

Crusades!

- the wars of the Crusades were fought to free the Holy Land from the Muslims
- most Crusades failed, but they had many important results for the rest of Europe

Vocab

Holy Land

- the place where Jesus was born and where Christian religion started
- modern-day Israel

Crusades

- religious wars between Christians and Muslims for control of the Holy Land

Council of Clermont

- meeting in France in 1095 to organize the first Holy War to control the Holy Land

Paladin

- holy knight bound by chivalry and goodness

Motives for Convincing People to Go

- for peasants, many perks were offered
 - promised salvation to anyone killed on a crusade
 - would forgive all your sins if you died!
 - could escape the farm and the lord's control
 - offered adventure!

- for knights/paladins, this also greatly appealed
 - all the peasant perks...
 - could use their fighting skills
 - chance to gain land and wealth in the East

- for lords, they were concerned with only two things
 - money and land

- for the Pope, there was great incentive
 - free the Holy Land from the Muslims who didn't believe in Christianity
 - could help Christians in the East
 - the Byzantine Empire had been fighting the Turks for years, and needed help
 - would expand his influence

The Crusades Themselves

- there were more than 5 Crusades in total
- they were mostly all failures
 - the first Crusade caught the Muslims off guard, and the Christians actually took control of the Holy Land
 - the second Crusade was famous
 - Richard the Lionhearted vs. Saladin
 - the Christians tried to take Jerusalem, and failed
 - Richard convinced Saladin to allow Christian pilgrims to visit though
 - later Crusades were more land/treasure grabs than anything to deal with Christianity