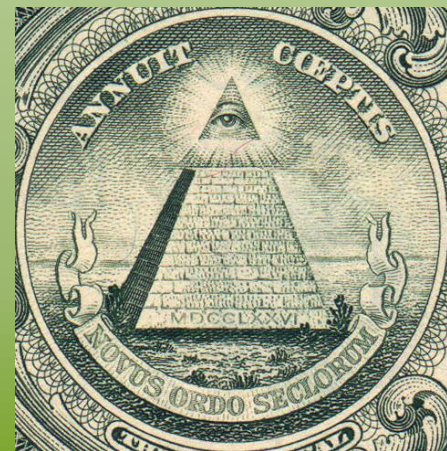




Tracking the Ancient Mysteries from Egypt to the Founding of America



Lecture 9: Knights Templar

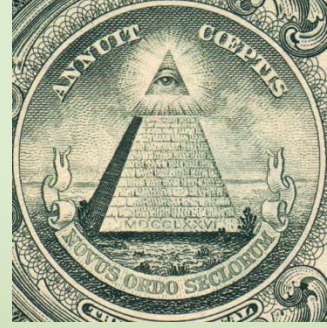


Outline



- **Lectures 1 – 5:** Conceptual foundations, Egypt, Greece, The Temple Legend, Vanishing of the Mysteries
- **Lectures 6 – 10:** Early Christian Mysteries, Faith versus Knowledge, Charlemagne, Knights Templars, Cathars & Rosicrucians
- **Lectures 11 – 15:** Renaissance, Leonardo, Founding of America, Freemasonry, Mysteries for the Future

The Stars Once Spoke to Man

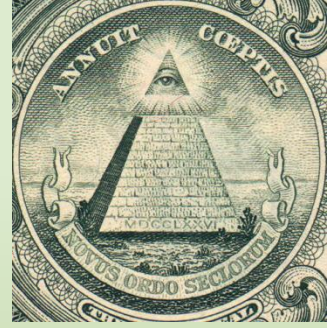


The Stars once spoke to Man.
It is World-destiny
That they are silent now.
To be aware of the silence
Can become pain for earthly Man.

But in the deepening silence
There grows and ripens
What Man speaks to the Stars.
To be aware of the speaking
Can become strength for Spirit-Man.

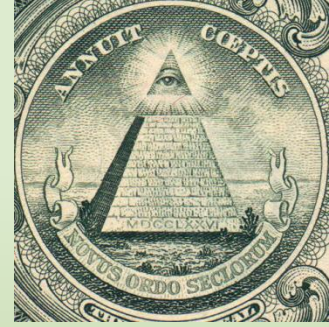
Rudolf Steiner

3 Keys To Remember



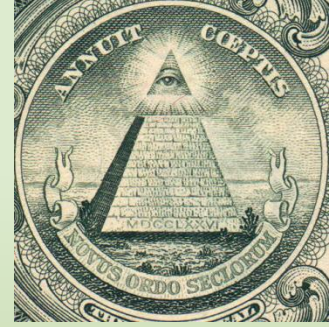
1. Following the 1st Crusade, Templars transform Europe enabling the Renaissance
2. Templars suddenly become expert architects and builders of a new style
3. Templars are ruthlessly rooted out of Europe by jealous, in-debt-to-them King – but their wealth disappears

The Historical Situation



- Rome was little more than ruins, barbarians ruled West
- The Mysteries had vanished – or gone underground
- Greek philosophers were thought of as mystics and thus driven out of Christendom – helping to ignite the cultural supremacy of Islamic states: e.g. Cordova and Baghdad
- Spread of Islam stopped by Charles Martel whose successor, Charlemagne, befriends Harun al-Rashid who sends teachers – School at Chartres flourishes
- Pilgrimages begin to Jerusalem – 1000s go each year
- Massacres of pilgrims fuels desire for crusade
- Desire for holy relics, Papacy in crisis, theological demise

Situation in the Holy Lands



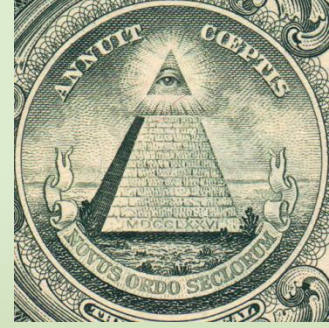
- Constantine and his mother St. Helena, 300 AD
 - Discovery of the grave of Jesus – begins pilgrimages
 - Builds hospital in Jerusalem to treat and care for Christian pilgrims
- 614: Persians capture Jerusalem, destroy all churches
 - Capture of the Cross of Christ, destruction of priests, of deacons, and monks, and all Christians, rape of nuns, enslavement of men & children
- 620: The Hadith of the prediction in Sura ar-Rum
- 627: Byzantine Emperor Heraclius (610-41) defeats Persians
- 638: Caliph Omar enters Jerusalem, establishes religious tolerance
 - Pilgrimages to holy land grow dramatically afterwards
 - Period of Muslim rule but religious peaceful co-existence
- 1005: Caliph Al Hakim destroys the hostel and 3000 other buildings
- 1023: Caliph Ali az-Zahir of Egypt gives Italian merchants from Amalfi and Salerno permission to rebuild the hospice in Jerusalem
- 1064: over 7000 pilgrims at Easter
 - includes Archbishop of Mentz and many Bishops
- 1065: Turkomans overthrow Jerusalem and massacre 3000 pilgrims
- 1090s: Continued dangers to pilgrims leads to First Crusade

Islamic View of the Crusades



- The Crusader invasion served to shift the locus of world power westward. During their occupation of the Holy Land and surrounding areas, the Westerners were able to learn a great deal from the culture which they bested militarily. Some European scholars learned Arabic and were able to access the wealth of information contained in these sources. It is said that "the heritage of Greek civilizations was transmitted to Western Europe through Arab intermediaries" during this period . **Vistas of knowledge were revealed to the Europeans in the areas of architecture, chemistry, astronomy, mathematics, paper-making, leather-working and a host of other important fields** . This information, the basis of Arab intellectual society, was eagerly received and built upon by the still nascent civilization of Western Europe
- The Europeans quickly harnessed the power latent in the culture they had successfully conquered and used it to help construct the civilization that has culturally dominated much of the world for the past five hundred years.

Maalouf, Amin. *The Crusades Through Arab Eyes*. Al Saqi Book, dist. Zed Books, 1984

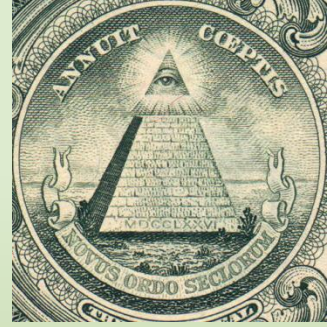


Islamic View of the Crusades

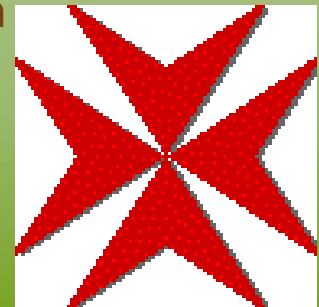
- In contrast, interaction with the foreign invaders produced little positive effects for the Middle-Eastern Muslims.
- The Crusaders had proved themselves to be a terrible enemy.
- The much vaunted ideal of chivalry rarely carried through to the actual battles fought for the Holy Land. Many European victories were followed by extensive massacres of men, women and children. After a bloody battle at Ma'arra in which thousands were probably killed a European chronicler writes, "our troops boiled pagan adults in cooking-pots; they impaled children on spits and devoured them grilled". It was hard for Muslims to identify with such cruel adversaries. These horrors served to **demonize the Westerners and their Christianity**.

Maalouf, Amin. *The Crusades Through Arab Eyes*. Al Saqi Book, dist. Zed Books, 1984

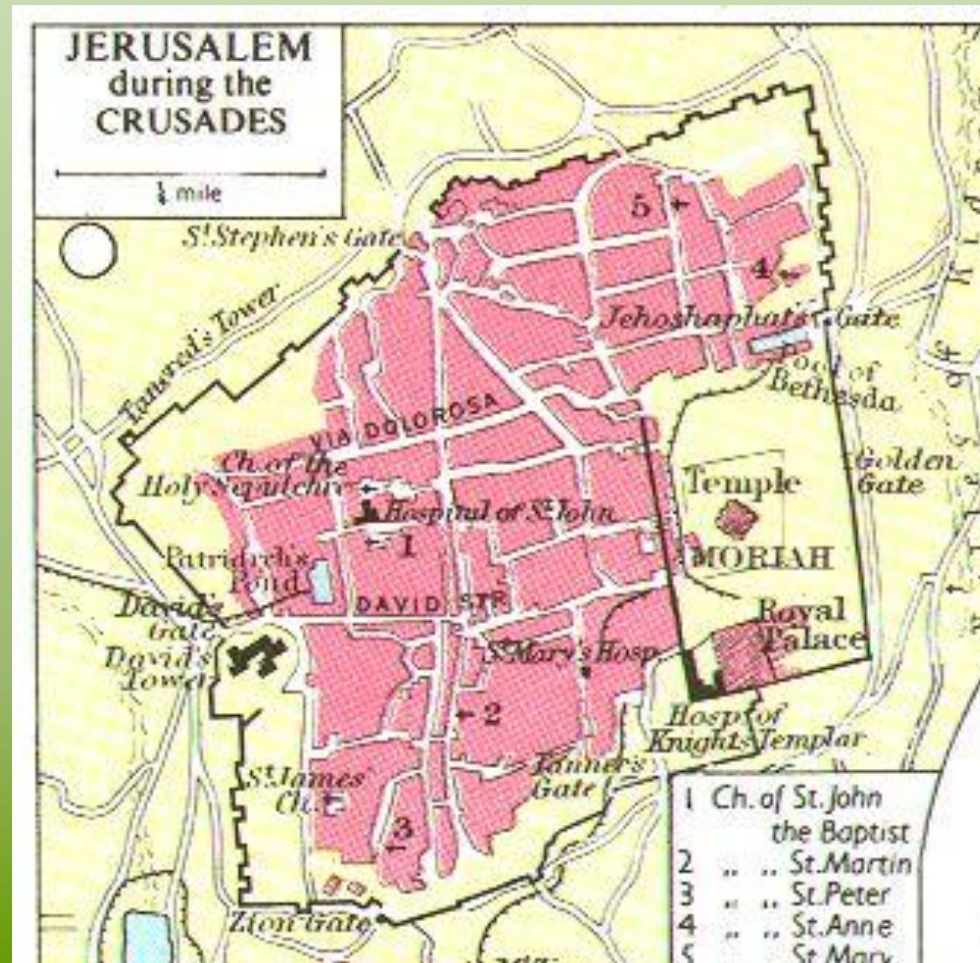
Early Templar History



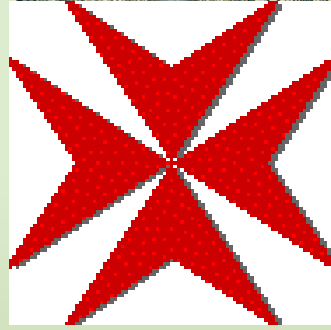
- 1096-1099: First Crusade to the Holy Lands “succeeds”
 - Jerusalem and coastal area comes under European control
- 1108: Hugues joins Count Hugh of Champagne visit to Jerusalem;
 - Hugues remains there after the count returns to France
- 1118 Hugues de Payens organizes the original 9 monk-knights
 - Presents mission to King Baldwin of Jerusalem
 - Becomes Grand Master of the Knights Templar
 - Jerusalem’s King Baldwin grants them a location on Mount Moriah
 - Access to King Solomon’s Temple and Al Aqsa Mosque
 - Hence origin of the name Templar
- 1128: He visits England and Scotland where he raises men and money for the Order
 - Founded House in London and another near Edinburgh
- 1136: Grand Master Hugues dies in Palestine
 - Led the Order establishing its foundations
 - Succeeded as Grand Master by Robert de Craon



Map of Jerusalem in the 1100s



Under the Surface



- Pope Urban II gave Hugues a Mission to Mount Moriah
 - Excavate under Solomon's Temple and Al Aqsa [Dome of the Rock]
 - Look for the Ark of the Covenant
- Templars formed in 1118 to protect pilgrims, mission fulfilled?
 - Brotherhood of the Poor Fellow-Soldiers of Jesus Christ and the Temple of Solomon
 - Strict vows of austere life committed to service as knight and monk
- Gestation Period: 1119 to 1128
 - No warfare, no military mission at this time
 - Initiation ceremony developed with esoteric roots (from where?)
 - No longer my blood, but Christ's blood flows in me
 - Something comes over the group – changes their “aura”

Hospitallers



- Monastic order founded by Gerard following First Crusade
- Gerard acquired territory and revenues for his order throughout the Kingdom of Jerusalem and beyond
- His successor, Raymond du Puy de Provence, established the first significant infirmary near the Church of the Holy Sepulchre
- Initially: cared for pilgrims who made it to Jerusalem
- Became an armed escort for pilgrims that became substantial force
 - Knights wore black surcoat with a white cross
- Privileges granted by the Papacy and Kings
 - Exempt from all authority save that of the Pope
 - Paid no tithes and allowed its own religious buildings
 - At the height of the Kingdom of Jerusalem the Hospitallers held seven great forts and 140 other estates in the area
- *Why did the Templars, not the Hospitallers, become filled with mystique, awe, & associated with esotericism?*

From Grail to Templar Knights



Grail Knights (e.g. Parzival) chosen by Pope Urban II to lead expedition to locate the Ark and bring it to Europe

3 generations of Grail Knights:

Godfroi de Boullion, general in 1st Crusade

Count Hugues de Champagne

- Returns to the Holy Land in 1104-5, 1108, and 1114

Hugues de Payens:

1118: The 1st Templar Knights: Hugues and his 7 relatives

- Two were his brothers and all were his relatives by either blood or marriage

1126: Hugues sent to Europe for the Council de Troyes

- At the Council great presence of Cistercians and Benedictines
 - Council delegates St. Bernard of Clairvaux to write the Templar Order rules
 - First Monk-Knight order –**fusing** two streams
- Many join from across Europe

Rapid Growth



- 1129: The Council of Troyes
 - 1126: Hugh de Payens sent to Council in Europe by King Baldwin
 - 1128: He also visits England and Scotland
 - Raises men and money for the Order
 - Founds first Templar House in London and another near Edinburgh
 - Bernard of Clairvaux, a leading church figure and a nephew of one of the founding knights, supports the knights
 - Speaks and writes persuasively on their behalf, and in
 - The Order was officially endorsed at the Council of Troyes
 - With this formal blessing, the Templars became a favored charity across Europe, receiving money, land, businesses, and noble-born sons from families who were eager to help with the fight in the Holy Land
- 1139: Papal Support
 - Pope Innocent II exempts the Order from obedience to local laws
 - Meant the Templars could pass freely through all borders, were not required to pay any taxes, and were exempt from all authority (except that of the Pope)



Bernard of Clairvaux



Cistercians

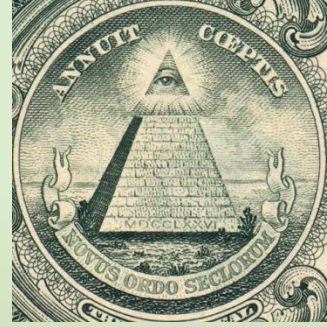
- Exoteric
- Build society
 - Farming
 - Metallurgy
 - Smelts & furnaces
 - Industry
- White robes

Templars

- Esoteric (at first)
- Build inner “fabric”
 - Monks & Knights
 - Banking
 - Architects
- White with red cross
- Nephew of André de Montbard, a founder
- Persuaded Church

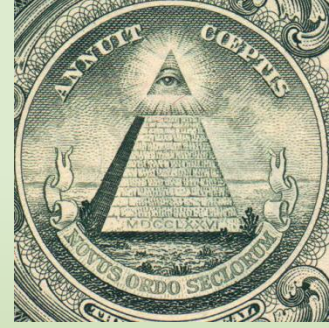
"truly a fearless knight, and secure on every side, for his soul is protected by the armor of faith, just as his body is protected by the armor of steel. He is thus doubly-armed, and need fear neither demons nor men." - Bernard de Clairvaux, c. 1135, *De Laude Novae Militae - In Praise of the New Knighthood*

Templars as Gothic Architects



- Gothic cathedrals
 - Suddenly arose across Europe after Council of Troyes 1129
 - Templars as great architects and masons
 - Felt Christ to be the Great Cosmic Architect and Builder
- Exceptional sound quality
- What did it take to be an architect in 1150 AD?
 - “Let him [an architect] be educated, skillful with the pencil, instructed in geometry, know much history, have followed the philosophers with attention, understand music, have some knowledge of medicine, know the opinions of jurists, and be acquainted with astronomy and the theory of the Heavens.” Vitruvius Pollio, *The Ten Books on Architecture*, 25 BC
 - Without computers, how did they learn this skill?
 - What was the source of their inspiration?
 - Like the Ark of the Covenant, Gothic Cathedral architecture meant to “form” the new human

Building Solomon's Temple



- Hiram – Solomon – Queen of Sheba
 - Cain and Abel streams
 - Hiram's son through Balkis: Rise of the new Kings (formerly priest-kings, pharoahs)
- Ark of the Covenant thought to be hidden in the Temple
- Templars become architects of the new Gothic Cathedral
 - Were there any failed trials?
- Building churches throughout Europe
 - Temple Church London finished in 1185
 - Inspiration claimed from Golgotha



Children of Solomon

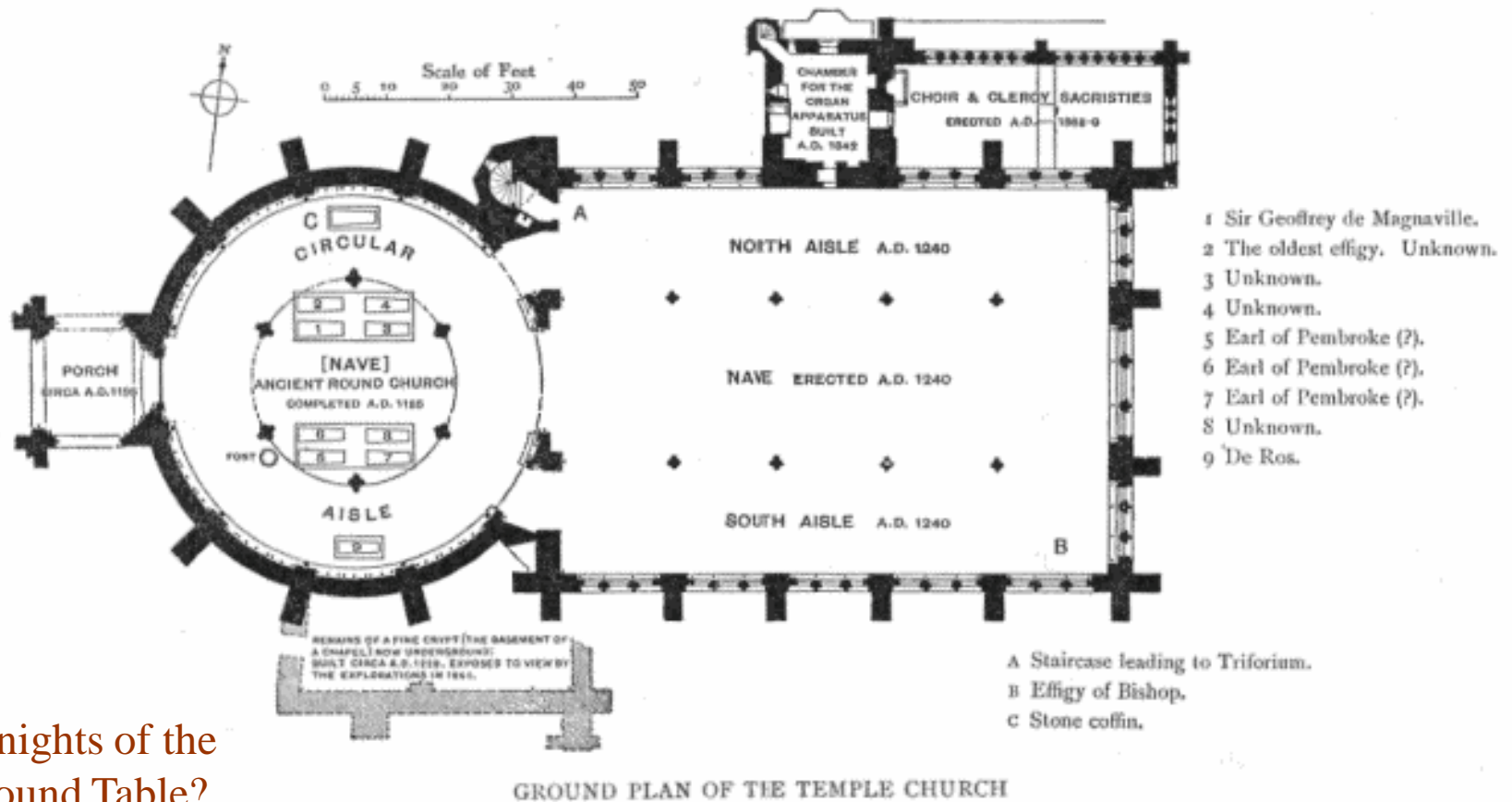


Templar Castle Tomar, Portugal

- 1145: Bernard of Clairvaux helped form **Children of Solomon** 'rules'
 - Conditions for living and working
- “We the Knights of Christ and of the Temple follow the destiny that prepares us to die for Christ. We have the wish to give this rule of living, of work, and of honor to the constructors of churches so that Christianity can spread throughout the earth not so that our name should be remembered, Oh Lord, but that Your Name should live.”
- Instructed in art of sacred geometry
- Built Castle Tomar in 1160 as a stronghold for the Knights Templar
 - Now it is The Convent of Christ

Templar Architecture

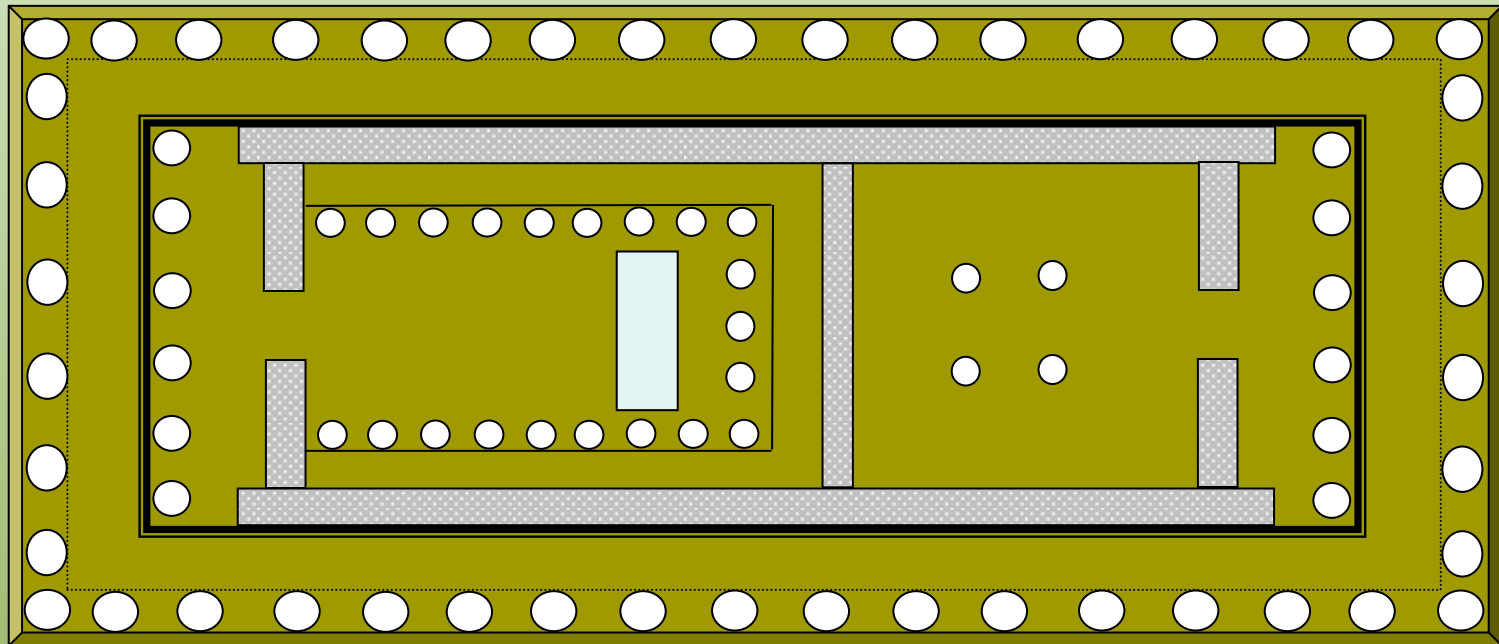
Does the entire structure express what the structure is meant to serve?



Knights of the
Round Table?

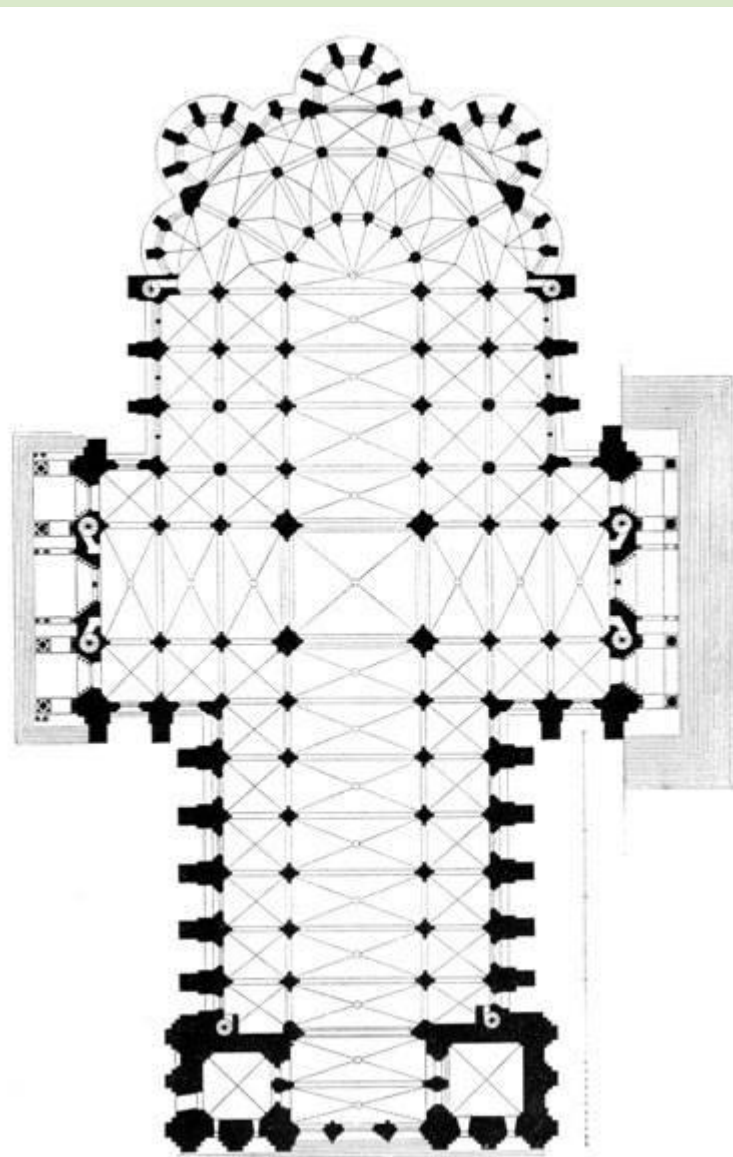
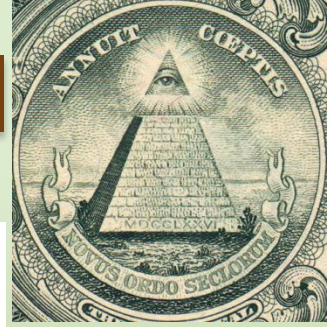
Floor Plan of the Parthenon

Divine image of Pallas Athena who “builds” the temple around herself

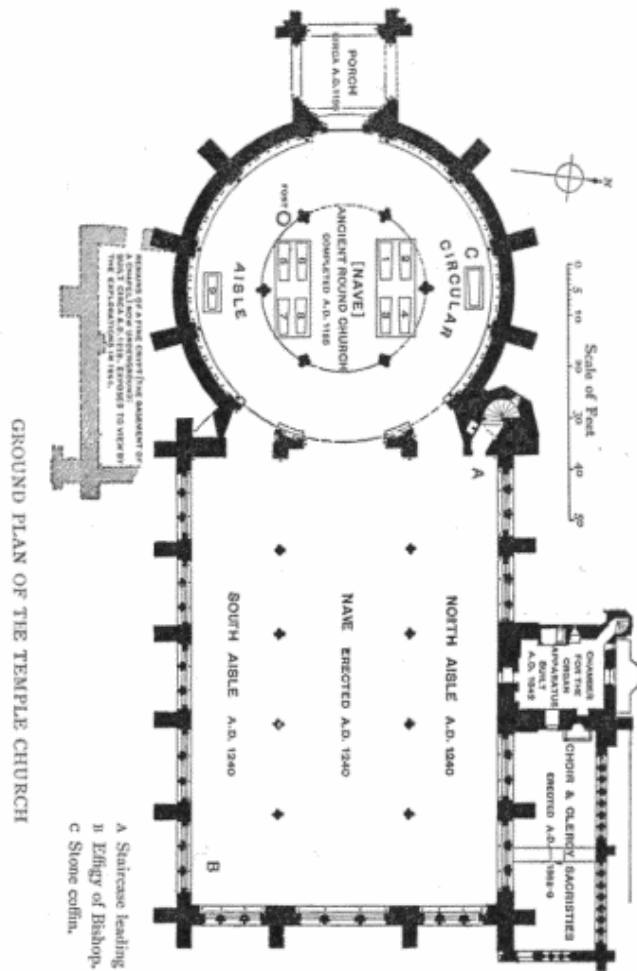


Open structure because the Divine is “out there” and comes in to an inner place

Evolution to Chartres Cathedral



1. CHARTRES.



GROUND PLAN OF THE TEMPLE CHURCH

- 1 Sir Geoffrey de Magnaville.
- 2 The oldest effigy. Unknown.
- 3 Unknown.
- 4 Earl of Pembroke (?).
- 5 Earl of Pembroke (?).
- 6 Earl of Pembroke (?).
- 7 Earl of Pembroke (?).
- 8 Unknown.
- 9 The Ros.

A Staircase leading to Triforium.
B Effigy of Bishop.
C Stone coffin.

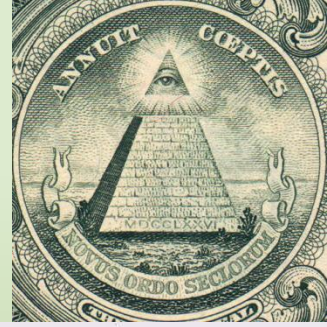
Chartres Art

- 152 of the original 186 stained-glass windows, have survived
- Particularly renowned for their vivid blue colors
- With Templars went the art of stained glass windows



Gothic Architecture Examples

- St. Denis →
- Abbey de Royaumont



Carving on Chartres Cathedral



- On the exterior of Chartres Cathedral, by the north door, there is a carving on a pillar, which alludes to an object sought by the Knights Templars when, in 1118, they undertook excavations beneath the Temple of Solomon – did they make an important discovery?
 - An ancient tradition maintains that the Ark of the Covenant had been secreted deep beneath Solomon's Temple centuries before the fall of the city to the Romans
- Pope Urban II asked Hugh de Payens to lead an expedition to locate the Ark and bring it to Europe.
 - Persistent legends recount that Hugh de Payen, having found the ark, deposited it for safekeeping in the crypt of Chartres Cathedral, where it has remained for centuries
- “The carving on the pillar at Chartres is supposed to represent the Ark of the Covenant being transported on some type of wheeled vehicle, a cart or, possibly, a wheelbarrow” - Wikipedia

Community Life



- Rules within the Order
 - Some rules borrowed from monk streams
 - Knight stream rules – not much to borrow from
 - New rules for Templars:
 - Fill oneself, heart & soul, with The Mystery of Golgotha
 - Blood no longer one's own, but now devoted to the task
 - Think every moment of one's blood as joined to spiritual mission
- Goal: Communion between soul and soul
 - Soul can follow other with an ever growing understanding and love
 - Even after death – remains true and unselfish
 - Brotherhood through interdependence on one another
 - Across ethnic and language differences
 - Task: to bring the holy places within European authority
 - Healing of European spirit
 - Strengthen individual soul life to be absorbed into Christianity

Effects on Society



- Split of Christian Church: East & West 1000 AD
 - Along same split of Roman Empire by Constantine
- School of Chartres, 900 – 1203 (death of Alanus ab Insulus)
 - Some of Plato brought back earlier by Charlemagne
 - After 1210, rise of Aristotelianism: Albertus Magnus, T.Aquinas, & Roger Bacon
- Builders: more than 150 cathedrals built in first 100 years
 - Gothic architecture appeared complete in 1130, with no previous 'trial period'
 - It is extraordinary that all the craftsmen are so quickly present to build
 - Gothic stain glass remains a mystery to this day – disappears with the Templars
 - Architecture occupies an exalted position in Renaissance times
 - Knights Templars were the educators of Europe of Architecture
- Bestowed immense possessions
 - 1128: Mary of Portugal gives Templars Castle of Soure on the Mondego
 - Many sons of nobles wish to join
- Successful in warfare in Mideast due to fearlessness when facing 3X force

Symbol & Secrets



- Two on a horse – what does it mean?
 - Some thought with a vow of poverty that two would share
 - Count of Champagne was one of the original first 7 Templars and he was the richest feudal lord in Europe at the time
 - When a Templar Knight died, he was connected with one alive
 - Wherever a Templar Knight rode, his dead companion rode with him
- Three Secrets
 1. Wisdom – Beauty – Strength
 - Our existing world built on wisdom, the new cosmos will be based on love
 2. The Golden Fleece: Gold of the Lamb of God, ecology – sociology
 - Gold for selfless purposes versus gold for power over people (black magic)
 3. Etheric Geography: where to build, sacred spaces, Mother Earth – Isis/Sophia

Knights Templar Ideals



- Apply Wisdom, Beauty, Strength/Virtue to life
- Reverence for their Initiation Process
 - Outer: 3 degrees of craftsman: apprentice, journeyman, master
 - Inner: Multiple levels (unknown). Begun with kissing one's hierophant and spitting on the image of the cross.
- Free the soul for the spirit:
 - And they freed the roads from thieves, seas from pirates, trade from tolls, craftsmen from being requisitioned, even freed serfs
- Templars altered Western Society
 - Gothic cathedrals, arts & philosophy schools, agriculture, banking
- If survived, whole new society likely would have resulted
 - Templars continued to reinvest its money because they could not benefit from it personally nor accumulate it
 - Templars were therefore a rival to the power of kings and church

Knights Templar Wisdom



- Something happened during first 7 years
 - Excavating in Solomon's Temple looking for the Ark
 - What was the Ark? Why is it powerful?
 - Exposed to all the "heretical" schools in Jerusalem area
 - Essenes, Greek, Egyptian, Persian, Gnostic, Christian
 - What did they believe?
- Although we don't know for sure, we can surmise from
 - Fruit of their works: Gothic cathedrals, agriculture, culture
 - Selflessly brought to Europe. No nationality. No egoism.
 - Sudden rise in membership, activities
 - Reached a level of Christian Initiation
 - Spiritual insights, guidance streamed into the Knights Templar
 - Recognized by King Baldwin, St. Bernard, others
 - Order sanctioned by the Church but it operated independent of Church or State
 - Wisdom based on the past Grail wisdom, but updated for their time

Templar Financing



- Became a favored “charity”
- New members had to willingly sign over all of their wealth and goods to the Order and take vows of poverty, chastity, piety, and obedience
- Hostels a day’s journey – pay in advance, nothing to steal
- Funds used for building projects from Jerusalem to Scotland
- 1187: In penance for the murder of Thomas Becket, Henry II funds defense of Jerusalem from Saladin
 - Gerard of Ridefort is Grand Master and top Templar General
 - Tough military decisions led to stinging defeats - beheading
 - Conrad of Montferrat, Tyre's defender, writes on 20 September 1188 to Frederick Barbarossa: "...graver still, the Master of the Temple has made off with the King of England's alms"

Fall of the Templars



- Fourth Crusade, 1204 Sack of Constantinople
 - Now lose battles in Holy Lands, eventually driven out
 - Call for Templars and Hospitaller forces to be combined
 - Christian on Christian wars: Persia, Germanic tribes (Vandals)
 - Heretics, Reformers
- Cathars – Albigensian Crusade (1209 -1220)
 - Society a reflection of spiritual world – based on love
 - Reincarnation
 - Political realignment of Occitania (southern France)
 - Over 1 million massacred. “Slaughter them all; God will know his own”
 - Inquisition, rise of the Dominicans
 - Fall of Montsegur, 1244, and birth of Rosicrucianism
 - Last 250 walked, singing, into the burning pyres
 - The last known Cathar burning occurred in 1321

Shame of Sacking Constantinople



"Taking of Constantinople, 1204" by Domenico Tintoretto

... How shall I begin to tell of the deeds wrought by these nefarious men! Alas, the images, which ought to have been adored, were trodden under foot! Alas, the relics of the holy martyrs were thrown into unclean places! Then was seen what one shudders to hear, namely, the divine body and blood of Christ was spilled upon the ground or thrown about. They snatched the precious reliquaries, thrust into their bosoms the ornaments which these contained, and used the broken remnants for pans and drinking cups, --precursors of Anti-Christ, authors and heralds of his nefarious deeds which we momentarily expect. Manifestly, indeed, by that race then, just as formerly, Christ was robbed and insulted and His garments were divided by lot; only one thing was lacking, that His side, pierced by a spear, should pour rivers of divine blood on the ground.

Nor can the violation of the Great Church [Hagia Sophia] be listened to with equanimity. For the sacred altar, formed of all kinds of precious materials and admired by the whole world, was broken into bits and distributed among the soldiers, as was all the other sacred wealth of so great and infinite splendor.

When the sacred vases and utensils of unsurpassable art and grace and rare material, and the fine silver, wrought with gold, which encircled the screen of the tribunal and the ambo, of admirable workmanship, and the door and many other ornaments, were to be borne away as booty, mules and saddled horses were led to the very sanctuary of the temple. Some of these which were unable to keep their footing on the splendid and slippery pavement, were stabbed when they fell, so that the sacred pavement was polluted with blood and filth.

Among relics stolen may have been Turin Shroud. First known owner was widow of Geoffroi de Charny

Shame of Sacking Constantinople



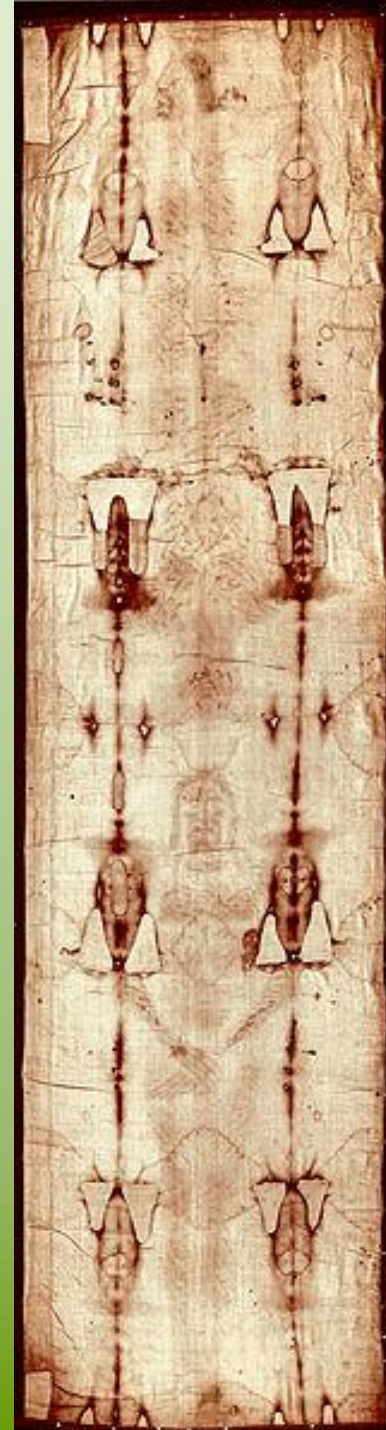
Nay more, a certain harlot, a sharer in their guilt, a minister of the furies, a servant of the demons, a worker of incantations and poisonings, insulting Christ, sat in the patriarch's seat, singing an obscene song and dancing frequently. Nor, indeed, were these crimes committed and others left undone, on the ground that these were of lesser guilt, the others of greater. But with one consent all the most heinous sins and crimes were committed by all with equal zeal. Could those, who showed so great madness against God Himself, have spared the honorable matrons and maidens or the virgins consecrated to God?

Nothing was more difficult and laborious than to soften by prayers, to render benevolent, these wrathful barbarians, vomiting forth bile at every displeasing word, so that nothing failed to inflame their fury. Whoever attempted it was derided as insane and a man of intemperate language. Often they drew their daggers against any one who opposed them at all or hindered their demands.

No one was without a share in the grief. In the alleys, in the streets, in the temples, complaints, weeping, lamentations, grief, the groaning of men, the shrieks of women, wounds, rape, captivity, the separation of those most closely united. Nobles wandered about ignominiously, those of venerable age in tears, the rich in poverty. Thus it was in the streets, on the corners, in the temple, in the dens, for no place remained unassailed or defended the suppliants. All places everywhere were filled full of all kinds of crime. Oh, immortal God, how great the afflictions of the men, bow great the distress!

Anastasis and Turin Shroud

- In 335 AD St. Helena, mother of Emperor Constantine, is said to have discovered the Sacred Cave where Jesus Christ was buried
- Emperor Constantine built a church known to the Byzantines as "Anastasis" or Church of the Resurrection
- This church, in addition to housing the Sacred Cave where Jesus lay, also encompassed Golgotha – Mystery of Golgotha inspiration
- Was Shroud taken by a Templar during sack?
 - Did Constantine take Turin Shroud to Constantinople?
 - In 1357, the shroud was first publicly displayed by the widow of Geoffroi of Charny a member of the family of the grandson of Geoffroi de Charney who was burned at the stake with Jacques de Molay



Templars Begin to Lose in Battle



- 1204 **Sacking of Constantinople**
- 1244 Battle of La Forbie. Templars suffer stinging defeat
 - 10,000 Khwarizmians (driven by Mongols) joined Egyptians
- 1250 Battle of Mansurah, Egypt. Disaster for Louis IX and Templars
- 1258 Hulegu (Mongols) capture Baghdad
- 1271-91 Series of losses resulting in complete withdrawal to Cyprus
- 1305 Recommendations that Templars and Hospitallers be combined into one military order

But Europe benefits

“the heritage of Greek civilizations was transmitted to Western Europe through Arab intermediaries” (Maalouf, Amin. *The Crusades Through Arab Eyes*. Al Saqi Book, dist. Zed Books, 1984)

Vistas of knowledge were revealed to the Europeans in the areas of architecture, chemistry, astronomy, paper-making, mathematics, leather-working and a host of other important fields

This information, the basis of Arab intellectual society, was eagerly received and built upon by the still nascent civilization of Western Europe

<http://www.umich.edu/~marcons/Crusades/topics/arab/arab.html#coalitions>

Roots of Templar Problems



Envy of monetary wealth – Crusades had taken a toll

“Although they maintained their establishment honorably for a long time and fulfilled their vocation with sufficient prudence, later, because of the neglect of humility (which is known as the guardian of all virtues and which, since it sits in the lowest place, cannot fall), they withdrew from the Patriarch of Jerusalem, by whom their Order was founded and from whom they received their first benefices and to whom they denied the obedience which their predecessors rendered. They have also taken away tithes and first fruits from God's churches, have disturbed their possessions, and have made themselves exceedingly troublesome.” William, Archbishop of Tyre, *Historia rerum in partibus transmarinis gestarum*, XII, 7, Patrologia Latina 201, 526-27, translated by James Brundage, *The Crusades: A Documentary History*, (Milwaukee, WI: Marquette University Press, 1962), 70-73

Templar Enemies



- Worst enemies were not the Moslems
- Many false stories circulated to discredit Templars
 - Usually out of jealousy for Templar wealth, power, and piety
 - Matthew Paris, Benedictine monk, 13th Century, wrote
 - The Templars and Hospitaliers often battled in open warfare
 - Letters from the Pope prove such battles never took place
- Pierre DuBois – prolific influential writer
 - 1309: wrote on the question of the Holy Roman Empire, on the Eastern question, and against the Templars
 - Had idea that France ought to subdue the papacy so that the King of France could use the papal influence for his own advantage
 - Thought the king should be master of the Papal States, administer them, and force all of Christendom to do homage to the King of France;
 - In return the king would grant the pope revenues from the Papal States
- Guillaume de Nogaret (1260 – 1313) councilor and keeper of the seal to Philip IV of France – Inquisitor of the Templars in France

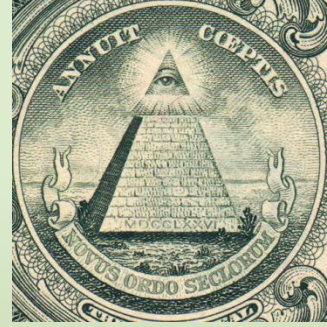
Philip IV, King of France



King of France from 1285 to 1314

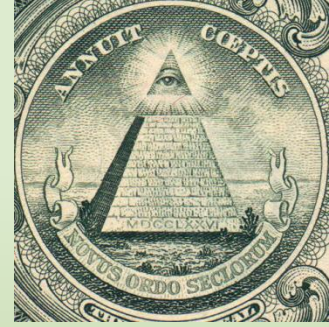
- Once rescued by the Templars
- Owes large sum to Templars, becomes jealous of their gold
- On 14 September, 1307, in the deepest secrecy, Philip sends out orders throughout all of France that on 13 October, 1307, in Gestapo-style, all Templars must be arrested and tortured
 - Uses his puppet Pope Clement V for “moral” support
 - Papal order from Clement V goes swiftly to all of Christendom
- During tortures many made confessions, among these, the worship of an idol said to be Baphomet
- Jacques de Molay, 23rd Grand Master, who had earlier confessed his and Templar guilt, is slowly burned at the stake yet insists the Templars were innocent of all but one offense – that of allowing torture to cause them to lie and confess untruths
 - Insisted that his hands were not to be bound so that he could pray in his final moments.
 - Before he died he cursed both Philip and Pope Clement, calling them to appear before God before the year was out
 - His last words were, "Let evil swiftly befall those who have wrongly condemned us - God will avenge us"
 - Freemasons' youth group named “The DeMolays” – *why?*

End of the Templars: Timeline



- King Philip seeks to seize their gold for power (1300-1314)
 - 1294, Philip annexes Gascony from England beginning a war
 - King becomes deep in debt to Templars from war
 - From Slaughter of the Cathars came land but not money
 - 20 year smear campaign against Templars begins
 - 1305: Philip's boyhood friend made Pope
 - 1307: Jacques de Molay summoned to France by King Philip
 - Friday 10/13/07: Gestapo-like sweep across former Holy Roman Empire
 - Torture of Templars, forced "confessions" – burning at the stake
 - Secret declaration of innocence issued by the Pope Clement V
 - Rounded up across Europe except Scotland & Portugal (1307-1311)
 - Replay of the extermination of Cathars, Paulicians, and other heretics
 - Source of Scottish Rites of the Freemason?
 - 1309 to 1378: "Babylonian captivity" (Avignon) of the Papacy begins
 - Council of Vienna 1314 – forced by Philip to condemn the Templars
 - "Curse" of Jacques de Molay – both Philip and the Pope dead within 1 yr.
 - Neither Templar wealth nor their archives have ever been found

Pope Clement V



- 1264: Born Bertrand de Got in Gascony, France
 - Boyhood friend of the future King of France
- 1294: Pope Celestine V abdicates under pressure from Cardinal Gaetani
 - Clash of monk ways with monarchy/power way
- 1294: Cardinal Gaetani becomes Pope Boniface VIII, Philip annexes Gascony
 - With King Charles II of Naples, Boniface retakes Rome
 - Coronation of Pope Boniface Jan. 23, 1295 amid unparalleled pomp and splendor
 - Boniface has Celestine arrested and he dies in prison 10 months later
 - Many struggles with monarchies ensues, usually over money and taxation rights
 - 1296: Boniface forbade any church funds from laity or clergy to go to any King
 - 1297: Boniface excommunicates his Cardinals
 - 1298: Philip refuses to recognize Boniface as Pope
 - Proclaims "is absolutely necessary for salvation that every human creature be subject to the Roman pontiff"

Pope Clement V



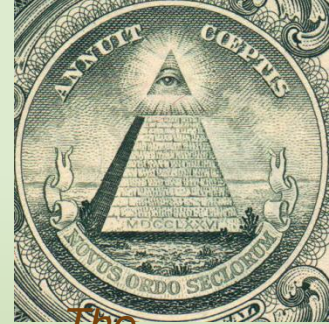
- 1303: King Philip and Nogaret excommunicated
- An army led by Nogaret surprise Boniface at his retreat in Anagni.
 - The King demands that he resign. Boniface is beaten badly and nearly executed but was released. He dies a month later, on October 11, 1303
- Boccasini becomes Pope Benedict XI and pardons Philip but not Nogaret.
- Philip and Nogaret, poison Benedict a month later.
- Philip seeks to move “Vatican” to France
- Nov. 14, 1305: de Got crowned Pope in Lyons, France with great pomp
- Prophetic events of the day (according to German and Italian historians)
 - During the procession, the pope was thrown from his horse by a falling wall
 - One of his brothers and the aged Cardinal Matteo Orsini was killed
 - The most precious jewel in the papal tiara (a carbuncle) was lost that day
 - The next day another brother was slain in a quarrel between servants of the new pope and servants of the cardinals
- Pope Clement and most cardinals eventually reside as princes at Avignon

Chinon Parchment Absolves



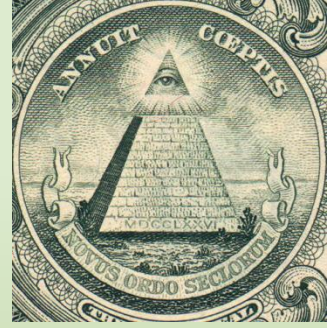
- Knights Templar confess to
 1. Kissing their hierophant
 2. Spitting on a statue of Jesus on the crossOther acts they deny once freed from torture
- **The Pope wrote:** “We hereby decree that **they are absolved** by the church and may again receive Christian sacraments.” Signor Forgione said that the Pope had failed to make this absolution public because the scandal of the Templars had aroused extreme passions and he feared a church schism. Philip IV had de Molay and other Templar leaders put to death before the Pope’s verdict could be published, and it was subsequently lost.
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/0,,2-252124,00.html>
- 700 years later: “The Roman Catholic Church graciously acknowledged that the Knights Templar were innocent yesterday (Vatican Information Service, 4th Oct). The news was reported in the press today, exactly seven days before the 700th anniversary of the persecution of the Order. The persecution of the Templars began on Friday, 13 October 1307, when the medieval organisation was unjustly attacked and driven underground.”
<http://www.theinsider.org/news/article.asp?id=2623>

Justification for Extermination



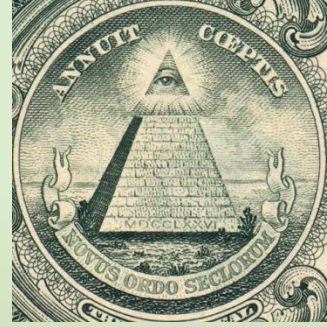
- The 5th accusation against the Templars:
brothers practiced idol worship of a cat or a head
 - Baphomet is the name given and may have been a corruption of the Moslem prophet "Mahomet" or in English Mohammed
- The Council of Vienne, 1314
 - The council, overall unconvinced about the guilt of the order as a whole, was unlikely to condemn the entire order based on the scarce evidence brought forward.
 - Exerting massive pressure, in order to gain part of the substantial funds of the order, the king managed to get the ruling he wanted. Pope Clement V ordered by decree the suppression of the order.
 - In the cathedral of St-Maurice in Vienne, the King of France issued the decree. Under pain of excommunication, no one was allowed to speak at that occasion, except when asked by the Pope.
 - The Templars who appeared in Vienne to defend their order, were not allowed to present their case: originally cardinals of the collegium ruled that they should be allowed to raise a defense, only after the arrival of the King of France personally in Vienne, putting pressure on the collegium, the decision was revised.
- Pope Clement V secretly absolved de Molay and the Order in 1308
 - Dr. Barbara Frale found the "Chinon Parchment" in Vatican Secret Archives 2002

Confessions of the Templars



- Placed on a rack with hot coals on belly
 - Endured 7 years of torture!
- When going through Initiation, one encounters one's own hidden obstacles – we find how we are alike with all of humanity – the good and the evil
- What the Templars overcame through Initiation, to this they confessed
- Templars recanted their confessions
- Not all Templars were “purified” initiates
- Culmination in 1314 when 54 Templars including the Grand Master, Jacques de Molay, were burned at the stake.

What Followed? (2x666=1332)



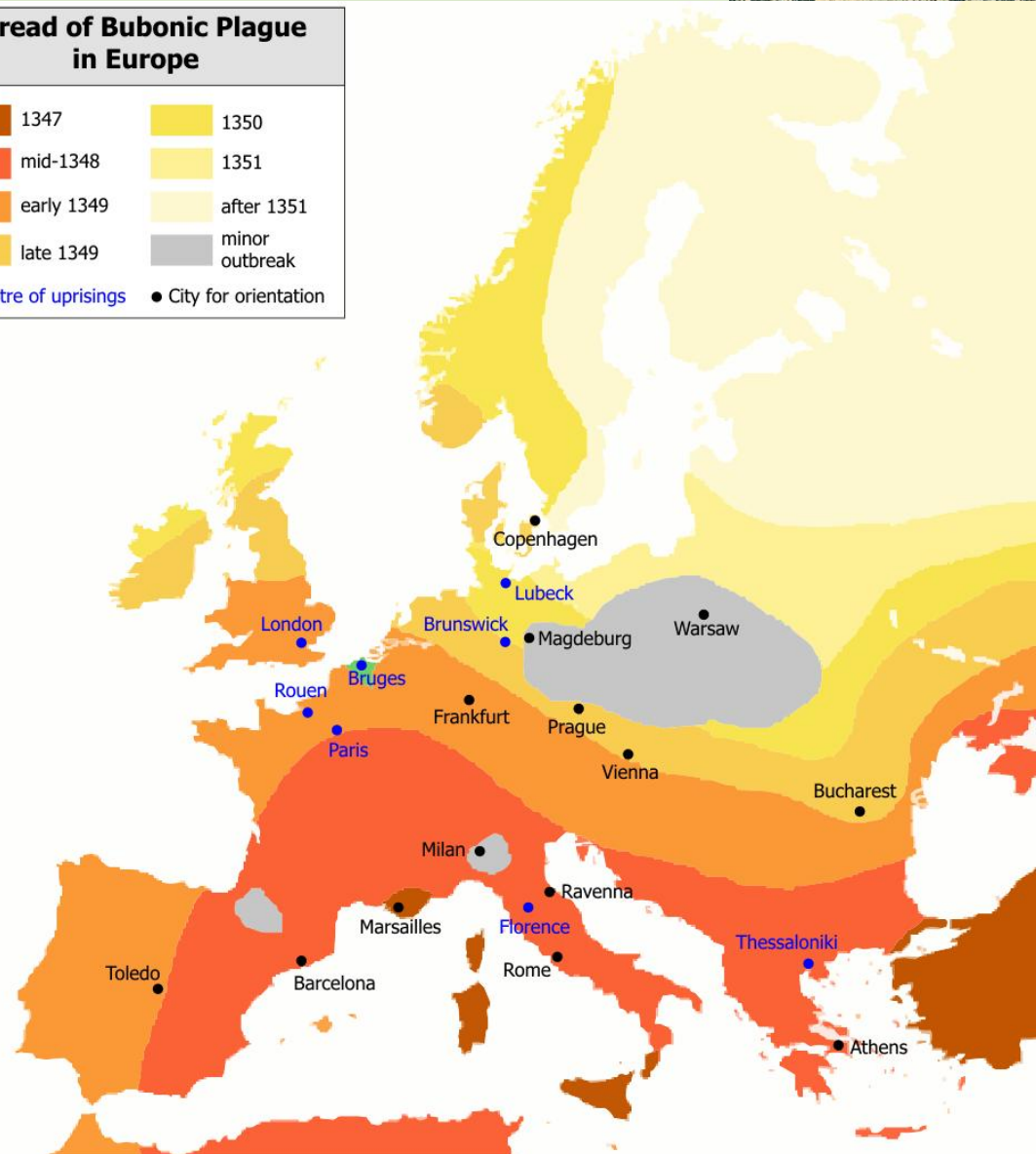
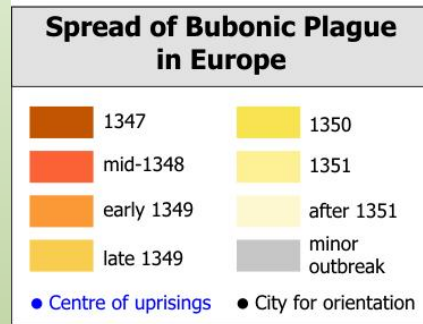
- 1314 - 1317 AD Great European Famine
- Then the Black Plague, established by 1340s, was one of the most devastating pandemics in human history. The total number of deaths worldwide from the pandemic is estimated at 75 million people; there were an estimated 20-25 million deaths in Europe alone. The Black Death is estimated to have killed between a third and two-thirds of Europe's population.
 - Live-for-the-moment life style
 - Giovanni Boccaccio's *The Decameron* (1353), allegorical and erotic tales of love, wit, practical jokes, and moral degeneracy of the clergy
 - Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* (1380-1390s)
 - Spared Poland and Pyrenees



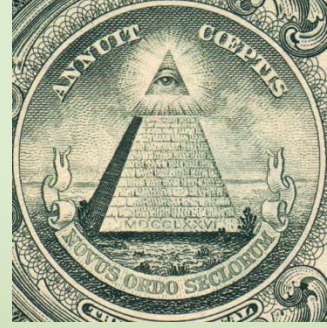
Following Templar Extermination



- Both Philip and Clement are dead within a year
- Great Famine 1314-1317
- Black Plague 1347-1351
- 60-75% of Europeans die
- 1337-1453 100 Year War
 - Joan of Arc
- Birth of Renaissance. Role of Florence & Templar schools
 - Resurrection of Greece. Christian & Greek Mythology themes in art
 - 1413: Age of Aries ends, Age of Pisces begins: Consciousness Soul development
 - 1492: Columbus – America. Islam and Jews driven out of Spain

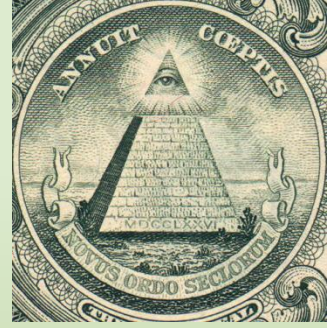


Did Any Escape?



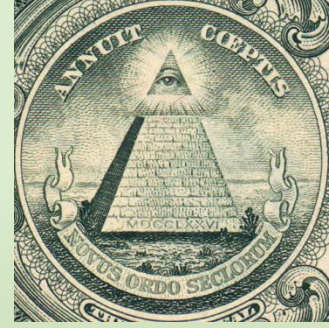
- Scotland whose King, Robert the Bruce, had been excommunicated by the Roman Catholic Church at the time,
- Spain who for a time were called Knights of Christ Cross, or Knights of St. John
- Portugal – pirates?
- America?

Were There Higher Goals?



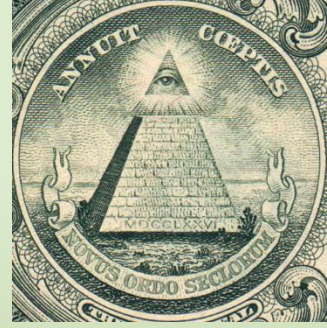
- Healing of Christendom
 - Illness from 333 when center moved from west to east
 - Creeds led to justification of slaughter of dissimilar Christians
 - Destruction of the Mysteries by Justian, 7th century
 - And as a remedy for the ills of the coming future (today)
- Offered example of a healthy Christian life
 - Never sought notoriety
 - “No longer my blood but Christ’s blood in me”
- Carrying Europe from end of Aries age to Pisces (1413)
 - Embedded the mysteries into Art and Architecture
 - Wisdom of Aries Age would die out – had to go into form for the unconscious
 - Humankind had to sink deeper into materialism
 - Overcame ethnicities, nationalities
 - Advanced the arts of craftsmen, architects, builders for Renaissance
- Carried, hidden within, the wisdom of the Mysteries to society
 - School of Chartres and others
 - Secret initiation ceremonies. Wisdom by word of mouth only.

Quick Summary



- Rose to prominence as protectors of pilgrims
 - Merged monk and knight streams
 - Sought to keep Holy Places within Christendom
- Granted free-passage and other rights by Popes
- Developed secret knowledge
 - Multiple levels of Initiation
- Developed international banking system
 - Amassed huge wealth used to fund building of Cathedrals
- Helped bring Aristotelian and Muslim wisdom to Europe
 - Major role in incubating the Renaissance and the art of Florence
- Succumbed to the envy of King Philip IV
- Secret knowledge flows into Freemasonry and others

Key Points from Tonight



1. Following the 1st Crusade, Templars transform Europe enabling the Renaissance
2. Templars suddenly become expert architects and builders of a new style
3. Templars are ruthlessly rooted out of Europe by jealous, in-debt-to-them King – but their wealth disappears

Further Reading

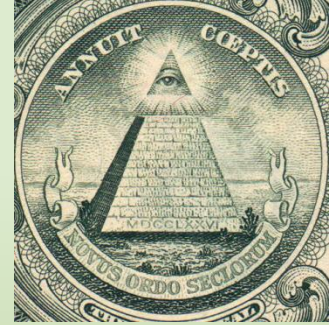
- Rudolf Steiner on the Templars
 - *The Mexican Mysteries*
 - *The Knights Templar*

America



- Legend: Templar wealth hidden in America?
 - Templars had become Europe's finest sailors
- America: the land of fantasy
 - Those striving for Freedom, Utopia, Prosperity
 - William Penn's New World Initiative (Bohme): Holy Experiment
 - October 1682: 368 years after Templars execution
 - Johannes Kelpius in 1694 founds Rosicrucian community
 - Now Germantown, PA
 - In London he met Jane Leade, the head of the Philadelphians
 - Conrad Beissel, 1732, founds Ephrata Cloisters
 - Benjamin Franklin inspired by Beissel's writings – joins Masons
 - Role of Freemasonry in America – symbolism
 - Signers of the Declaration of Independence

Under the Surface History



- Templars at a time when illness beset Christianity
 - Great Schism. Christendom split between East & West
 - Roman families had put “their man” in as the pope
 - St. Francis arises to “rebuild my church” – penances sold, rich got best pews
 - Western flow of culture (India→Persia→Egypt→Greece→Rome) → East by Constantine
 - Slaughter of the Heretics. Manichaeists, Persian Nestorians, Paulicians
 - Banning of the Aristotelians for being too close to the heretics
 - Ecumenical councils to define and dogmatize the faith and to justify the slaughter
 - Destruction of the Cathars (followed debates) 1020-1233
 - Rise of Dominicans and Inquisition. “First Crusade” was internal.
- Rise of the Templars as a healing force
 - Hugues de Payens was himself a Grail Knight or was educated by them
 - Council de Troyes 1128. Chretien de Troyes: *Perceval, the Story of the Grail* 1181-91
 - Templar craftsmen assured their freedom from religious and political powers
 - Devotion: to Mystery of Golgotha (mission: healing of Europe)
 - No longer my blood but Christ’s blood in me
 - Fearlessness and strength in battle (10% were battle worthy)
 - Military wing in middle east
- International banking, building/architecture, commerce, built roads
 - No famines in western Europe during the 200 years of Templar prominence
 - Templars worked social conditions and forms to **enable** true religion to flourish
 - Cathars worked towards **renewing and perfecting** the Christian religion
- Awakening of European Intelligence: Aristotelianism to Albertus Magnus to Thomas Aquinas and Roger Bacon
 - Compare to Islamic Spain in 12th – 15th centuries

Seeking Mongol Help



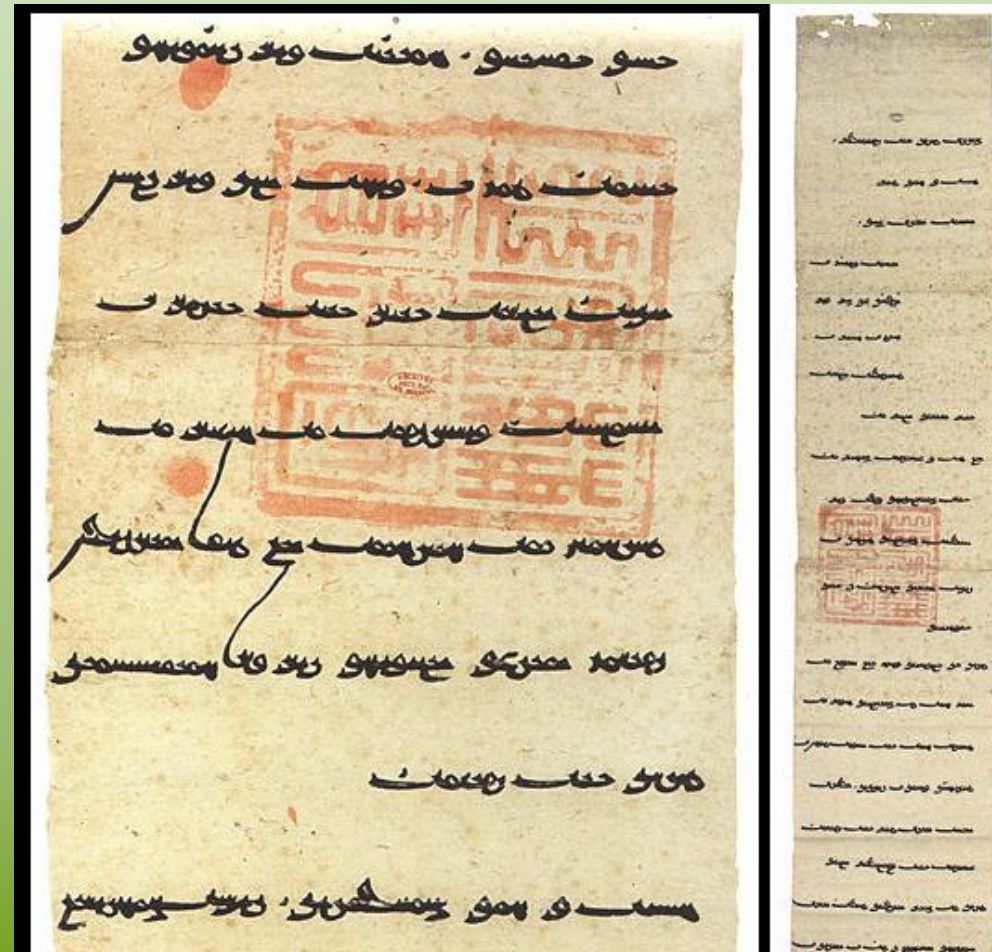
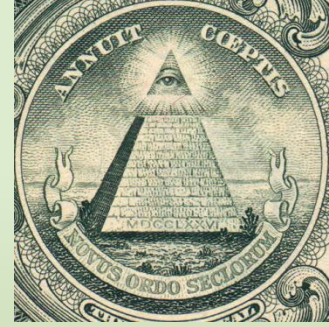
- Genghis Khan: (1162-1227)
 - Tall, long-bearded, red-haired, and green-eyed
 - Inspired to bring Divine Justice – even with ruthless slaughter
 - Shamanistic – tolerated other religions, interest in Taoism
 - 10,000,000s killed in China alone. Terror preceded army's advance.
 - Attempted to create a civil state under the Great Yassa that would have established the legal equality of all individuals, including women
- Ogedei Khan (1186-1241)
 - Vast empire built from Korea to Ukraine, Russia to Kuwait
 - Vienna and Europe about to fall when Ogedei dies
 - Generals recalled – never return although Tartars return, used by Turks
 - Empire divided into 4 parts
- Kublai Khan (1215-1294) and Marco Polo (1275)
 - Summer palace of Xanadu visited
 - Book *Travels* inspires Christopher Columbus – greed
 - Empire expansion by Hulegu Khan to Holy Lands until 1260 with defeat to Mamluks
 - Batu's brother Berke, ascended to the Kipchak Khanate. A Muslim, he was more interested in stopping his cousin Hulagu from doing any more damage to the Holy Land than invading Europe

Philip and the Mongols

1289: Letter from Mongol King Arghun to Philip

"Under the power of the eternal sky, the message of the great king, Arghun, to the king of France..., said: I have accepted the word that you forwarded by the messengers under Saymer Sagura ([Bar Sauma](#)), saying that if the warriors of Il Khaan invade Egypt you would support them. We would also lend our support by going there at the end of the Tiger year's winter [1290], worshiping the sky, and settle in Damascus in the early spring [1291]. If you send your warriors as promised and conquer Egypt, worshiping the sky, then I shall give you Jerusalem. If any of our warriors arrive later than arranged, all will be futile and no one will benefit."

- Not till 1298 does Philip agrees to military collaboration with the Mongols through the Knights Templar and their leader Jacques de Molay against the Mamluks
- In 1300, Jacques de Molay made his order commit raids along the Egyptian and Syrian coasts to weaken the enemy's supply lines
- In 1302, Templars are defeated at island Ruad
- 1305, new Mongol ruler Oljeitu sent letters to Philip, the Pope, and Edward I of England again offering military collaboration but now Philip's focus is on the Templars' treasury



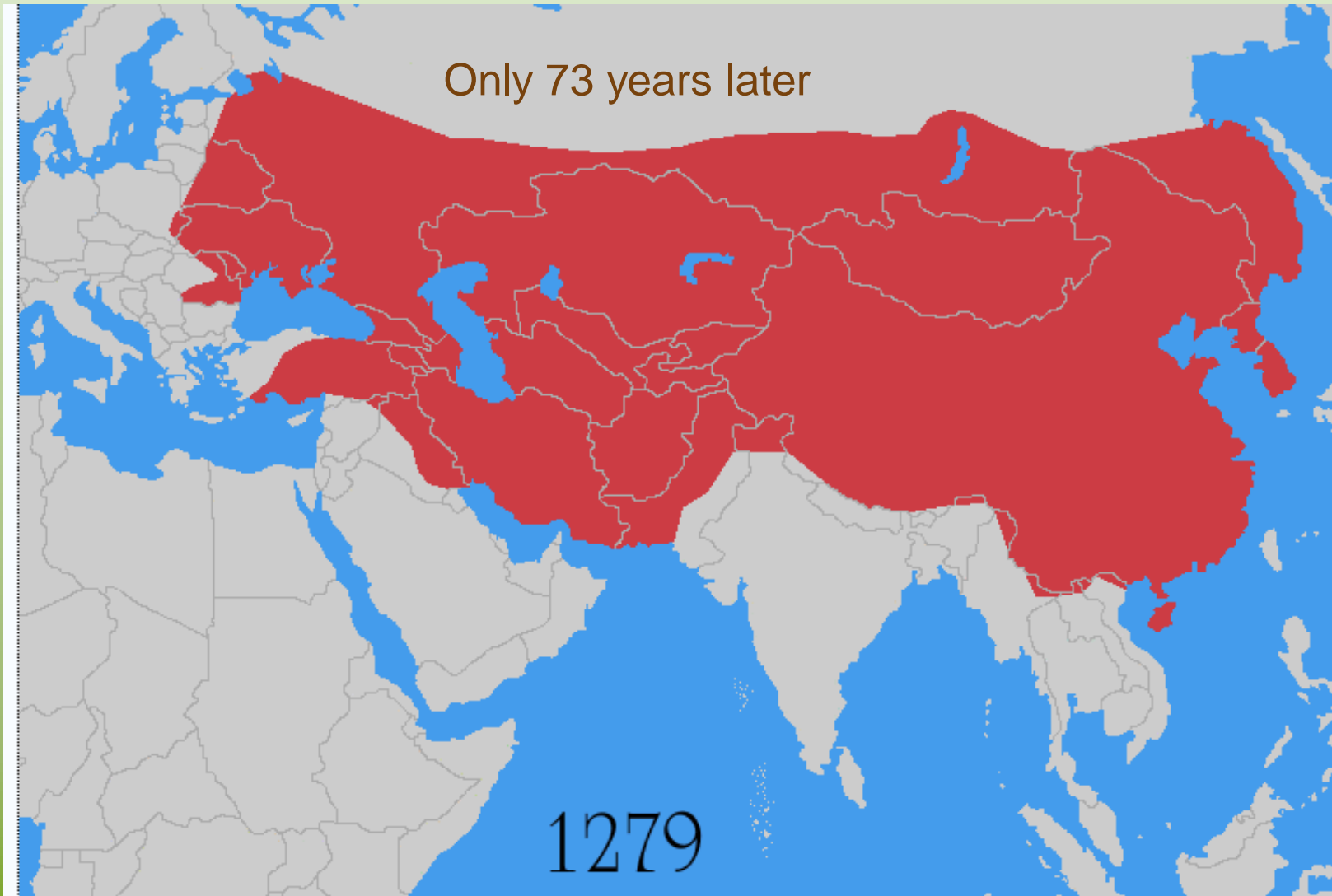
World Map, circa 1200 AD



Growth of Mongol Empire



Mongol Empire at its Height



Christian Mongols



- Toghrul (? – 1203), a **Nestorian Christian**, Ong Khan of Kerait
 - Possible source of Prester John stories in Christendom
 - Genghis defeats Toghrul in 1203 when he is mistakenly killed
 - Takes his daughter Sorghaghtani Beki and marries her to his son Tolui; they have several children including **Möngke, Kublai, Hulagu**
- Hulagu (1217 – 1265), first Khan of the Ilkhanate of Persia
 - Wife, Dotuz Khatun, and his closest friend and general, Kitbuqa were passionate **Nestorian Christians**
 - Sent by Mongke, a Nestorian Christian, to conquer or destroy the remaining Muslim states in southwestern Asia
 - Had many Persian chancellors, who wished to take revenge on the Arabs for their conquest of Persia centuries earlier
 - Numerous Christian ambassadors and missionaries
 - Many to form an alliance against the Muslims
 - Sought the subjugation of the Lurs, a people of southern Iran; the submission or destruction of the Abbasid caliphate; the submission or destruction of the Ayyubid states in Syria; and finally, the submission or destruction of the Bahri Mamluk Sultanate of Egypt
 - Sack of Baghdad by the Mongols made the sack of Rome by Alaric look kindly
 - Hulagu remembered as a Christian barbarian by Islamic history