15--**Crash Course World History Video Notes:**

**The Crusades - Pilgrimage or Holy War?**

1. Initially the Crusades were not a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ on the part of Europeans against Islam, but in important ways the Crusades were driven by religious faith.
2. If the Crusades had been brought on by the lightning-fast rise of Islamic empires and a desire to keep in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ hands the land of Jesus, then the Crusades would’ve started in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ century.
3. But early Islamic dynasties, like the Umayyads and the Abbasids, were perfectly happy with Christians and Jews living among them, as long as they paid a \_\_\_\_\_\_. And plus the Christian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ business was awesome for the Islamic Empire’s economy.
4. But then a new group of Muslims, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Turks, moved into the region and they sacked the holy cities and made it much more difficult for Christians to make their pilgrimages.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ felt the threat and called upon the west for help.
6. So the first official crusade began with a call to arms from Pope \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ II in 1095. This was partly because Urban wanted to unite Europe by giving them a common enemy.
7. Crusades were not primarily military operations; they were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with a touch of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the side.
8. Some modern historians might ignore religious motivations, but medieval crusaders didn’t. To the Crusaders, they were taking up arms to protect \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and his kingdom. So when these people cried out “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_!” to explain their reasons for going, we should do them the favor of believing them.
9. Following preachers like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, thousands of peasants and nobles alike volunteered for the First Crusade and had a rough time going. There was no real leader so they were constant rivalries between nobles about who could supply the most troops.
10. But despite the rivalries, and the disorganization the crusaders were remarkably successful. At Antioch the Crusaders reversed a seemingly hopeless situation when a peasant found a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that had pierced the side of Christ’s side hidden under a church, thereby raising morale enough to win the day.
11. By 1100CE European nobles held both Antioch and Jerusalem as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Christian kingdoms (most Christians in the Levant were Orthodox).
12. The third Crusade was a European response to the emergence of a new Islamic power, led by Saladin. The Crusaders were ultimately led by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I of England.
13. Although crusading continued throughout the 14th century, the \_\_\_\_\_\_ Crusade is the last one we’ll focus on, because it was the Crazy One. The Venetians built \_\_\_\_\_\_ ships, but then only 11,000 Crusaders actually made it down to Venice, and there wasn’t enough money to pay for those boats, so the Venetians made the Crusaders a deal: Help us capture the rebellious city of Zara, and we’ll ferry you to Anatolia. This was a smidge problematic, Crusading-wise, because Zara was a Christian city, but the Crusaders agreed to help, resulting in the Pope \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ both them and the Venetians.
14. Later the excommunicated Crusaders fought for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ emperor who failed to pay them so the Crusaders decided to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Byzantine Empire…but never reclaimed any of the Holy Land. The fourth crusade pretty much doomed the Byzantine Empire, which never really recovered. Constantinople, a shadow of its former self, was conquered by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in 1453.
15. So ultimately the Crusades were a total failure at establishing Christian kingdoms in the Holy Land long term. And with the coming of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the region remained solidly Muslim, as it is (mostly) is today.