

Hitler and the 'Cult of Personality'

- Hitler relied on his persona as the 'Father' (fuhrer) of Germany
- people identified with his goals for Germany and accepted him as their leader and savior
 - wanted to pull Germany out of depression, make Germany great again, and right the wrongs of WWI
- to get Germans to rally around him, Hitler used propaganda to promote this persona
- Goebbels was his propaganda minister, and created a 'cult of personality' for Hitler
 - Hitler believed what Goebbels said about him...
- Hitler was seen as a crusader (painting)
 - crusaded against many different things
 - a historical crusader fought for Christianity against the Muslim world in the 12th and 13th century
 - Hitler crusaded against Jewish people, Communists, and Slavs (a little different...)
- also was portrayed as a noble, pure German
- believed that the 'Aryan Race' was God's chosen race
 - blonde hair and blue eyes
 - German people that fulfilled these criteria were believed to take over the world after Nazism won WWII