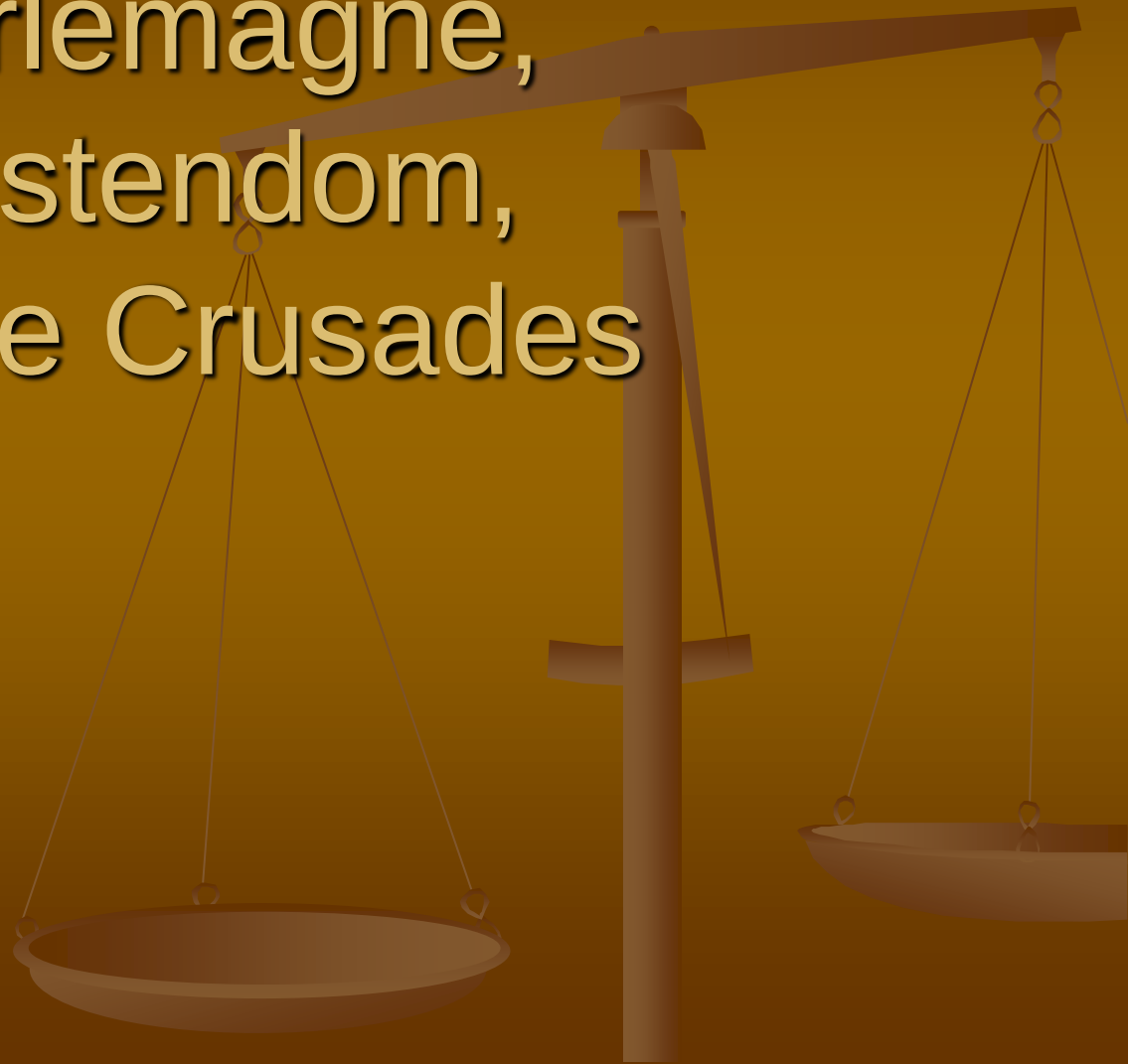
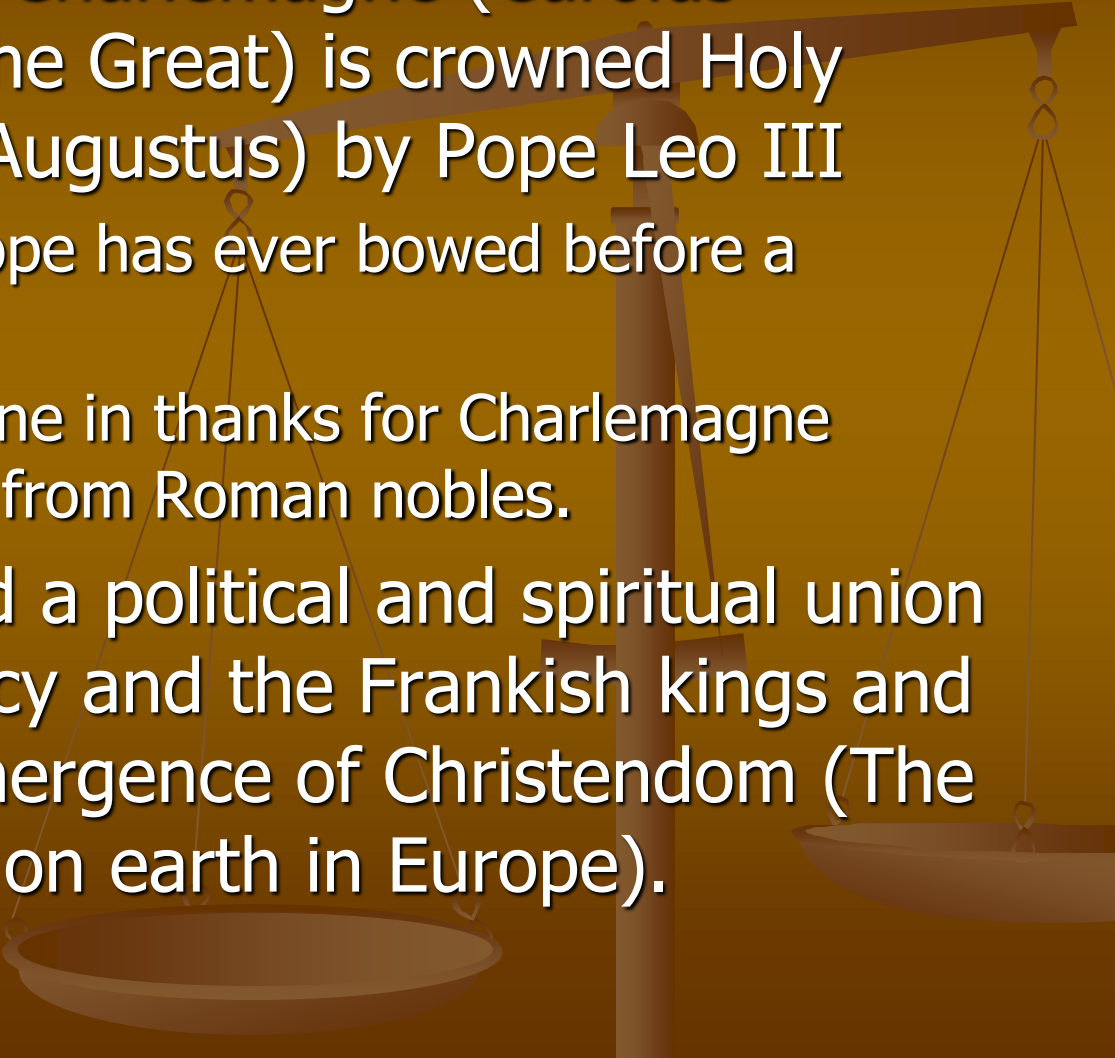


Charlemagne, Christendom, and the Crusades



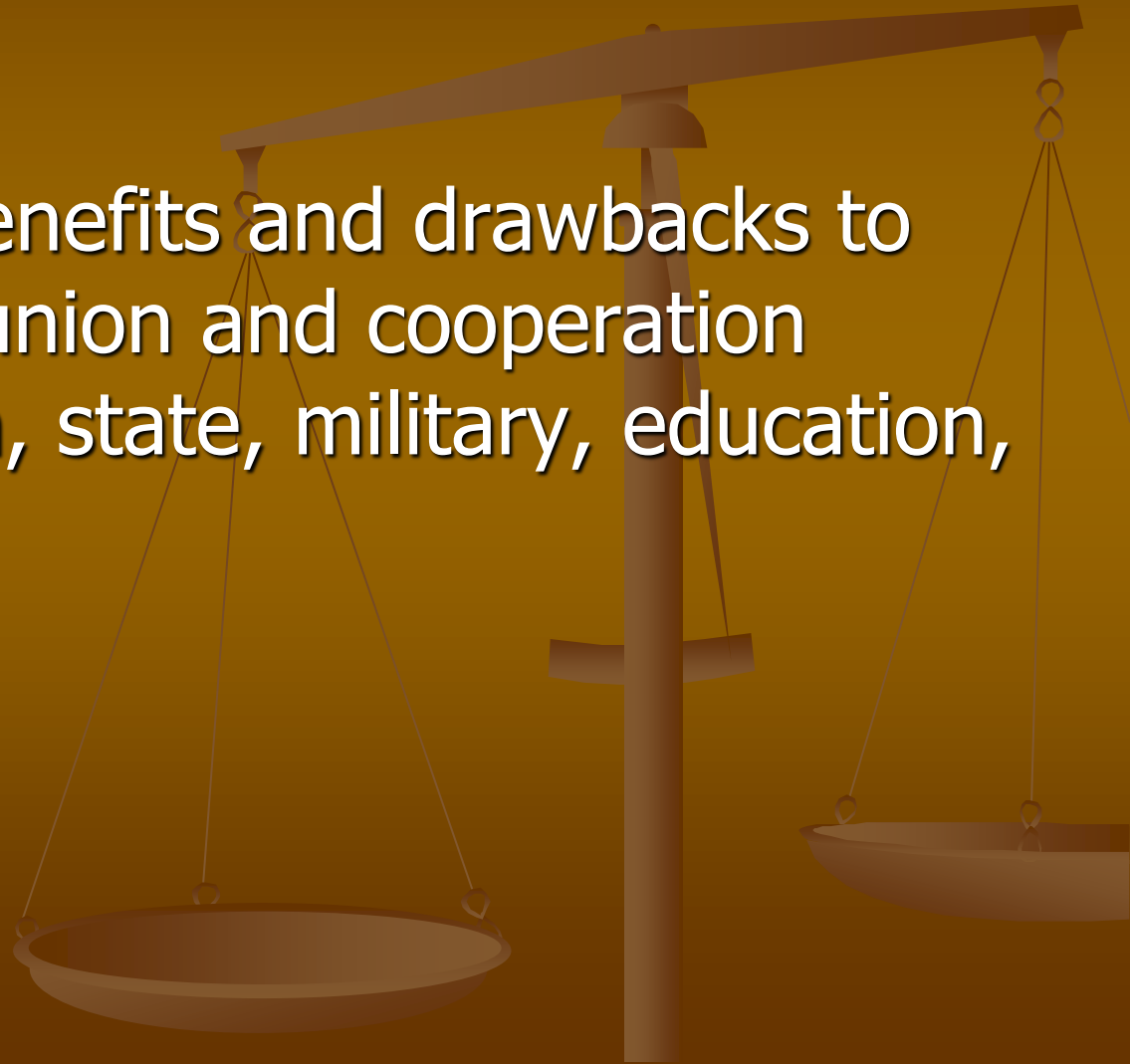


December 25, 800

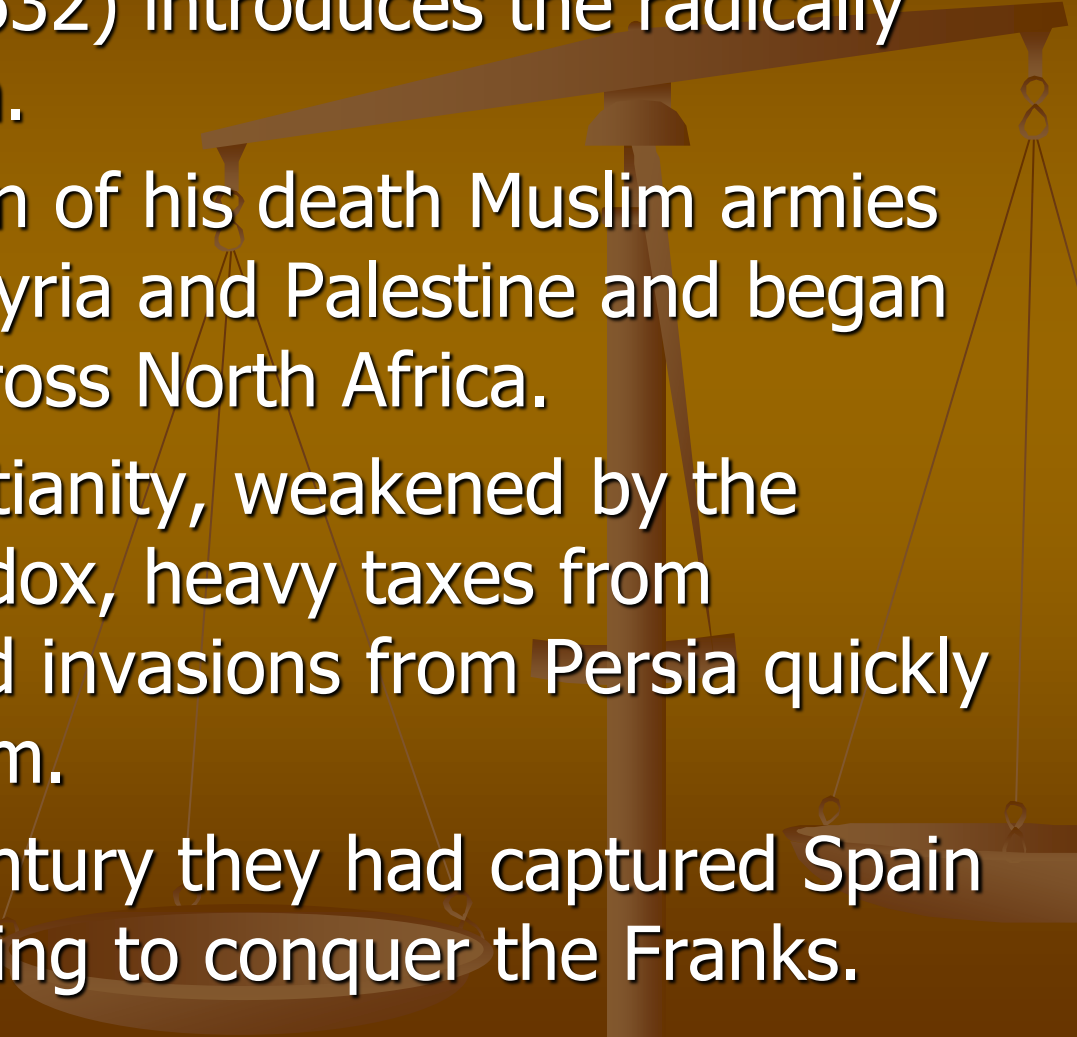
- The Frankish King Charlemagne (Carolus Magnus, Charles the Great) is crowned Holy Roman Emperor (Augustus) by Pope Leo III
 - The only time a Pope has ever bowed before a secular ruler
 - May have been done in thanks for Charlemagne rescuing the pope from Roman nobles.
 - The event signified a political and spiritual union between the papacy and the Frankish kings and symbolized the emergence of Christendom (The Kingdom of Christ on earth in Europe).
- 

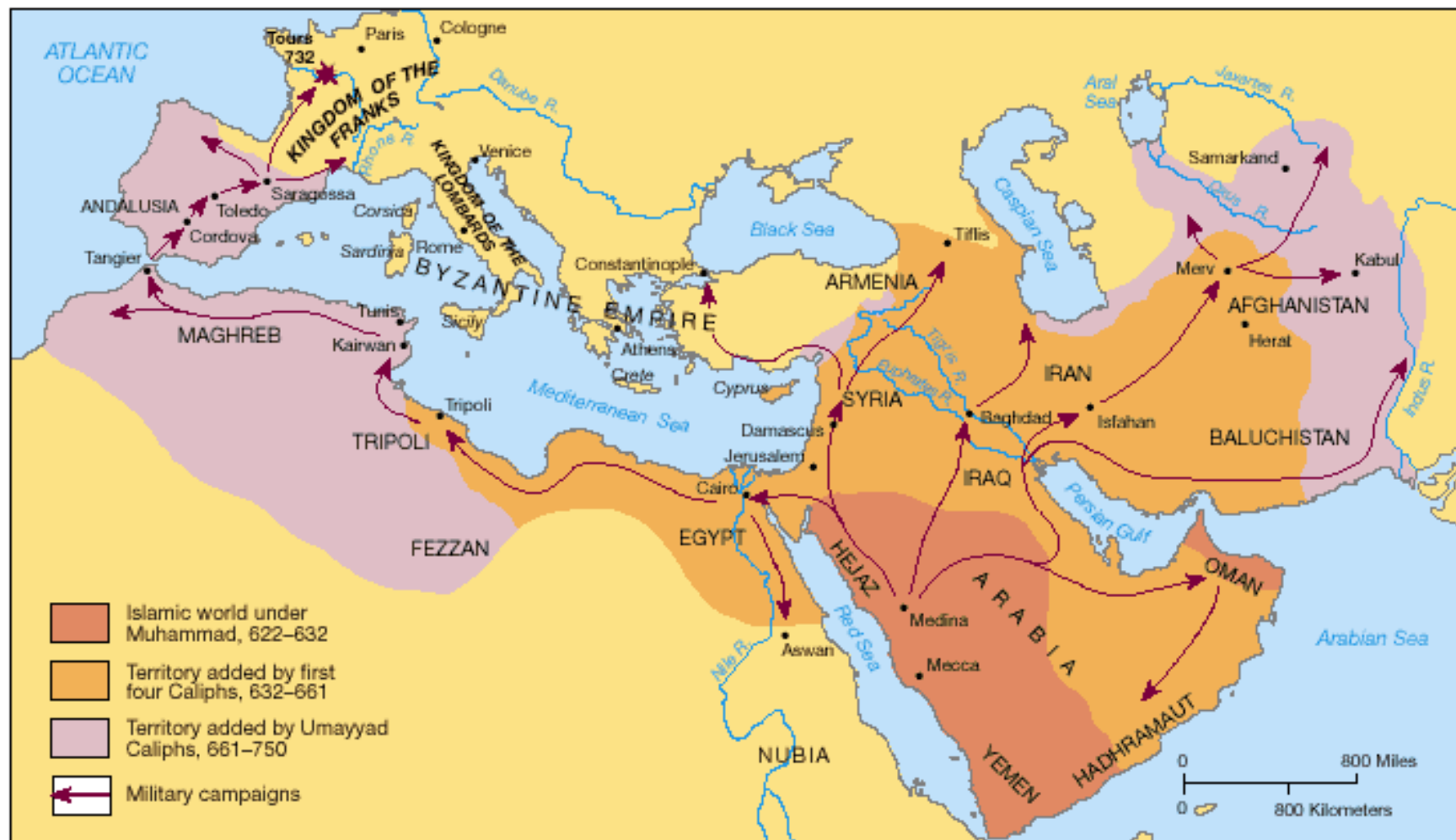
For Table Discussion

- What are the benefits and drawbacks to having a close union and cooperation between church, state, military, education, and culture?



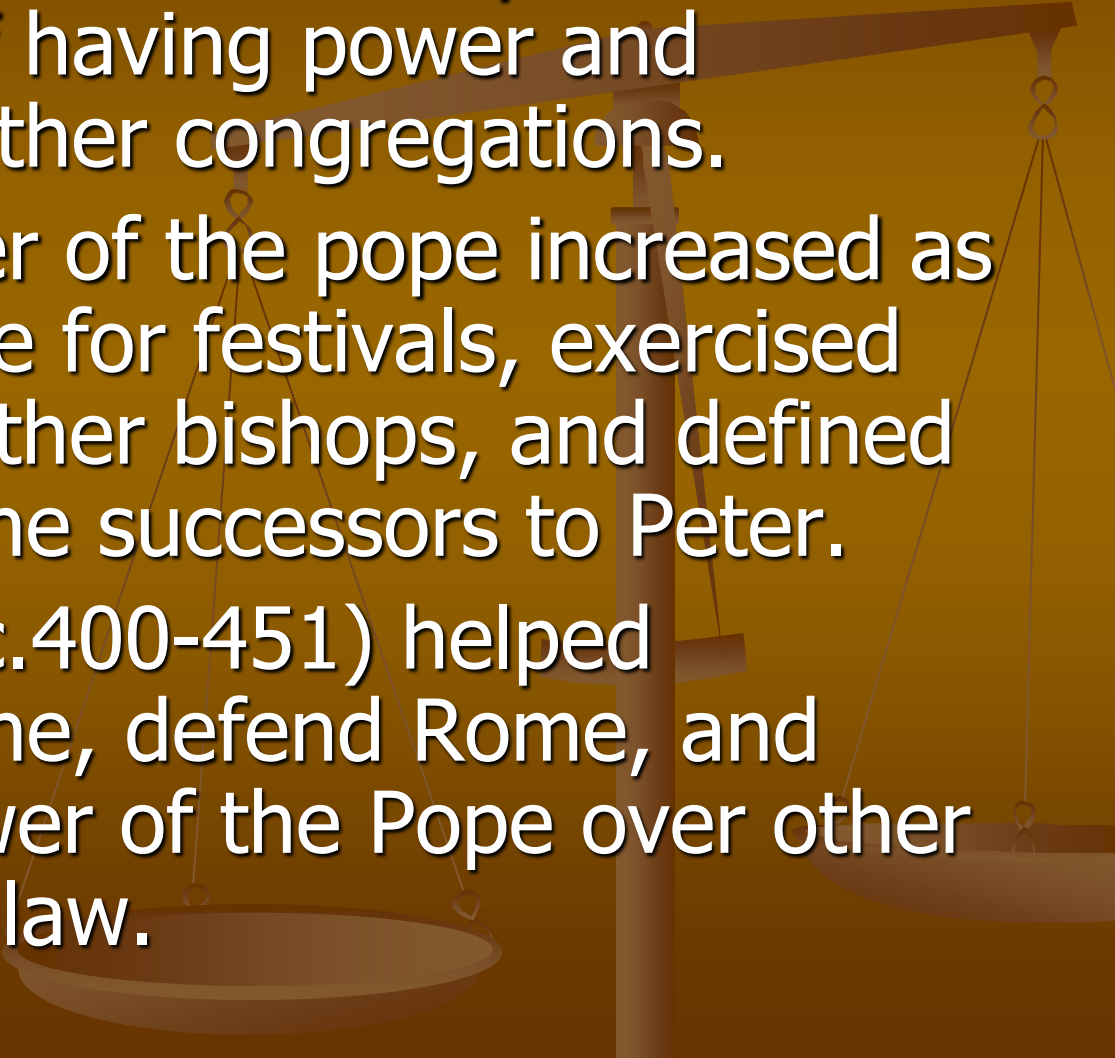
The Rise of Islam

- Mohammad (570-632) introduces the radically monotheistic Islam.
 - Within a generation of his death Muslim armies seized Byzantine Syria and Palestine and began sweeping West across North Africa.
 - Monophysite Christianity, weakened by the schism with Orthodox, heavy taxes from Constantinople and invasions from Persia quickly succumbed to Islam.
 - By the early 8th century they had captured Spain and were threatening to conquer the Franks.
- 



 *The Spread of Islam. The rapid spread of Islam created within a century a unified cultural and economic zone from India to the Atlantic Ocean within.*

The Rise of the Papacy

- As early as 96 CE – the bishop of Rome showed signs of having power and influence over other congregations.
 - Slowly the power of the pope increased as they set the date for festivals, exercised authority over other bishops, and defined themselves as the successors to Peter.
 - Leo the Great (c.400-451) helped articulate doctrine, defend Rome, and clarified the power of the Pope over other bishops for civil law.
- 

Rise of the Papacy Cont'd

- Gregory the Great (540-602)
 - Reformed the church calendar and music
 - Helped defend the city of Rome
 - Reorganized church finances and developed a new missionary strategy for Europe.
 - Maintained a humble and Christ-like character
- Later popes played important diplomatic roles expanding the influence of the papacy in Northwestern Europe and forming an alliance with the Frankish kings who helped them maintain power and influence in Italy.

The Baptism of Clovis



Rise of the Franks

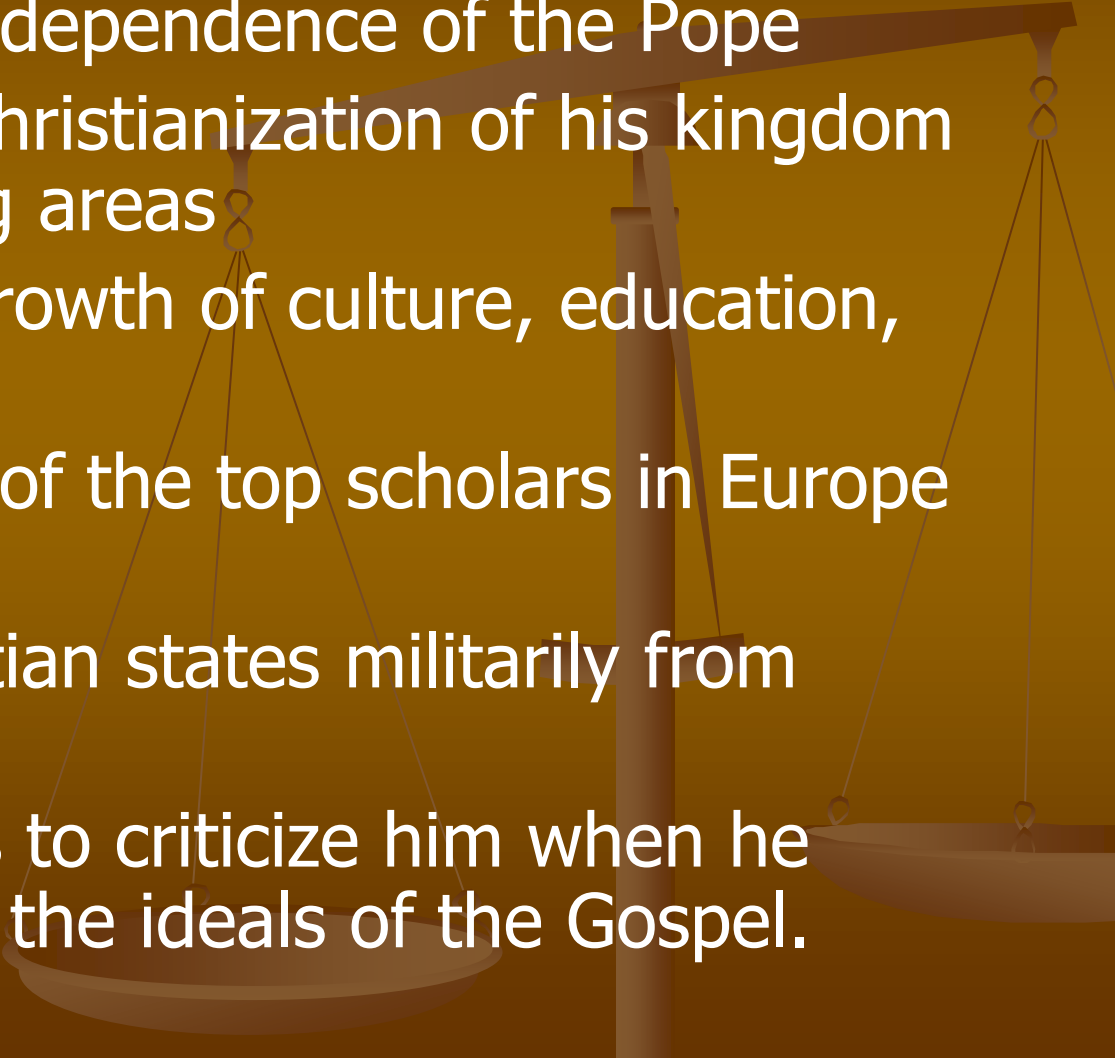
- The Franks under Clovis adopted Roman Christianity (unlike the Arianism of other Germanic tribes) began to unite Gaul and formed an alliance with the Church
- Charles Martel (The Mayor of the Palace for the Merovingian Kings) gained power and prominence with his victory over the Muslims at the battle of Tours (732)
- Martel also formed a strategic alliance with the pope and his missionaries including Boniface.
- Pepin – continued to aid the popes – gave them land from the Lombards around Rome and was crowned King of the Franks in return.



The Ideal of Christendom

- Politics, economics, theology, art, education, and social order united under the spiritual leadership of the church and secular leadership of the state.
- Sacramental Christianity – The sacraments communicate the incarnation and allow the church to mediate God's grace to believers.
 - Baptism – Birth; Confirmation – Coming of Age; Penance – Confession; Eucharist – spiritual nourishment; Marriage – Creating a Family; Extreme Unction – Death; Ordination – Church Leadership

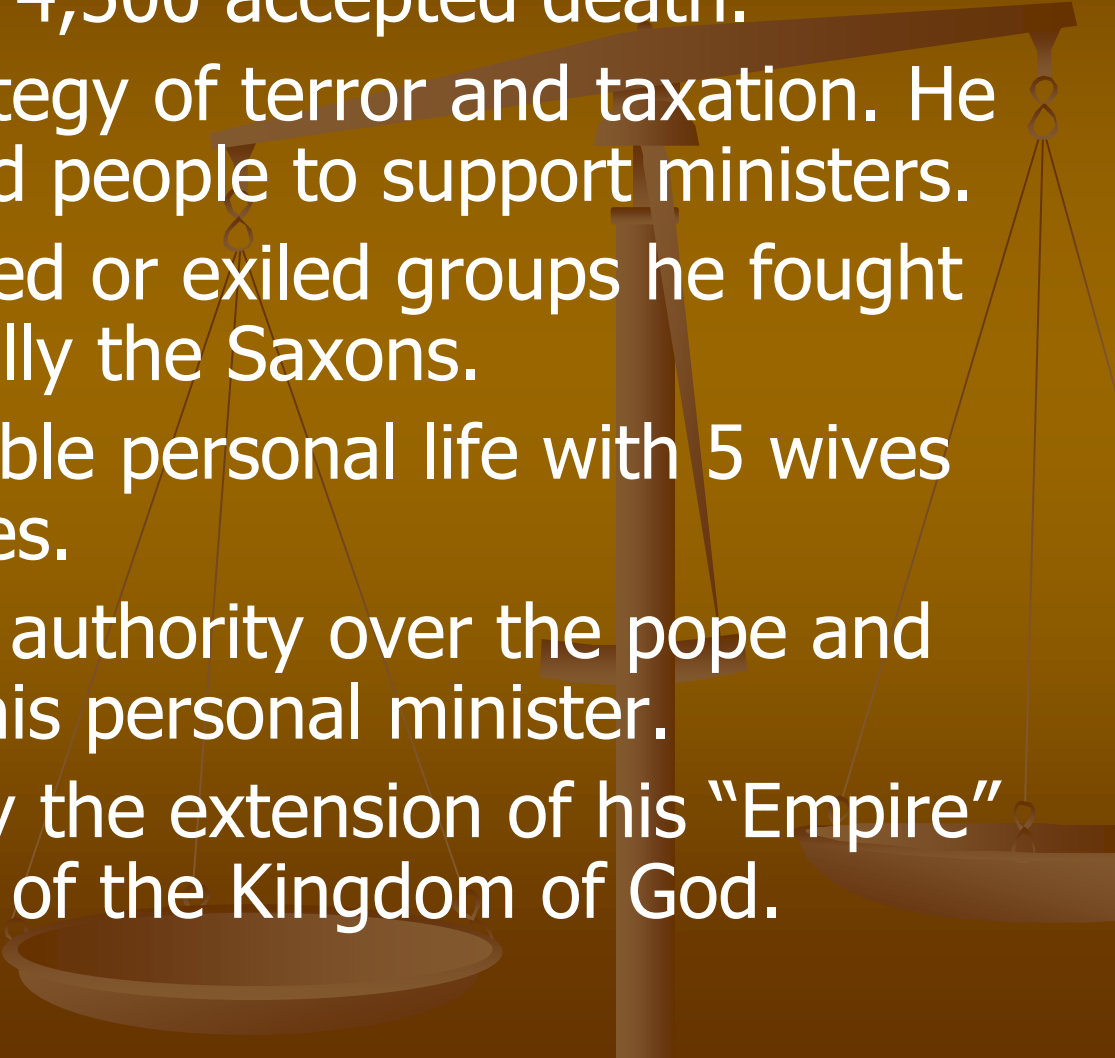
Evaluating Charlemagne

- Positive features of Charlemagne's Rule
 - Protected the independence of the Pope
 - Promoted the Christianization of his kingdom and surrounding areas
 - Promoted the growth of culture, education, and the arts
 - Attracted some of the top scholars in Europe to his court.
 - Defended Christian states militarily from outside threats.
 - Allowed bishops to criticize him when he didn't live up to the ideals of the Gospel.
- 



Reunion des Musee Nationaux/Art Resource/NY

Negative Features of Charlemagne

- Often offered defeated armies the choice “convert or die” 4,500 accepted death.
 - Conversion strategy of terror and taxation. He taxed conquered people to support ministers.
 - Often slaughtered or exiled groups he fought against, especially the Saxons.
 - Led a questionable personal life with 5 wives and 4 concubines.
 - Sought to exert authority over the pope and viewed him as his personal minister.
 - Came to identify the extension of his “Empire” with the spread of the Kingdom of God.
- 

For Discussion

What comes to mind when you think of the Crusades?

How does the copy of Pope Urban II's call for a crusade influence your opinion?



Obama at the Prayer Breakfast

So how do we, as people of faith, reconcile these realities -
- the profound good, the strength, the tenacity, the compassion and love that can flow from all of our faiths, operating alongside those who seek to hijack religious for their own murderous ends?

Humanity has been grappling with these questions throughout human history. And lest we get on our high horse and think this is unique to some other place, remember that during the Crusades and the Inquisition, people committed terrible deeds in the name of Christ. In our home country, slavery and Jim Crow all too often was justified in the name of Christ.

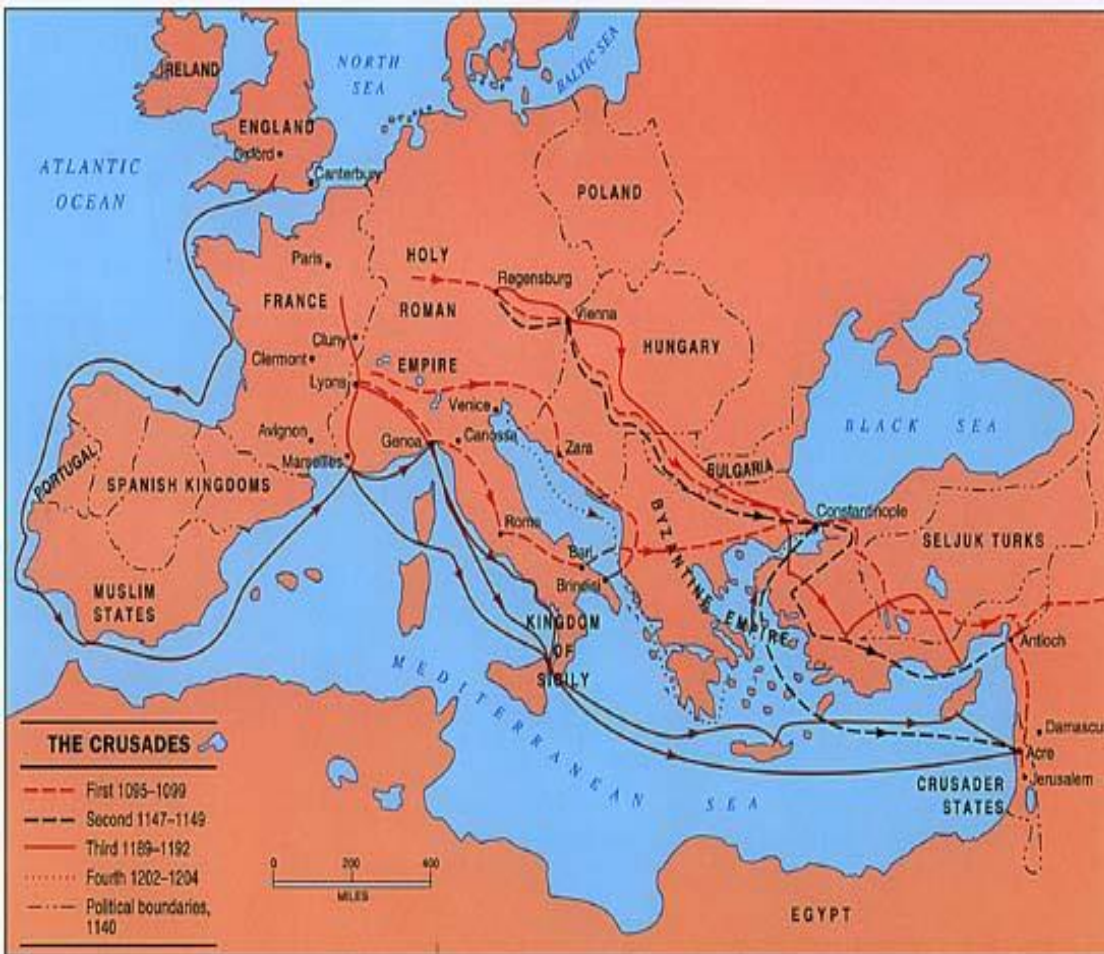
A Time of Atrocities



Illustration, anonyme Chronik, „Von der Schöpfung der Welt bis 1384 / From the Creation of the World until 1384“.

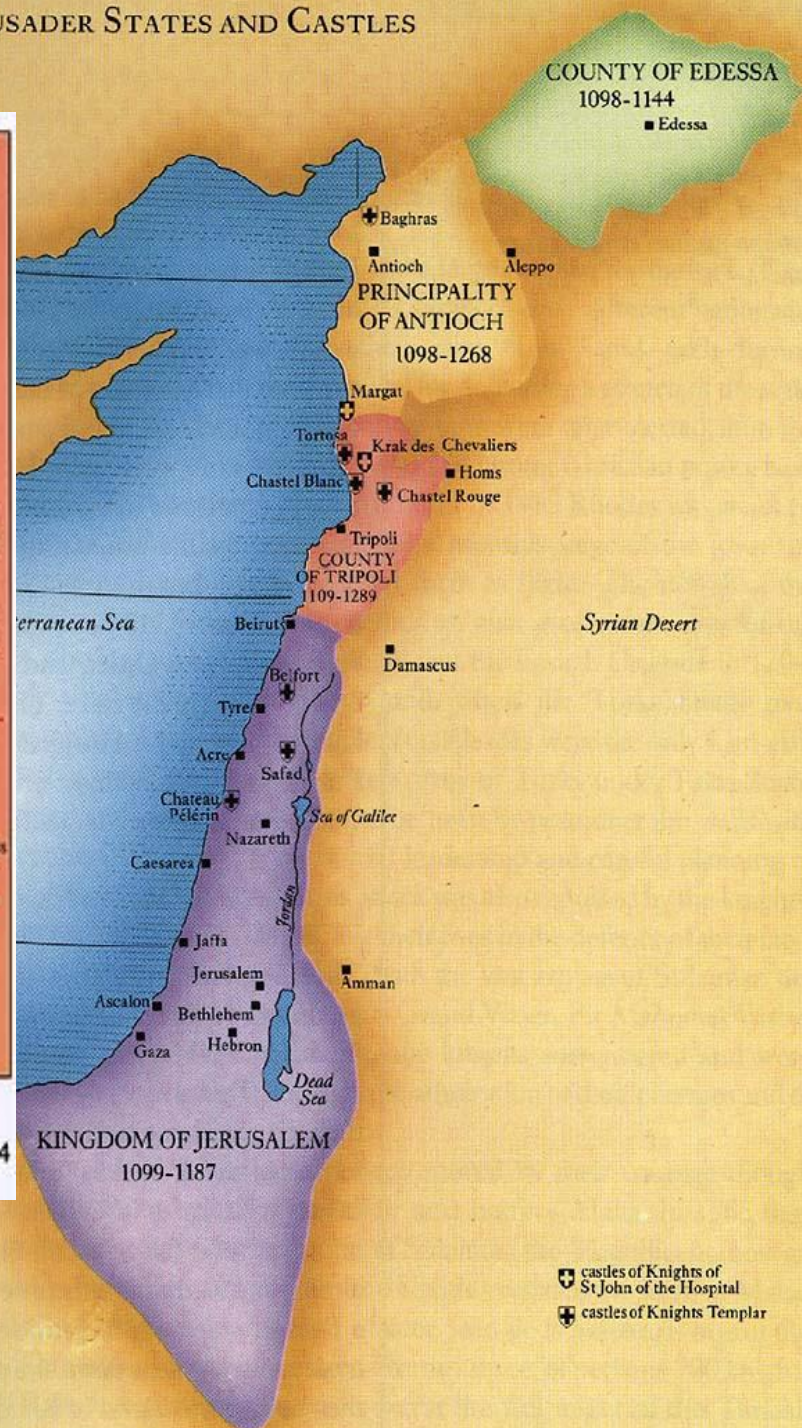
Early Crusades

- First Crusade (1096-1099)
 - 30,000 Christian soldiers from all over Europe form 3 armies led by French nobles endure hunger, hardship and disease
 - After 2 months siege of Jerusalem, they win; enter city and slaughter thousands of its Muslims and Jews
- Second Crusade (1147-1149)
 - fought to reclaim Christian lands in Palestine lost to Seljuk Turks
 - Led by French king and Holy Roman Emperor
 - Constant infighting causes the crusade to fail.



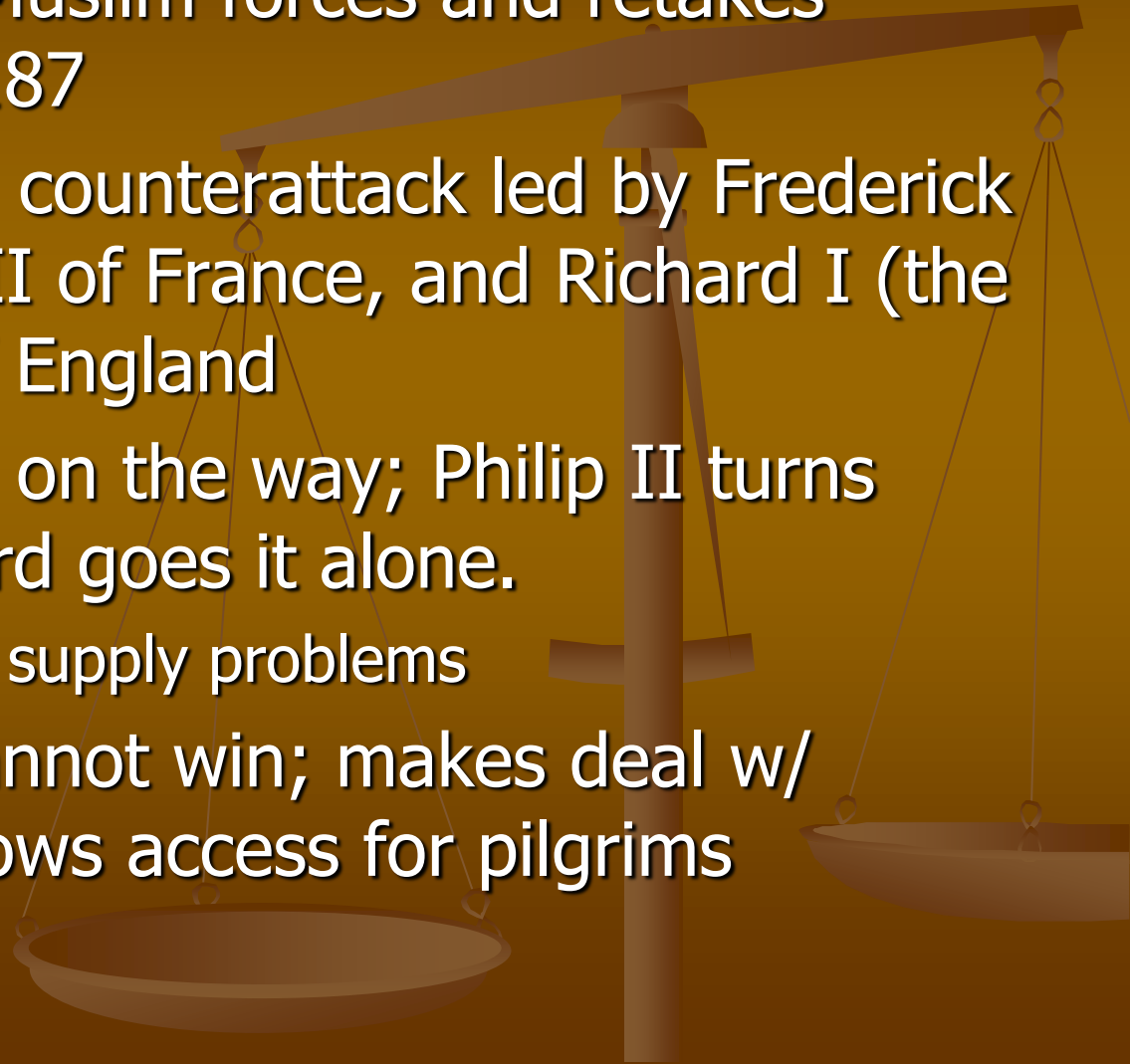
The Crusades

© 2000 by Addison-Wesley Educational Publishers Inc.



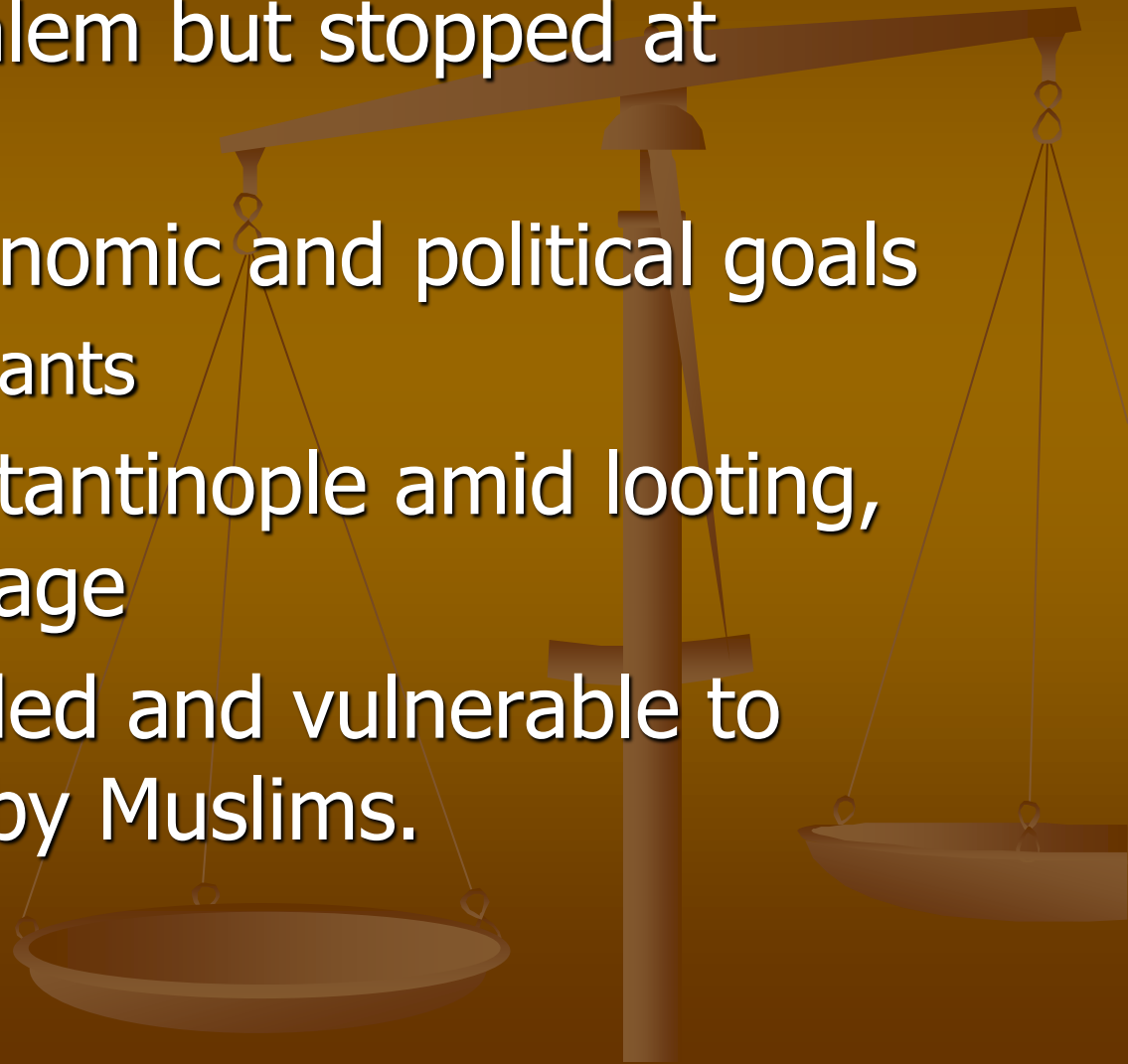
Third Crusade (1187-1192)

- Saladin unites Muslim forces and retakes Jerusalem in 1187
- Europeans plan counterattack led by Frederick I (HRE), Philip II of France, and Richard I (the Lionhearted) of England
- Frederick I dies on the way; Philip II turns back and Richard goes it alone.
 - Infighting and supply problems
- after 3 years cannot win; makes deal w/ Saladin that allows access for pilgrims

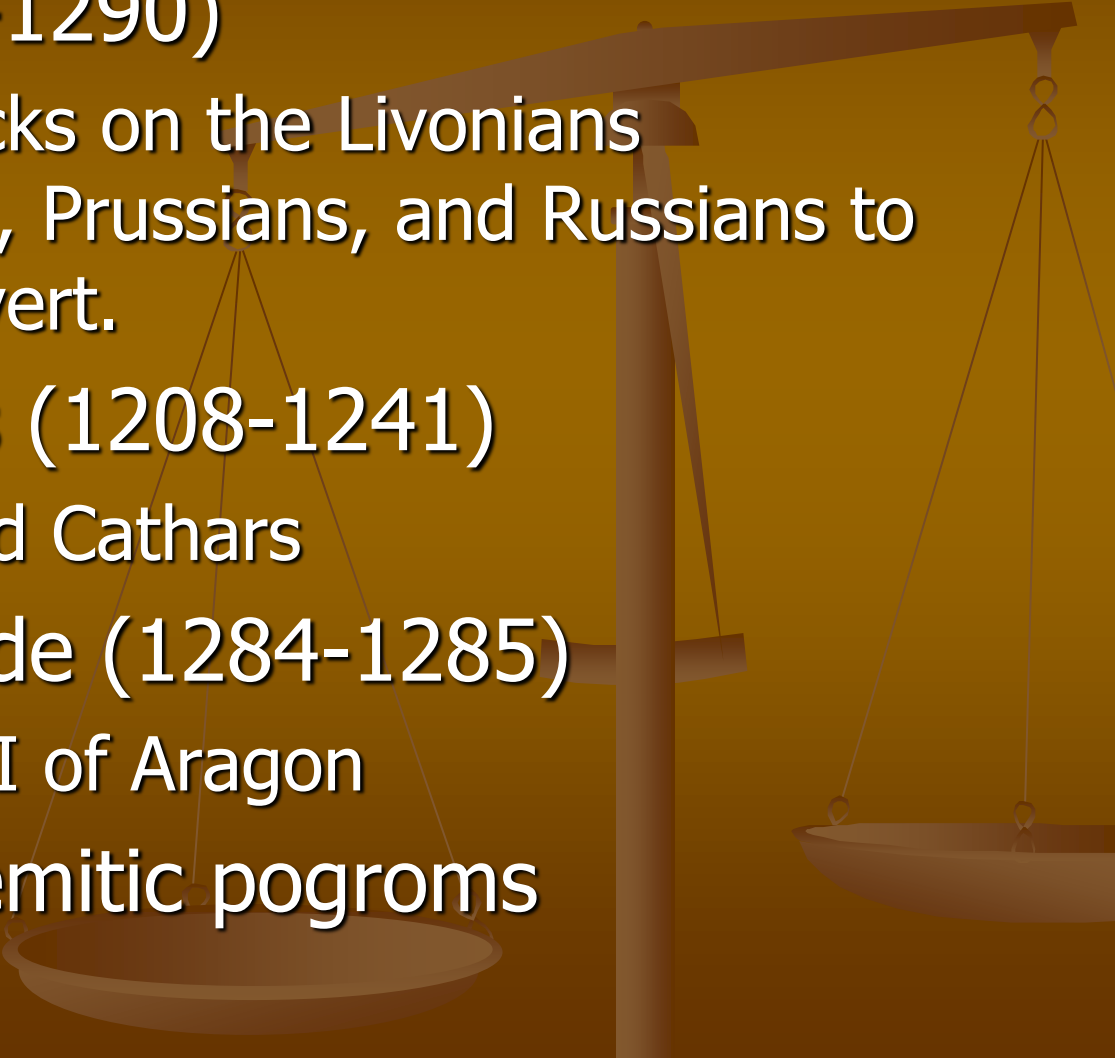


Fourth Crusade (1202-1204)

- Aimed at Jerusalem but stopped at Constantinople
- Hijacked by economic and political goals
 - Venetian Merchants
- Destroyed Constantinople amid looting, burning and pillage
- Byzantines divided and vulnerable to further attacks by Muslims.



Other Crusades

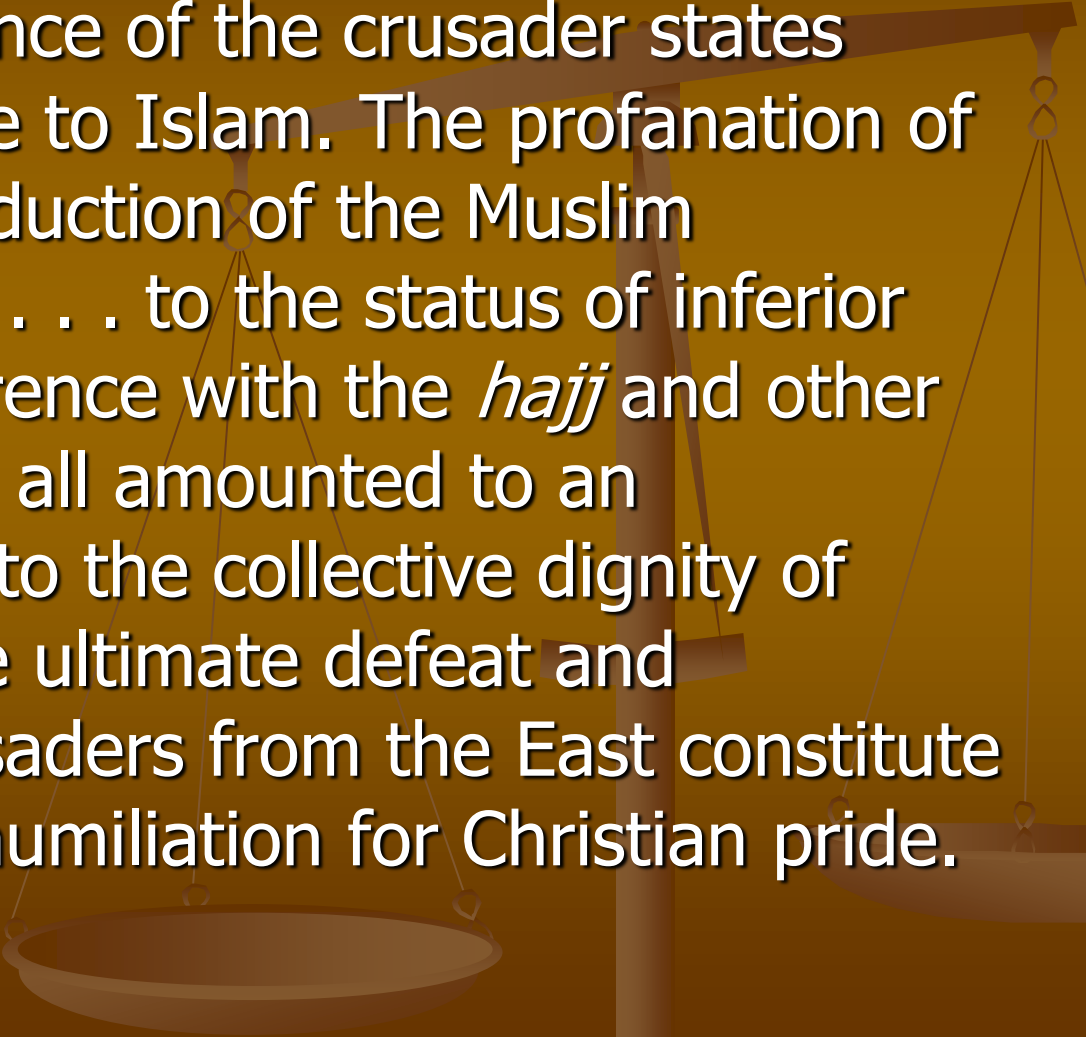
- Northern (1193-1290)
 - A series of attacks on the Livonians (Latvia/Estonia), Prussians, and Russians to defeat and convert.
 - Against Heretics (1208-1241)
 - Albigensians and Cathars
 - Argonese Crusade (1284-1285)
 - Against Peter III of Aragon
 - Repeated Antisemitic pogroms
- 

Karen Armstrong

“With the Crusades, the West found its soul. It began cultivating its own literary, artistic and spiritual traditions. This was the age of St. Francis of Assisi, Giotto, Dante and the troubadours. Until the Crusades, Europe had been a primitive backwater, isolated from other civilizations and lost in a dark age....By the end of the crusading venture, Europe had not only recovered but also was on a course to overtake its rivals and achieve world hegemony. This recovery was a triumph unparalleled in history, but it was also a triumph that involved great strain and whose unfortunate consequences reverberate even today.”

Jeremy Johns

. . . The very existence of the crusader states caused grave offense to Islam. The profanation of the Holy City, the reduction of the Muslim population of Syria to the status of inferior subjects, the interference with the *hajj* and other religious obligations, all amounted to an unforgivable affront to the collective dignity of Islam. So too did the ultimate defeat and expulsion of the crusaders from the East constitute a lasting and bitter humiliation for Christian pride.





PERSHING'S CRUSADERS

AUSPICES OF THE
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

-THE FIRST OFFICIAL AMERICAN WAR PICTURE-
TAKEN BY U.S. SIGNAL CORPS AND NAVY PHOTOGRAPHERS



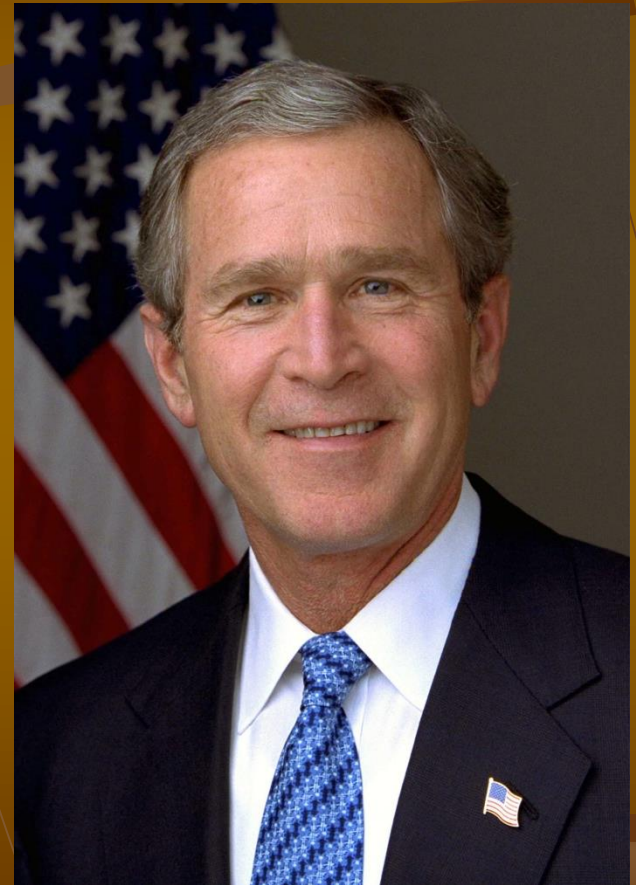
Ronald Reagan to Parliament

"Let us now begin a major effort to secure the best -- a **crusade for freedom** that will engage the faith and fortitude of the next generation. For the sake of peace and justice, let us move toward a world in which all people are at last free to determine their own destiny."



George W. Bush after 9/11

"We haven't seen this kind of barbarism in a long period of time. No one could have conceivably imagined suicide bombers burrowing into our society and then emerging all in the same day to fly their aircraft - fly U.S. aircraft into buildings full of innocent people - and show no remorse. . . And the American people are beginning to understand. **This crusade, this war on terrorism** is going to take a while."

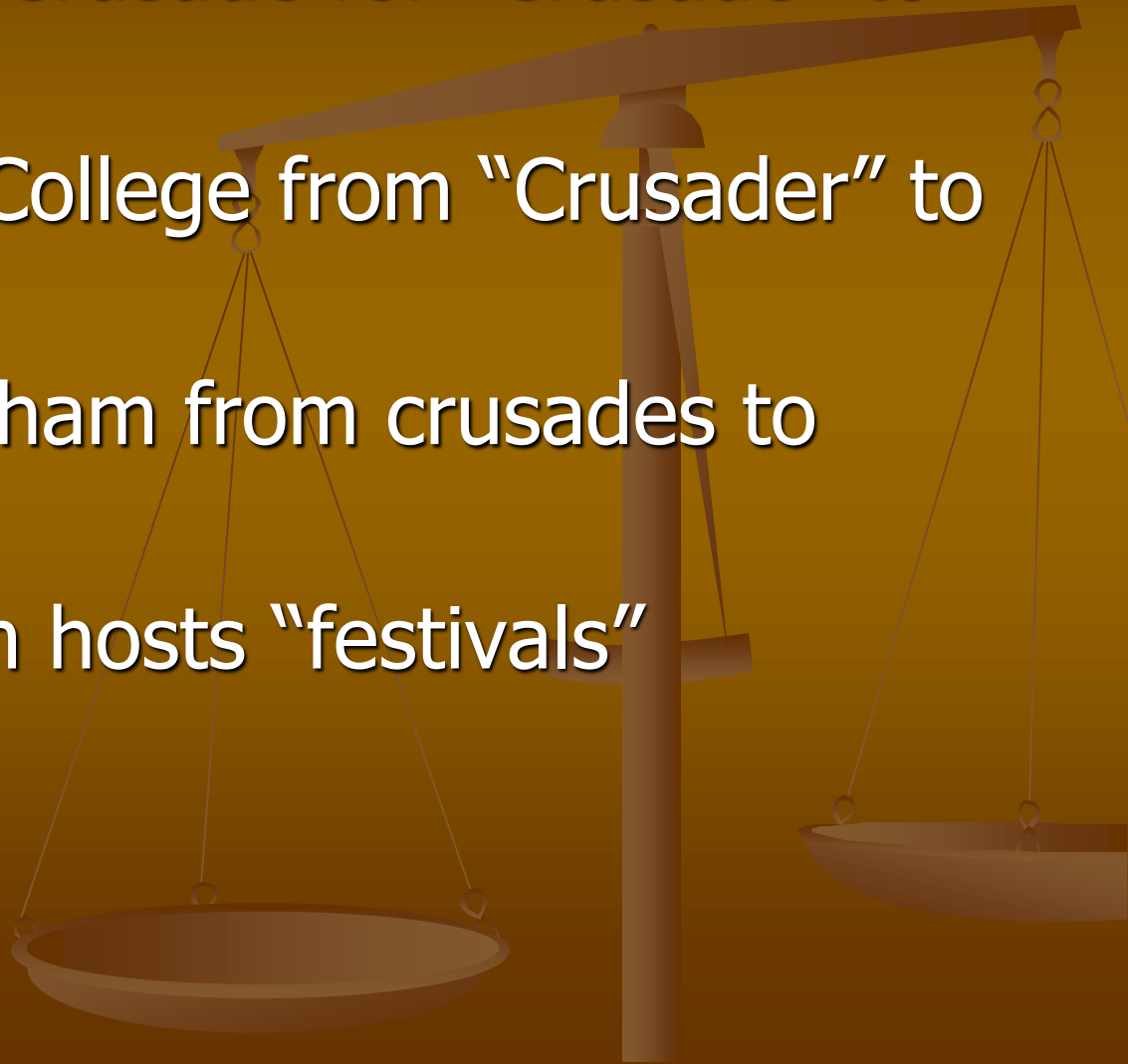


Apologies

- John Paul II Apologies (2001, 2004)
 - "It is tragic that the assailants, who set out to secure free access for Christians to the Holy Land, turned against their brothers in the faith. The fact that they were Latin Christians fills Catholics with deep regret.
 - "How can we not share, at a distance of eight centuries, the pain and disgust."
- Donald Miller: *Blue Like Jazz* – Confession Booth.

Crusading no More?

- 2011 - Campus Crusade for "Crusade" to "Cru"
- 2000 Wheaton College from "Crusader" to "Thunder"
- "2002" Billy Graham from crusades to missions
- Franklin Graham hosts "festivals"



Application Questions

- What lessons can we take from the time of Christendom to influence how we live in the world today?
- How do we deal with difficult chapters in the church's past?
- Is there anything for which "we" need to repent?
- Are there lessons that we can learn from these difficult chapters in the past?

