

Joannie Jeanlouis
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RESEARCH & WRITING:

In the 12th century, the Crusades were a series of religious wars between Christians and Muslims started primarily to secure control of holy sites considered sacred by both groups. In all, eight major Crusade expeditions varying in size, strength, and success which occurred between 1096 BC and 1291 BC. IN addition to the 13th century, the Crusades were a series of religious wars between Christians and Muslims started primarily to secure control of holy sites considered sacred by both groups. In this essay I will be talking about the messaged that was conveyed on the crusades along with the frames and values that lie within it.

Christians understood the Crusades as a path to salvation for those who participated. “God has instituted in our time holy wars, so that the order of knights and the crowd running in its wake... might find a new way of gaining salvation. And they are not forced to abandon secular affairs completely by choosing the monastic life or any religious profession, as used to be the custom, but can attain in some measure God’s grace while pursuing their own careers, with the liberty and in the dress to which they are accustomed.” Those who “took up the cross” were recipients of both spiritual and earthly rewards. The spiritual reward was the indulgence, or the forgiveness, of sins. The earthly rewards included plunder from conquest, forgiveness of debts, and freedom from taxes, as well as fame and political power. Crusaders did not only fight for control of the Holy Land; they also worked to secure the Church’s power in Europe.

The crusading movement involved men and women from every country in Europe and touched almost every aspect of daily life, from the Church and religious thought to politics and economics. In. addition, it also found its way into the arts, as patrons and artists from diverse backgrounds and traditions were brought together to create new forms of expression.