

would grow humanitarian efforts and even such a body as the Red Cross owes something to their spirit and image.

As the Crusaders moved through Europe they financed their efforts by robbing the Jews. Crusade pogroms occurred in many Jewish communities and the level of church-Jewish relations has never looked worse than in those days. Often when arriving at Constantinople they plundered stores, etc, for their sustenance and sometimes the Emperor had to use his own troops to keep order among the fighting crusaders. While the military and romantic appeal of the crusades is interesting, the total movement does not show a picture of spiritual, moral, or societal health.

The Second Crusade

Undertaken in 1147 at the call of the reforming monk, Bernard of Clairvaux, the aim was to further repel the Islamic forces. But conflicts in leadership, lack of orientation, and a failure to have a really definitive purpose made this Crusade a near-total disaster with considerable loss of life and property.

The Third Crusade

The drama of Medieval romance, this crusade was born with the fall of Jerusalem to the Islamics in 1187. Saladin, the legendary Arab leader, overran the city and the call for another liberation crusade was given. To this call came Richard the Lionhearted, from England, Frederick Barbarossa from Germany and the Emperor Philip Augustus. It was a great pageant but hopelessly ineffective. Not doing much harm to Islam, it plundered the Jews, depleted the treasury of Constantinople, and hurt a few Islamic warriors. It is the crusade of legend and the events and feats of famous gallants and knights...but in terms of accomplishment it did not do much. Makes awfully good reading, however, for the gullible.

The Fourth Crusade

Not welcomed in the east, it first conquered Constantinople! The damage done to the eastern empire was practically irreparable. A