The Age of Crusades

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 - 1252 Innocent upped the ante with the Inquisition
 - 1260 Kind of a big year in history...
 - That same year, Möngke Khan died after ruling the Mongols for twelve years and expanding the Empire greatly
 - He was succeeded by his brother, Kublai

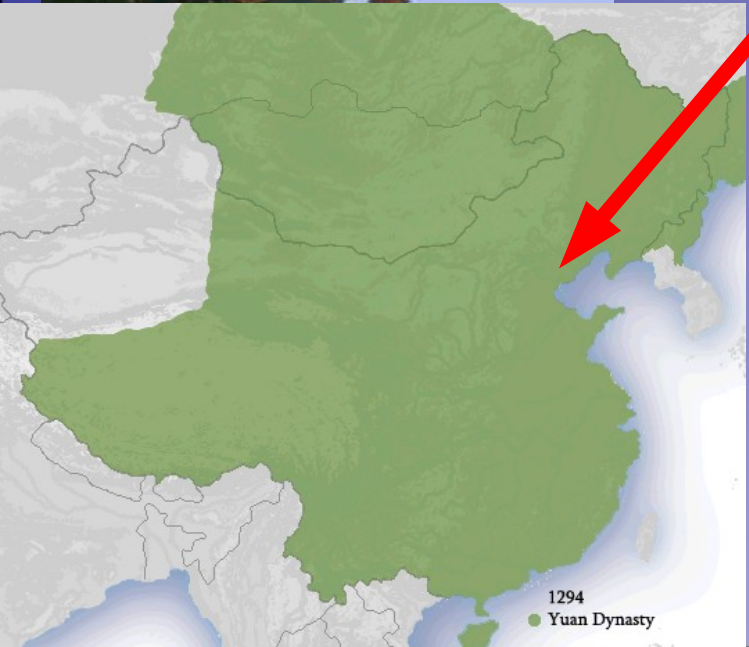


The Age of Crusades

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - If there are two Khans that anyone remembers, it's Genghis Khan and his grandson, Kublai Khan
 - He wasn't as great a conqueror as either Genghis or Möngke, but he's remembered (rightly) primarily for three things:



- 1) He finished conquering (and thus, unifying) China, establishing the Yuan dynasty that lasted for over 100 years
- 2) With his almost unbelievable wealth, he built a lavish, spectacular Summer palace at Kāipíng, renaming it Shàngdū, covering roughly five square kilometers with parks filled with exotic animals and plants, rooms plated in gold, and every modern convenience imaginable (Europeans later corrupted the palace's name and called it *Xanadu*...)



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 - 3) It was here that he received (and impressed) Venetian trader Marco Polo in 1266, who was travelling East in an attempt to find the kingdom of the enigmatic Prester John...
...but instead brought pasta back to Italy, for which we should all give thanks...

