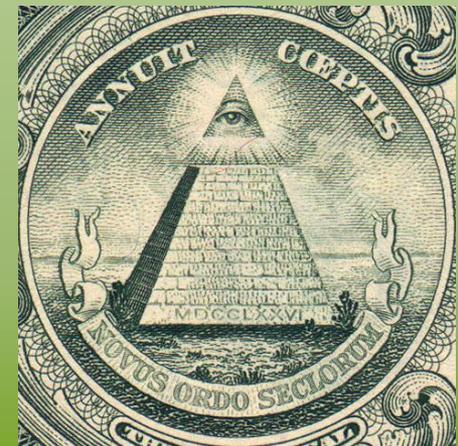




Tracking the Ancient Mysteries from Egypt to the Founding of America

Lecture 10: Bogomils and Cathars



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, Leonardo
- **Lectures 11 – 15:** Cathars, Rosicrucians and Mystics of the Renaissance, 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

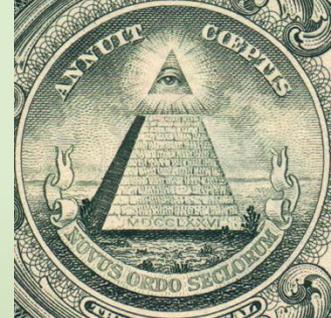
The Mysteries: 4 Key Points



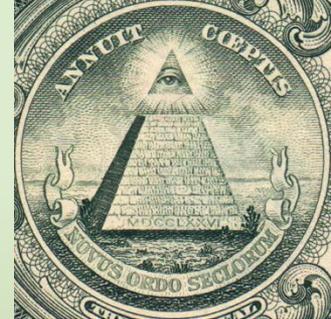
1. All cultures had their Mystery Center with pupils and hierophants
2. Aristotle was aware of their twilight and inspired Alexander to set up centers where Mystery knowledge could be recorded into libraries
3. Christianity's spread was enhanced by showing how Golgotha was the culmination of local Mysteries – *this is missed by most historians!*
4. Hatred for the old and association with heresy caused mystery streams to go underground

Mountain Climbing

- Multiple paths
- What is needed?
- Knowledge of the path
- Work to get to the top
- One view at the top
- Different perspectives
- Mysteries led one to the top from where they began
- Geographical importance
- Fulfillment of a cosmic-age purpose
- Karmic influence



Mysteries Recapitulation



- Cultural epochs: Post-Flood: Indian, Persian, Egyptian, Greek/Roman/Islamic, European, ...
- Themes: Creation Story & Fall of Mankind, Lemuria, Atlantis
 - Story of Cain and Abel
- The 9-fold human being, Earth: 4 Elements, Form: 4 Ethers
 - The 9 Levels of the Hierarchies, Trinity, 3x3
- India: incarnating into a physical body was considered a curse, entering into the “veil of tears” that constitutes life
- The Temple Sleep – Initiation; preparation & responsibility
- Myths for the people – experience for the initiates
- Clairvoyant experience fading, Gnosis needed to accept Christianity
- Early Christians felt the ancient Mysteries were fulfilled by the Mystery of Golgotha and that new mysteries should begin
- Battle of Faith (Authority) against Gnosis (Self Knowledge) & Freedom
 - “Battle” of Philo versus Agape and Abel against Cain
 - Mani: Son of the Widow, uniting religions, Mystery+Gnostic roots, Battle with Evil
- 869: Body w/no spirit, Parzival: Grail + Arthurian streams

Cathars: 3 Keys To Remember



1. Cathars belong to a stream of the Mysteries that flowed into Christianity
2. They were exterminated via a Crusade followed by an Inquisition by the Church in Rome
3. Their treasure was preserved in the seed that bore fruit as Rosicrucianism – and perhaps both the Renaissance and the Reformation

Cathars: Outline

- Who Were They?
- Where Were They?
- Beliefs and Practices
- Roots in Mani and Dualists
- Stream through Paulicians then Bogomils
- Contemporary Situation
- Competition with the Church in Rome
- Massacre with Cruelty
- Effects on Culture and History



Who Were Cathars?

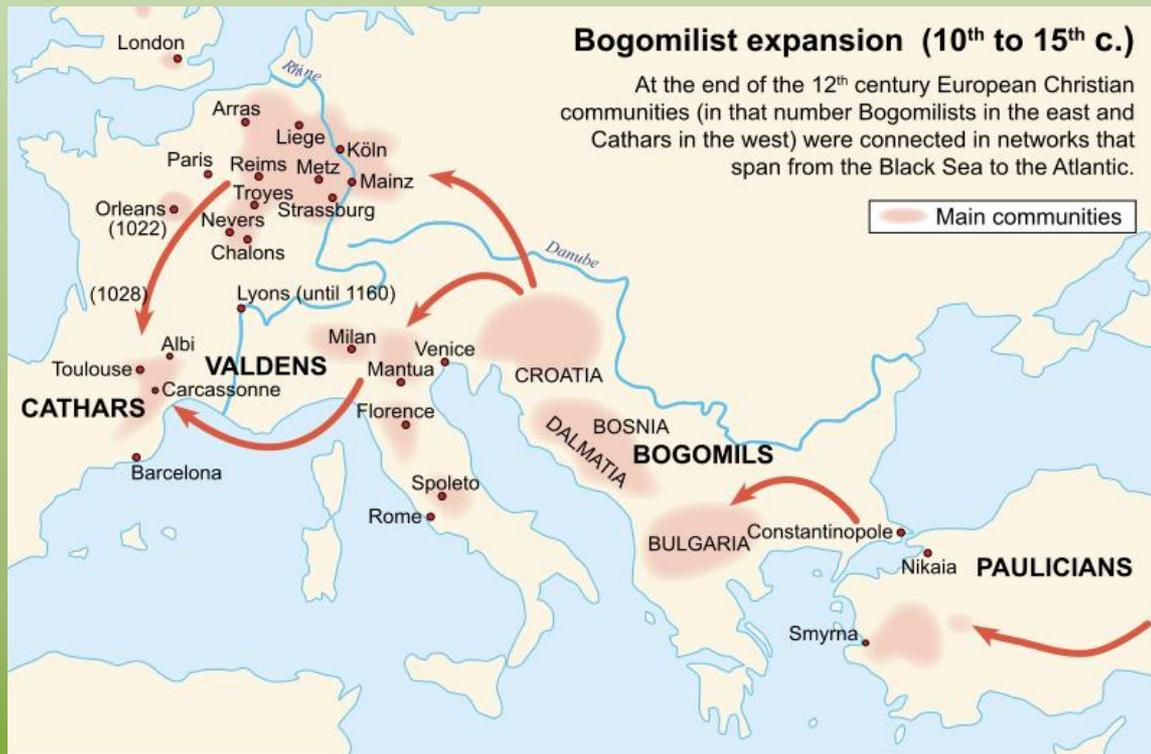


- Christians
 - Claimed to be alike to Early Christianity, unscathed
 - Father God created spirit, Lesser God created matter
 - Human soul is a mix of Light and Dark
 - Purity of soul is possible but of flesh is not (yet)
 - Reincarnation as path to purity
 - Called themselves “Good Christians”, known as “Goodmen”
 - Cathars derogatory term, Manicheans, Albi-gensians
- Practices
 - Vegetarians, pacifists
 - Ascetic, no extravagance in material goods, weavers
 - No oaths, no lying, no swearing
 - No procreative sex especially after becoming an Elect

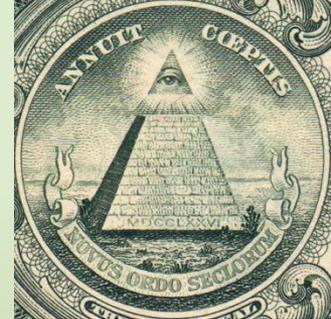


Where Were the Cathars?

- Languedoc: Northern Italy to mid-France to Spain
 - Major European crossroads important for natural materials
- Kings of Aragon
- Counts of Toulouse
- Language: Occitan
 - Langue d'oc - "the Language of Oc"
- Spain - Moors



Structure of Society



- Men and women were equals
- An inner Elect and the mass of believers
 - Similar to Gnostics
- The Elect led ascetic lives
 - Daily spent time working livelihood, meditating, and teaching
 - No more engaging in sex
 - Went from village to village, travelling in pairs as they said the original apostles had done (source for troubadors?)
- Path of Knowledge: High rate of literacy
 - Scriptures existed in Occitan
- Jews participated in society (rare in Europe at the time)

Historical Perspective



- 333 BC: Aristotle inspires Alexander to preserve the Mysteries
- 33 AD: Mystery of Golgotha
- 325-333: Constantine calls for Christian unity – a Catholic faith
- 300-400: Rapid rise of Manichaeism in middle east and eastwards
- 392: Theodosius I closes the Greek Mystery Centers
- 527-537: Justinian destroys Mystery remnants, Constantinople flourishes
- 610: Emperor Heraclius replaces Latin with Greek as army's language
- Islam sweeps through war ravaged middle east and N. Africa to Spain
- 751-2: Lombards conquer Ravenna, Pope requests aid from Pepin using a forgery: *The Donation of Constantine*
- 800: Charlemagne becomes Augustus of HRE, visits Harun al Rashid
- 869: 8th Ecumenical Council labels spirit-in-human becomes a heresy
- 1054: Final split between Rome and Constantinople
- **1096-1314: Crusades, Templars, and Cathars** (Shame of 1204)
- 1314-1317: Great Famine of Europe
- 1347-1351: Black Plague ~70% of Europe dies
- 1413: Sun moves from Aries to Pisces → Start of the Renaissance
- 1434: Rise of Florence as birthplace of the Renaissance
- 1452: Leonardo da Vinci born
- 1492: Moors pushed out of Spain, Columbus sails to America
- 1600: Giordano Bruno burned at the stake for “heretical” science

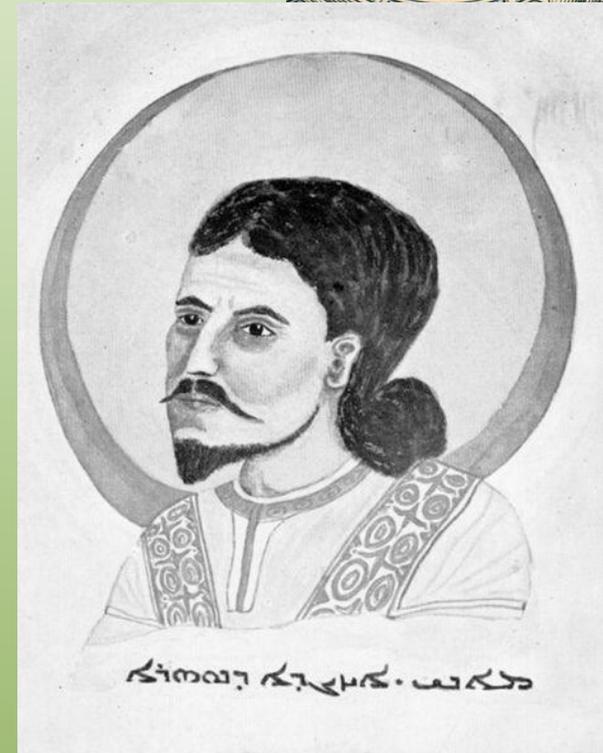
The “Dualists”

Dualists: Jewish God not Christ’s Father God



Gnostics and Manichaeists

- Mani d.274 in Gundeshapur
- Considered himself an apostle of Christ
- St. Augustine was originally a Manichaeian
- Manichaeism spread quickly until it had many followers in the Middle East, and from Spain to China where it was active until the 13th C
- A Greek parchment dating to ca. 400 AD was discovered in 1969 in Asyut, Egypt: *Codex Manichaicus Coloniensis*
- Mani's teachings are revealed to him through his spiritual companion and celestial "Light Twin" (his *syzygos*) who is said to be or be with the Holy Spirit or Paraclete
- Mani’s cosmic-mission is to deal with the role of Evil
- Strove to attain a knowledge of the interplay between the spiritual and the material worlds
 - Dualities: dry-wet, warm-cold, light-dark, life-death, acid-alkaline
 - Christ path is the middle path, caduceus (staff of Mercury) – alchemy
- Elects (Perfects) and Auditors (Faithful)
- Several medieval religious movements were descended from Manichaeism.



Legend of the Battle of Dark & Light



- This is the Gnostic view of the Mission / Meaning of Humankind
- The Spirits of Darkness wished to storm the Kingdom of Light. They came to its borders for the attack. They were, however, able to achieve nothing. Now they were to be punished by the Kingdom of Light. But in the Kingdom of Light there is only good. Thus the Demons of Darkness could only have been punished through good. Therefore the Spirits of the Kingdom of Light took a portion of their own kingdom and mingled it into the Kingdom of Darkness.
- Thereby a leaven, so to speak, came into the Kingdom of Darkness and a kind of vortex arose. Death became pulled into the vortex, whereby it consumed itself. It now carried within itself the seed of its own destruction. There then arose from the Kingdom of Light the Archetypal Man of the human race who must mingle with the Kingdom of Darkness and overcome it.
- St.Paul: “To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light”

Brief History of Manichaeism



- Manichaeism spread with extraordinary speed east and west
- The spread and success with message of one religion were seen as a threat to other religions thus it was widely persecuted in Zoroastrian, Hellenistic, Buddhist Christian, Islamic, and other cultures
- 244: established in Egypt and 280: reached Rome through the apostle Psattiq
- Manichaean monasteries existed in Rome in 312 AD during the time of the Christian Pope Miltiades
- 291: persecution arose in the Persian empire with the murder of the apostle Sisin by Bahram II, and the slaughter of many Manichaeans
- 296: Diocletian decreed against the Manichaeans: "We order that their organizers and leaders be subject to the final penalties and condemned to the fire with their abominable scriptures" – martyrdoms in Egypt and North Africa
- 354: Hilary of Poitiers wrote that the Manichaean faith was a significant force in southern Gaul
- 381: Theodosius I stripped Manichaeans of their civil rights, then in 382 issued a decree of death for Manichaean monks – thousands die
- Manichaeist was a label thrown at nearly all "heretics"
- Manichaeists were brutally exterminated, all books destroyed

Roots: the Knowledge Stream



- Alexander, Hellenism
- Gnostics



Source: Manichean Christianity Facebook page

What Mani's Enemies Said



- Augustine of Hippo (AD 354–430)
 - 372: Becomes a Manichaean
 - 382: Roman Emperor Theodosius I issues decree of death for Manichaeans
 - 387: Converts to Christianity from Manichaeism
 - 391: Declares Christianity to be the only legitimate religion for the Roman Empire
- Book Confessions expressed expressed his opposition to Manichaean Faustus of Mileve claiming their belief that knowledge was the key to salvation as too passive and not able to effect any real change in one's life
 - “I still thought that it is not we who sin but some other nature that sins within us. It flattered my pride to think that I incurred no guilt and, when I did wrong, not to confess it... I preferred to excuse myself and blame this unknown thing which was in me but was not part of me. The truth, of course, was that it was all my own self, and my own impiety had divided me against myself. My sin was all the more incurable because I did not think myself a sinner.”
(Confessions, Book V, Section 10)
- Irenaeus: *Against Heresies* 3.9 - Christ and Jesus are one and the same - The Christ did not descend on Jesus at His baptism - Jesus is God
- However, the Paulicians, Bogomils, and Cathars all seem to have Manichaean principles embedded in their Theology and church organization

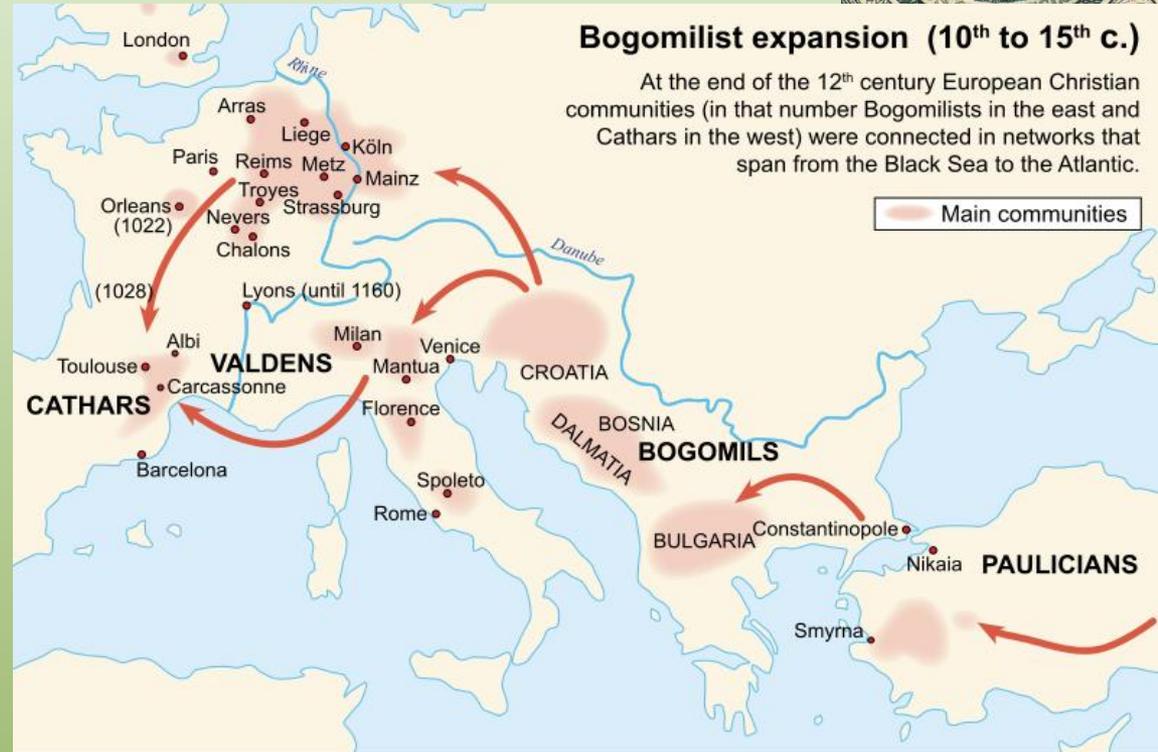
Migration of the Dualists

Dualists: Jewish God not = Christ's Father God



Paulicians and Bogomils

- Originated in Armenia in the 7th C, Slavic: “beloved of God”
- 660: Constantine of Mananalis received an initiate who put in his hands a precious and rare treasure – a New Testament copy – called to restore the pure Christianity taught by Paul
- Using only the NT, he taught there were 2 gods: one made human soul, the other made human body and matter
- 845-852: Byzantine Empress Theodora had over 100,000 Paulicians executed
- 970: Emperor John I Tzimiskes forced 200K Armenian Paulicians to resettle in Philippopolis
- 1234: Pope Gregory IX calls for a crusade against Bogomils
- 1650: After Cathar extermination and centuries of brutality, they convert to Catholicism



Role in Education of Europe

http://www.bogomilism.eu/Studies/Tyndale_the_covert_dualist.html



- 787: Charlemagne decree: schools in every abbey in his empire (Chartres)
- “The study of the Bogomil movement has its own, and by no means negligible, part to play in the investigation of the cultural and religious links between eastern and western Europe, the importance of which is increasingly perceived at the present time.”
 - Dimitry Obolensky, *The Bogomils: a Study in Balkan Neo-Manichaeism*. Cambridge, 1948.
- Scholasticism (1100 – 1500): Bonaventure (Franciscan – Plato), Albertus Magnus & Thomas Aquinas (Dominicans – Aristotle)
- Averroës 1126 – 1198, “founding father of secular thought in Western Europe“ Muslim
- William Tyndale (c. 1494 - 1536): first comprehensive translation of the Bible into English from Greek and Hebrew
 - “Seeing we are conceived and born under the power of the devil, and we are his possession and kingdom, his captives, and bondmen”
 - Doctrinal Treatises: “For **perfecter** we be, the greater is our repentance, and the stronger is our faith. And thus, as the Spirit and doctrine on God’s part, and repentance and faith on our part, beget anew in Christ, even so they make us grow, and wax **perfect**, and save us unto end, and never leave us until sin be put off, and we clean purified, and full formed, and fashioned after the similitude and likeness of the **perfectness** of our Saviour Jesus...” p.27
- Lord Byron: *Cain a Mystery* (1821), claimed he had written in accordance with the old “very profane” mysteries and moralité in which Lucifer reigns together with Jehovah: “Lucifer: No we reign together; but our dwellings are asunder”

Key Contemporaries



- St. Thomas Aquinas (1225 – 1274)
 - Theologian, philosopher, doctor of Christian Church
 - Commentaries on **Aristotle**
- Roger Bacon (1214 – 1294) *not to be confused with Francis Bacon*
 - Advocate of modern scientific method (relied on mystical & alchemical traditions)
 - 1227: Enrolled at Oxford, becomes Master lecturing on **Aristotle**, *Doctor Mirabilis*
 - 1240s: Lecturer at University of Paris
 - Lamented the corruption of the holy texts and the works of the Greek philosophers
 - 1247 to 1256: At age 33 his whereabouts vanish for 9 years
 - 1256: Became a Friar in the Franciscan Order
 - 1260: Franciscan statute forbade Friars from publishing books without approval
 - Bacon circumvented this restriction through his acquaintance with Cardinal Guy le Gros de Foulques, who became Pope Clement IV in 1265.
 - The new Pope issued a mandate ordering Bacon to write him concerning the place of philosophy within theology. Bacon sent the Pope his *Opus maius*, which presented his views on how **Aristotle** and the new science could be incorporated into a new Theology
 - Bacon also sent his *Opus minus*, *De multiplicatione specierum*, and other works on **alchemy and astrology**. Was Bacon the author of “Voynich” illustrated manuscript?
 - **Secretum secretorum** *The Book of the Secret of Secrets*, alchemy, Aristotle - Alexander

How did Aristotelean knowledge come to Medieval Europe?

Roots

Paulicians & Bogomils



- **Paulicians**
- Manichean sect founded by Constantine of Mananalis based on the work of Paul of Samosata who was a Manichaean (Christian)
- 650 – 872: Flourished in Armenia and Asia Minor
 - Constantine felt called to restore the pure Christianity of St. Paul; he adopted the name Silvanus (one of Paul's disciples, see 2 Thessalonians)
 - 687: Constantine stoned to death as a heretic
 - 690: The official who executed the order, Simeon, converted, and became Constantine's successor, adopted the name Titus, but later was burned to death
- 863: Bulgarian Emperor Boris made a decision to embrace Christianity
- 871: Byzantine Emperor Basil I ended the power of the "Paulician state"
- Many deported to the Balkans where an Asiatic people had established a kingdom south of the Danube now called Bulgaria
- 970: 200K Paulicians of Syria given religious freedom if they move to Thrace
- **Paulicians reemerge as Bogomils in the 10th C**
- Bogomil means 'the beloved of God', Bulgar for an earlier people/region
- To this day, we have the word "Bugger" – a person who commits sodomy- or a Bulgar – a heretic to whom this crime was attributed
- 1393: Ottoman Turks capture the Bulgarian capital (and Byzantine in 1453)

Balkan Area Map 650 AD

- Bulgars then on north shore of Black Sea
- Huns disappearing
- Pressure from East – people movement continues



Now 800 AD



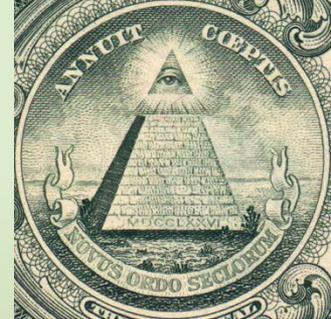
History

Cathars



- This Christian brotherhood became very popular and almost became the official state religion of Bosnia and Serbia – took a Turkish invasion in the 17th C blot it out
- The sect moved across Europe and became known by various names in different countries
- The Cathars formed settlements in the south of France
 - Languedoc became a center for the Cathar sect
- The Cathars were devotees of John the Evangelist and carried his gospel in their cloaks at all times
- In John it states that Christ's true disciples are called Katheroi – Cathars comes from this word meaning to purify, cleanse, purge – to baptize w/fire to liberate, free

Life of the Cathars



- Simple lives based on freeing themselves from earthly riches
- Yet built a brotherhood-rich, democratic, and cultured society
- Vegetarians w/knowledge of herbs, harmonizing nature, & alchemy
- Female equality in society, separate but equal ministries
- No prejudices: the wealthy and the poor were equal before God
- Valued virtues and self transformation
 - The initiated were called Perfecti
- Here the Arts, especially the troubadours flourished
 - Songs and poems: Chivalry for Sophia and concerning higher union
- Mysticism and Gnosticism flourished - remnants of a once vibrant understanding of the Cosmic Christ
 - Also Cabbalistic, Greek, and Arab philosophers
- Perfecti men and women soon were everywhere in southern France

What Did the Cathars Teach?



- Pacifism and the shunning all violence – had no military
 - Killing any living thing was forbidden
- Lies were abhorred as were the swearing of oaths
- The transformation of evil through the power of love
- The I am was to be cultivated as the Christ within
- One did not need a (corrupt) priest as an intermediary since the ritual of the sacrament or confession if enacted by a corrupt priest was not valid (remember the Donatists)
- Reincarnation which had been formerly abolished by the Church
- Their beliefs could be called Manichean and dualist
 - The material world was created by an demiurge, not by The Father
 - Along with the darkness there was a good heaven and goodness on the earth
 - Retarded angels incarnated into human bodies until they became pure
 - The human being was given a spark of inner light and could choose evil or good

Theology of the Cathars



- Initiates could perceive the good world that was said to be more real than the evil world – where the good souls would go - the Arcadia
- Christ had come to help mankind find a new way home therefore ending the cycle of incarnations
- To a Cathar, Jesus-Christ had not died on the cross, only Jesus' body because Christ was an immortal being
- The cross was a symbol of mortality of the lower nature of man
- The mass had lost its meaning however the Eucharist represented Christ's body and blood because his blood had entered the earth from which all things, e.g. grain and grapes, are grown
- The mother of Christ was Sophia (Isis), virgin Mary of Jesus
- The virgin birth of the self happens only within a purified astral body

Three Rituals



1. 'Melhoriamentum' bowing before a perfecti, kneeling and asking for his/her blessing done by the Sympathisers
2. 'Apelhamentum' or confession before the group done by the Credentes or believers
3. 'Consolamentum' a ritual in which the holy spirit is bestowed upon the neophyte who is initiated into the secrets of The Lord's Prayer by an advanced Perfecti or Bishop – the new Elect are then expected to
 - Remain pure
 - Eat only a vegetarian diet
 - Live a life of austerity
 - Such an initiate is called on to help pave the way for the Paraclete

Religion for the Common Person



- Anyone could become a Perfect (by going through the process)
- Women and men treated equally (albeit separately)
- Education – basic offered, vernacular bible, knowledge respected and available

Availability of the Scripture to the Masses

- Methodius and St. Cyril (from whom the name Cyrillic Alphabet originates) made Slavonic translations in the 800s – for the people
- Bogomils and Cathars: *Secret Book*, *Palea*, *Prophecies of Pseudo-Methodius*
- Work ethic – often weavers or associated merchants, love of occupation, community wealth



Johannes Scottus Eriugena and the Education of Europe



- 810: Born an **Irishman**, educated in Ireland in Greek philosophy
- 844: King Charles the Bald invites him to lead the Palatine Academy (recall Charlemagne (d. 814) and his goal of education
- The Carolingian Renaissance increases greatly under Eriugena's leadership
- A noted **Greek scholar**, rare at that time in Western Europe, was not uncommon in Early and Medieval Ireland
- Translated and taught "The Celestial Hierarchy" of Pseudo-**Dionysius**
- First since Saint Augustine to introduce the ideas of **Neo-platonism** from the Greek into the Western European intellectual tradition
- He remained in France for at least thirty years writing various books
- Later life unclear – may have died in France in 877
- 882: "invited" to Oxford by Alfred the Great
- 1225: council at Sens, led by Honorius III, calls his great work *De Divisione Naturae* "swarming with worms of heretical perversity,"
- "Authority is the source of knowledge, but the reason of mankind is the norm by which all authority is judged" – foundation for Scholasticism

Historical Perspective 13th C



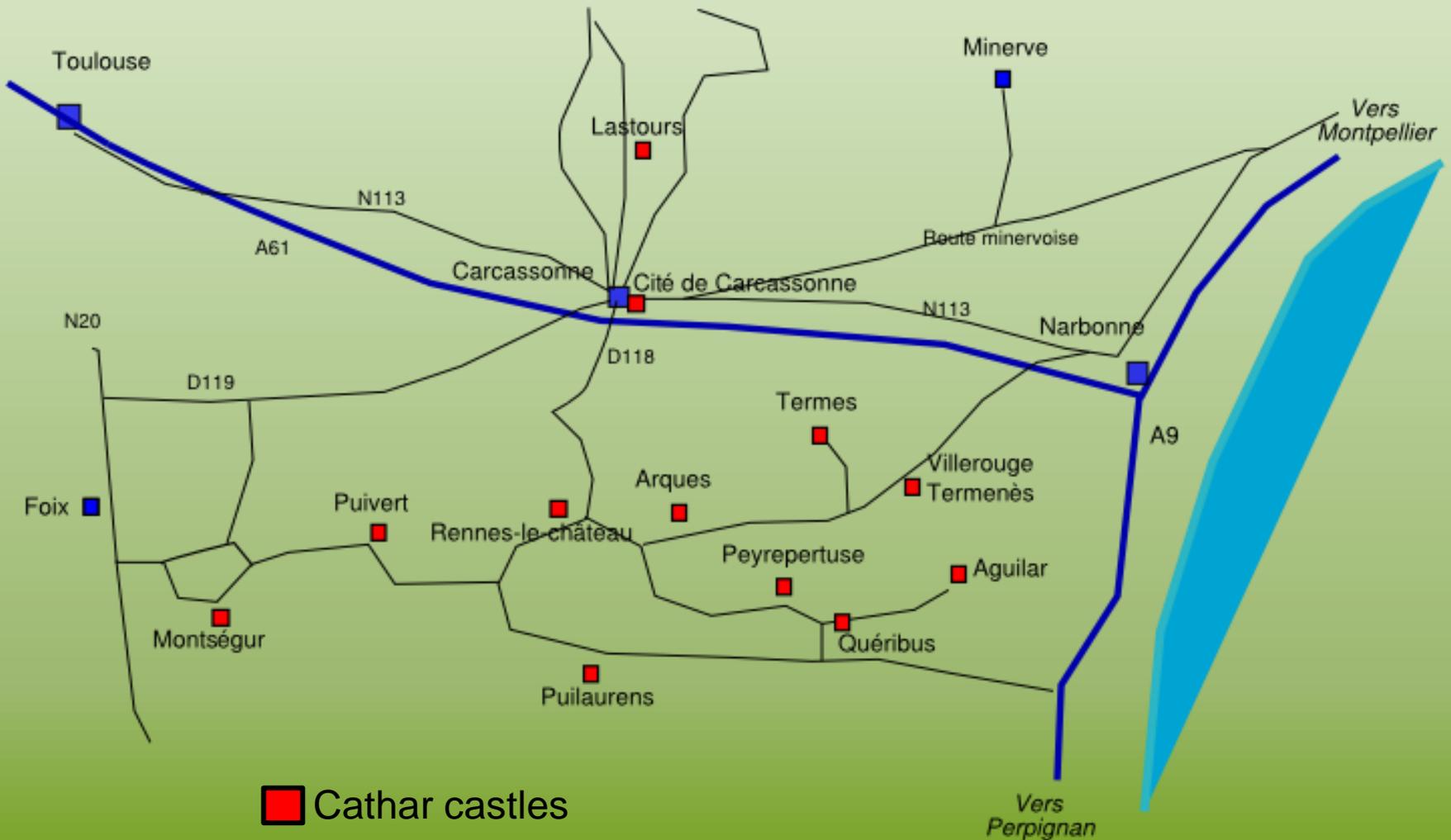
- Catholic Church had become corrupt – St. Francis (1182-1226) to rebuild
- Its Bishops avaricious and disinterested in the people
- No mass was celebrated in many of the smaller churches or celebrated by ignorant young priests without experience, wisdom, or knowledge
- Cathars had spread widely with its pious, organized, interested clergy
- Pope Innocent III branded them anathema, their study of the gospel of John a heresy and sent his bishops to debate publicly with their bishops
- Phillip-August King of France, sovereign only of the north, wanted the south
- An alliance was struck between Phillip and Innocent
- Innocent wanted the extermination of the Cathars and in return he would hand Languedoc to the king
- The Dominicans, founded by Dominic Guzman, became the Inquisitors
- Like the Slaughter of the Innocents, so did they die in mass

The Albigensian Crusade



- May 1208: Bishop of Citeaux, Arnaud Amaury, and local clergy join an army of northern knights to form the Crusade in Albi, France
- The invasion began at Quercy then they marched in the direction of Toulouse plundering, murdering, raping, setting fires, destroying crops, farms, and villages
- Onward they marched against Beziers a large Cathar center
- Outside the town when asked how must the crusaders tell between Catholics and Cathars
 - Amaury answered famously, “Kill them all, God will recognize His own!”
- 7000 killed in their church as they kneeled celebrating a saint’s day
- Amaury wrote to Pope Innocent III, "Today your Holiness, 20,000 heretics were put to the sword, regardless of rank, age, or sex.”
- [Ghandi’s non-violence would not work here]

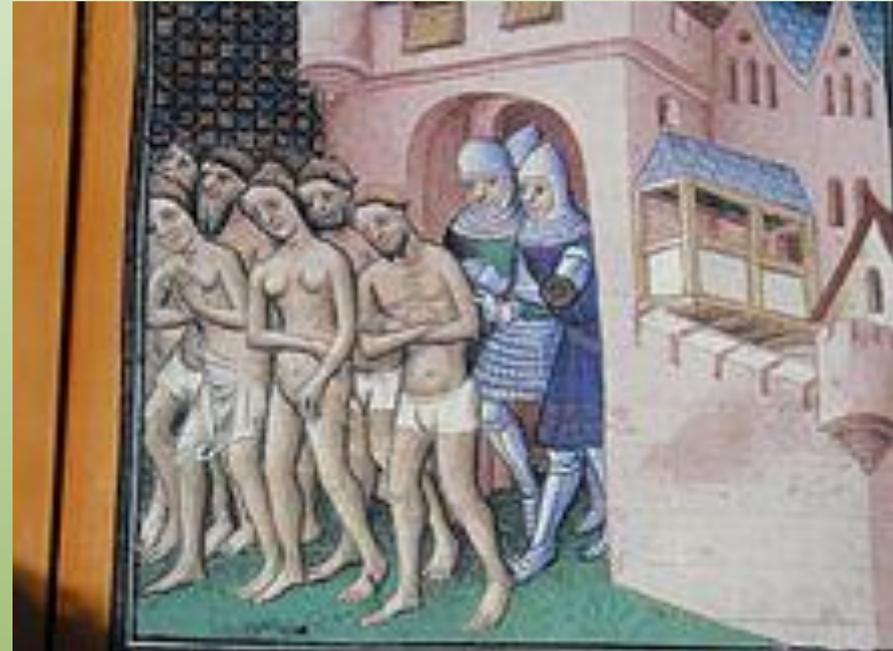
Map of Cathar Homeland



Crusade Cruelty



- August 1208: Carcassonne was attacked
- Simon de Montfort, whose coat of arms was the lion with the forked tail, had been recruited as a new Crusade leader
- Simon was ambitious and intensely cruel
- It was written that he felt great joy at seeing mass executions
- It was by his order that in Bram the knights and mercenaries slit noses and lips, lopped off hands ears and feet, gouged out eyes

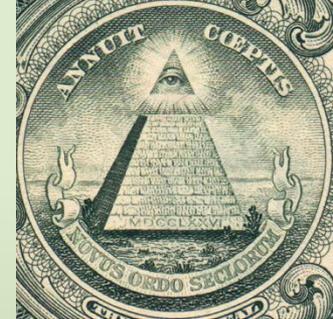


From Crusade to Inquisition



- Historian Zoe Oldenbourg tells how hundreds of blind, mutilated men, women and children were led by a one-eyed victim to the next town to show the consequences of opposition
- Thousands were either massacred or burned alive
- Their only refuge being Templar houses and castles, grottoes and forests
- This goes on for another fifteen years
- Two popes later Pope Gregory, ordered an Inquisition
- The Dominicans became known as the ‘Domini Canni’ a play on Latin meaning “the hounds of God”
- Together with the Franciscans they had the power to interrogate and send any person to the pyre who was suspected of being a Cathar or a Cathar protector

Inquisition's Findings

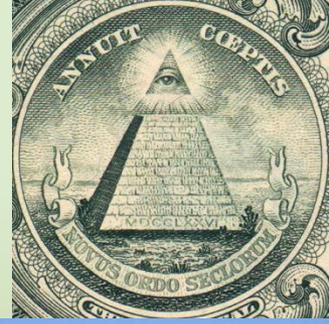


- Repentant first offenders (of being a Cathar) were released with the penance to: “carry from now on and forever two yellow crosses on all their clothes ... to be worn in front on the chest and the other between the shoulders”
- 14th C Cathar Perfect Pierre Authié: “just as a man should with an axe break the gallows on which his father was hanged, so you ought to try and break crucifixes, because Christ was suspended from it, albeit only in seeming“



Montsegur

- After 20 years of Inquisition and Crusade, there was nothing of the defenseless Cathars left except the citadel of Montsegur



The Treasure of Montsegur



- Many rose up to protect what was left of the defenseless Cathars
- After the slaughter of the entire town of Avignonet, the inquisitors and the clergy there were assassinated
- Another Crusade was called to finish the job and this was to be headed by King Louis of France with an army of mercenaries
- Five hundred Cathars fled to Montsegur where a siege lasted ten months
- When they surrendered they were given 15 days to prepare for their burning
- In those 15 days they fasted and prayed and prepared to save the treasure
- The child of Montsegur would one day become Christian Rosencreutz – he escaped with the help of 4 Cathars on 3/12/1244
 - At night, via ropes down the steep precipice, through secret passageways
 - They travelled to a Templar monastery at the foot of the Pyrenees
 - Here the child underwent an initiation by twelve initiates who possessed all the wisdom of the past and of their time but this child would die young
- On 3/16/1244, 215 Cathars descended from the citadel singing and holding hands, knowing their treasure was safe, made their way to a waiting pyre in a field that became known as the Field of the Cremated

Reasons for Extermination



- Refusal to pay tithes to the Catholic Church
- Church leaders failed to convert them
 - In open debates with leading Catholic theologians Cathars invariably came out on top
 - Embarrassing for the Roman Church who fielded their best professional preachers against what they saw as a collection of uneducated weavers and other manual workers
- Many Catholic priests of the region had become Cathars
 - Whole Catholic cathedral chapters “defected” e.g. Orleans
- Pope Innocent III (1198) his holy duty (Jihad) to launch Crusades against Muslims (1204) and Cathars (1209)
- Rise of hatred for the Pope and desire for religious freedom = seeds for the Reformation
 - Locals loved and honored the Goodmen, the Perfects

How to Stop the Spread of Early “Puritans”

- Label Cathar Church the "Synagogue of Satan"
- Massacre two generations (1208-1244)
 - ½ M in Toulouse, over 1M total
- Plunder rich land & people including nobles
- Wipe out the last vestiges and sympathizers
- Hand over Avignon & Languedoc to King Louis VIII of France
- Then turn attention on Jews, troubadours, and minorities
 - Inquisition spread to Spain and much of Europe
- What resulted from Christian-on-Christian cruelty, genocide?
 - 1204: Sack of Constantinople (April 12)
 - 1244: Battle of La Forbie – Templars suffer stinging defeat
 - 1245: Christian Mongols led by Hulegu capture Baghdad
 - 1309 to 1378: “Babylonian captivity” (Avignon) of the Papacy
 - 1314: Extermination of the Knights Templar by King Philip IV
 - 1314-1317: Great Famine
 - 1347-1351: Black Plague
 - 1337-1453: 100 Year War



↑
700 years ago!

Troubadours & Minnesingers



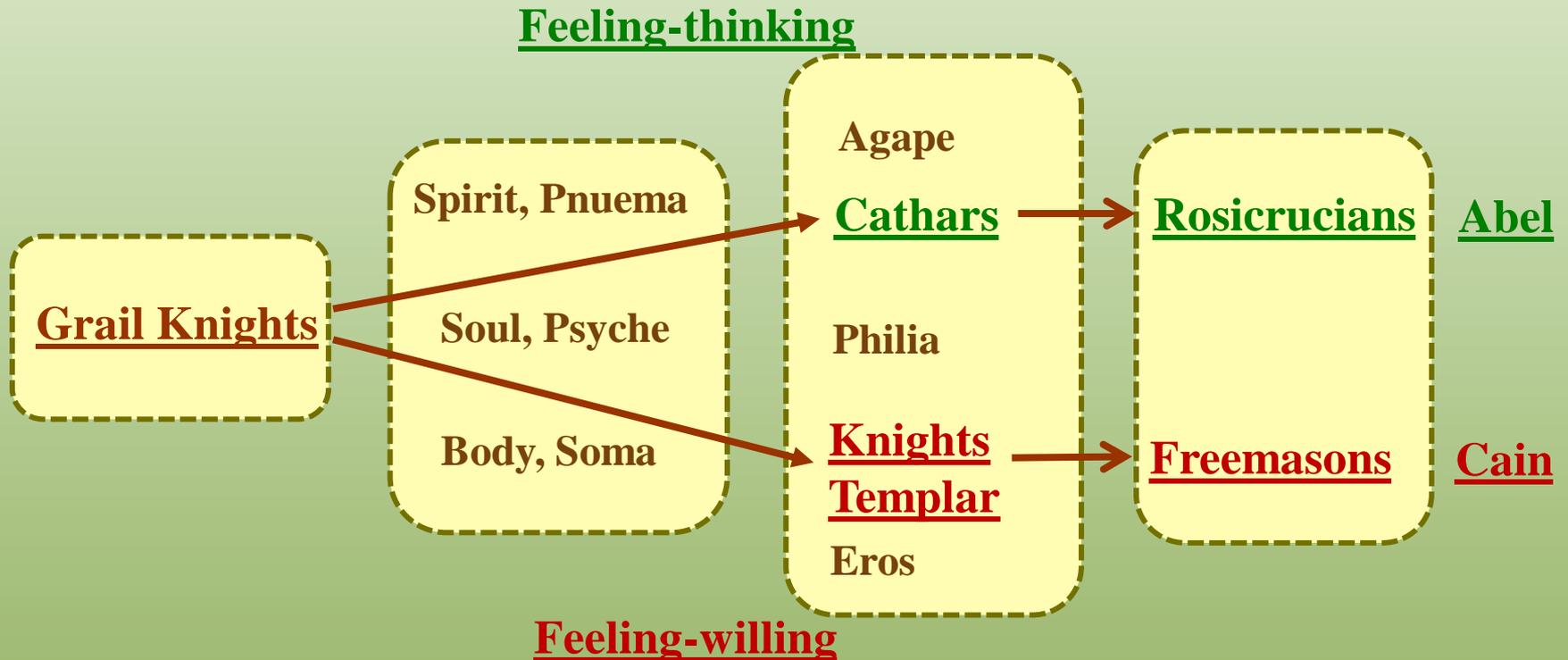
- 869: 4th Council of Constantinople (8th Ecumenical) – end of unity
 - Called by Emperor Basil I and Pope Adrian II
 - Ranked Constantinople before the other three Eastern patriarchates of Alexandria, Antioch and Jerusalem and anathematized the teaching, supposedly held by Photius, that we have 2 souls, one during life on earth and another spiritual (i.e. spirit): body + soul, Photius removed as Patriarch
 - Blood (wine) reserved only for the priests, only Body given
 - Bulgarian Church became Eastern Orthodox
 - Eastern Orthodox held their own 8th Council 879 to reinstate Photius
- Cathars (Greek catharos means purity)
 - Albigensian, in southern France (Provence)
 - From where Eschenbach claimed that he got the story of Parzival - from Kyot of Provence; Wolfram completes Parzival about 1212
- Troubadour & Minnesinger poetry reflects Cathar religious doctrine
 - First mentioned in 11th century in Occitania – spread through Europe
 - Sung stories about the search for the Holy Grail, the wine, the spirit
 - Faced with Inquisition following extermination of Cathars, the troubadours disappear into the cultural underground

Effects of Cathars



- Concepts that apply today: Women's equality, dignity of labor, tolerance of minorities, religious freedom, vegetarianism, meditation, self-improvement, euthanasia, reincarnation
- Education, self-improvement, knowledge to wisdom → **Renaissance**
- Freedom of religion and resistance to religious authority → **Reformation**
- What about their relationship to the Templar Knights?

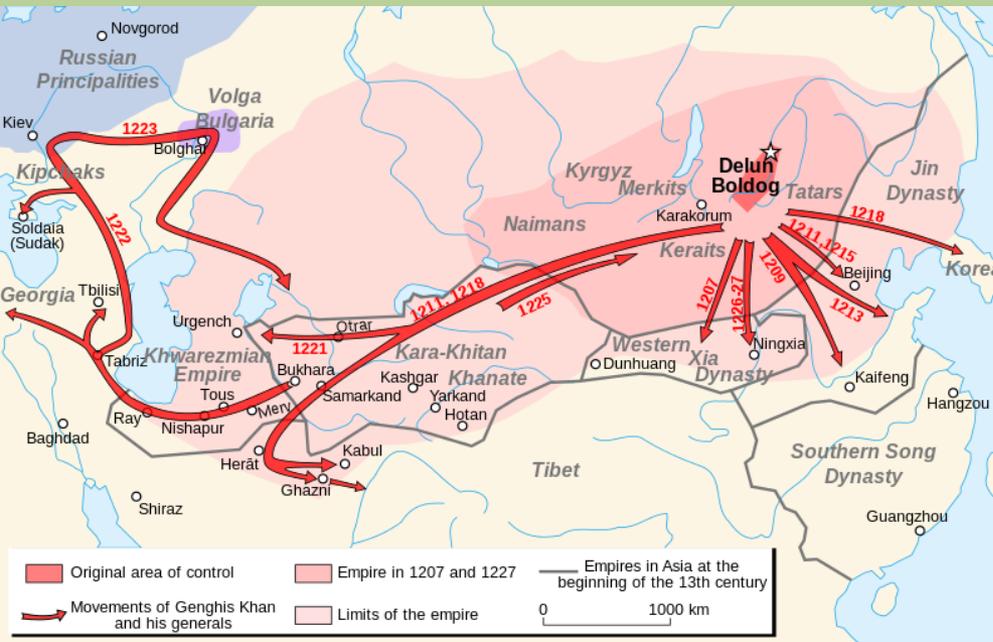
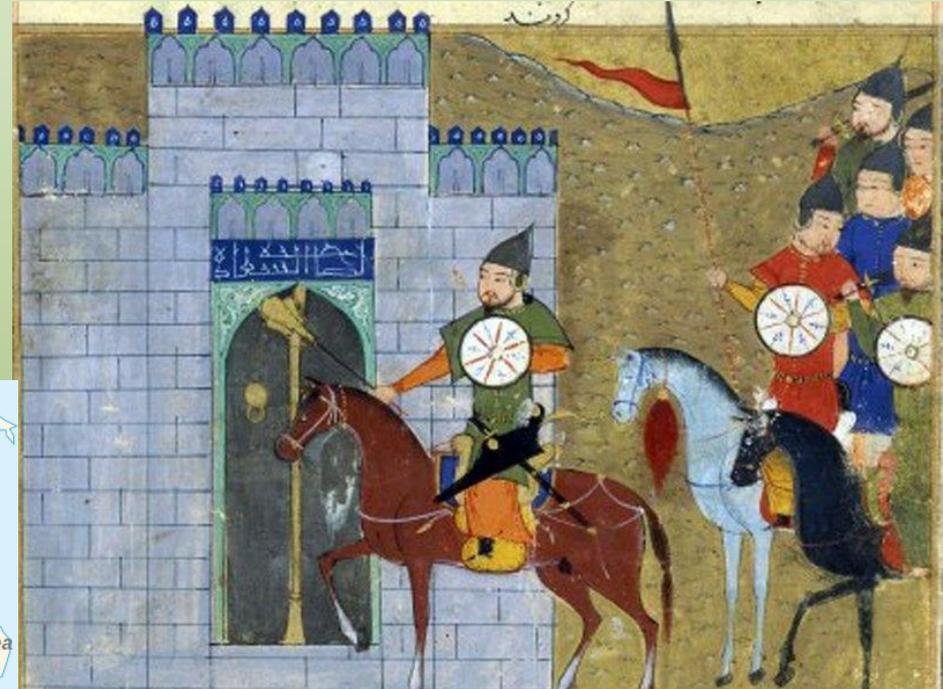
Relationship of Templars and Cathars



One Last Historical Note



- Batu Khan's conquers Rus' in 1240 adding to Golden Horde empire until 1480
- Tatars are remnants of this
- Moscow surpasses Kiev



- Mongol Christians sacked Baghdad in 1258

Christian Mystics of this period

11th and 12th century

- Bernard of Clairvaux
- Guigo II
- Hildegard of Bingen
- Hadewijch

13th and 14th centuries

- Dominic de Guzmán
- Meister Eckhart
- Johannes Tauler
- Henry Suso
- Beatrice of Nazareth
- John of Ruysbroeck
- Francis of Assisi
- Anthony of Padua
- Bonaventure
- Jacopone da Todi
- Angela of Foligno

- Richard Rolle
- Roger Bacon
- Walter Hilton
- Julian of Norwich
- Bridget of Sweden
- Catherine of Siena

15th and 16th centuries

- Matthias Grünewald
- Catherine of Genoa
- Ignatius of Loyola
- Francisco de Osuna
- John of Ávila
- Teresa of Ávila
- John of the Cross

Tonight's Summary Points

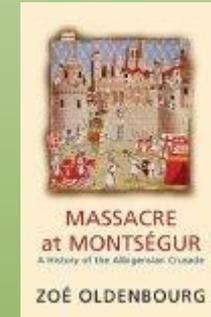


1. Cathars belong to the stream of the Mysteries that flowed into Christianity
2. They were exterminated via a Crusade followed by an Inquisition by the Church in Rome
3. Their treasure was preserved in the seed that bore fruit as Rosicrucianism – and perhaps the Renaissance and the Reformation

References



- *The Medieval Manichee*, Steven Runciman, Cambridge University Press, 1947 with later prints
- *The Eastern Schism*, Steven Runciman, Wipf and Stock
- http://www.midi-france.info/articles/a_cathars.htm
- http://www.eleggua.com/Objects/Koulias-Manicheism,_Catharism_and_Freemasonry.html
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mysticism>
- *The Golden Age of Chartres*, Rene Querido
- *Massacre at Montsegur*, Zoe Oldenbourg,
- *The Yellow Cross*, Rene Weis,
- *The Cathars in the Languedoc*, Malcolm Barber,
- *Power and Purity*, Carol Lansing,



More References



DOCUMENTS

- [Book of John the Evangelist](#)--a text demonstrative of their interpretations of the Bible
- [Traditio, immersion in the parfait community, from the Lyons Ritual](#)--sacred Cathar rituals, ideology
- [The Apparehamentum](#)--Cathar spiritual prayer
- [Raynaldus: on the Accusations Against the Albigensians](#)--mid-13th century narrative account of Cathar/Albigensian ideology
- [Bernard Gui on the Albigensians](#)--narrative of beliefs held by Cathars/Albigensians
- [Bernard Gui: Inquisitorial Technique](#)--description of inquisitorial methods used to expose Cathars/Albigensians

ESSAYS

- [The Cathars](#) by Nicole Brogan--brief history of the Cathar/Albigensian ideology, movement, and persecution by the church
- [An Age of Persecution: The Paulicans and Bogmoli](#)--paper finds existence of Cathars/Albigensians in the 3rd century; summarizes Cathar beliefs, practices, and the Albigensian Crusade
- [Bogomilism, Catharism and Later Gnosticizing Tendencies](#)--comprehensive bibliography for works on heretical groups of this period. From the Gnostic Spiritual Library

LINKS

- [The Medieval Sourcebook](#)--Large collection of documents relating to the Middle Ages
- [Land of Cathars, a natural world glorified by its history](#)--site examining historical Cathar/Albigensian artifacts in France
- [Le-Guide: The Cathars and Chateau de Queribus](#)--site contains 'Cathar Doctrine' and information for French tourists interested in Cathars/Albigensians
- [Catholics, Heretics, and Heresy](#) by G.C.H. Nullens--on-line book, tracing the origins and developments of Cathars/Albigensians
- [The Gnostic Society Spiritual Library](#)--comprehensive site for Gnostic inquiry, and modern day sect information
- [The Legacy of the Cathars](#)--most extensive site for Cathar/Albigensians scriptures, studies, sources and other information
- <http://www.cs.utk.edu/~mclennan/Classes/US310/Manichaeism.html>