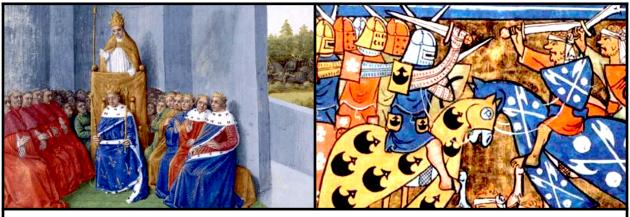
# AIM: Why did European knights fight in the Crusades?

# ACTIVITY 1: DO NOW

**Directions**: Analyze the document and answer the questions that follow.

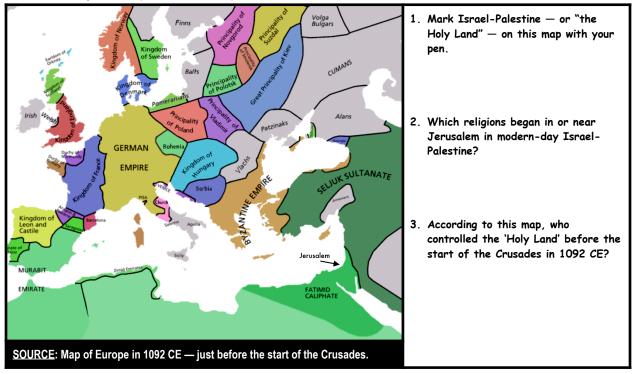


1. SEE: What do you see happening in these image S?

- 2. **THINK**: What inferences can you make about these images? (An inference is a conclusion you make about something based on evidence in front of you)
- 3. **QUESTION**: What questions do you have about these images?

# ACTIVITY 2: GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

Directions: Analyze the map and answer the questions that follow.



#### ACTIVITY 3 — PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS

Directions: Analyze the document below and answer the questions that follow.

### SPEECH BY POPE URBAN II, LEADER OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, 1095 CE



...."Although, O sons of God, you have promised more firmly than ever to keep the peace among yourselves and to preserve (protect) the rights of the church, there remains still an important work for you to do. Freshly quickened by the divine correction (God's ability to help or fix), you must apply the strength of your righteousness to another matter which concerns you as well as God. For your brethren (brothers) who live in the east are in urgent need of your help, and you must hasten (act fast) to give them the aid (help) which has often been promised them. For, as the most of you have heard, the Turks and Arabs have attacked them and have conquered the territory of Romania [the Greek empire] as far west as the shore of the Mediterranean and the Hellespont. They have occupied more and more of the lands of those Christians, and have overcome them in seven battles. They have killed and captured many, and have destroyed the churches and devastated the empire. If you permit them to continue thus for awhile with impurity (sin; not pure), the faithful of God will be much more widely attacked by them. On this account I, or rather the Lord, beseech (beg; implore) you as Christ's servants to publish this everywhere and to persuade (convince) all people of whatever rank, footsoldiers and knights, poor and rich, to carry aid promptly to those Christians and to destroy that vile (disgusting) race from the lands of our friends... Moreover, Christ commands it. All who die by the way, whether by land or by sea, or in battle against the pagans (non-Christians, particularly referring to Muslims), shall have immediate remission (forgiveness) of sins. This I grant them through the power of God with which I am invested. O what a disgrace if such a despised (hated) and base race, which worships demons, should conquer a people which has the faith of omnipotent (all-powerful) God and is made glorious with the name of Christ!....

SOURCE: A widely-recorded speech by Pope Urban II in 1095.

- 1. Why does Pope Urban II want Christians to go to the Middle East to fight?
- 2. Which social classes in the European feudal system does Pope Urban II ask to fight for this cause?
- 3. According to this document, how will people be rewarded if they die? Do you think people considered this worth the fight?
- 4. Based on your analysis of this document, what were the Crusades? Why were they fought?

#### ACTIVITY 4: ASSESSMENT

Directions: Choose an option below and submit on looseleaf for a grade.

| OPTION A  | OPTION B   |
|---|--|
| Thousands of knights fought in the Crusades — but<br>thousands met Muslims there and interacted with them in<br>various scenarios before returning home, safe and sound. In<br>a paragraph of 4-6 sentences, predict how the Crusades<br>will impact European culture when they are over and the<br>knights return home. Draw upon your knowledge of the<br>historical/geographical context of the Holy Land as part of<br>the Byzantine Empire and then the Islamic Caliphates to<br>determine the types of knowledge, art, architecture,<br>medicine, or other advancements that might finally find<br>their way to Europe. | In a paragraph of 6-8 sentences, answer the<br>AIM: "Why did European knights fight in the<br>Crusades?" Provide at least two pieces of<br>evidence from today's activities. |

# ACTIVITY 5 – ADDITIONAL RESOURCE: GUIDED NOTES

Directions: Copy the notes as directed.

| What is a<br>PILGRIMAGE?   |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| What were the<br>CRUSADES? |  |

# ACTIVITY 6 — ADDITIONAL RESOURCE: VIDEO

Directions: Analyze the video and answer the questions.

