

Name: _____

Cohort: _____

Unit 2 – Death, Trade, & Revival

RITUAL #4: FROM THE CRUSADES TO THE PLAGUE
GOD, KNIGHTS, AND SWOLLEN GLANDS

- 1) A major feature of the Golden Age of Moslem culture was the...
 - a. political and economic isolation of the Arab world
 - b. development of the foundations of modern science and mathematics
 - c. adoption of democratic government
 - d. persecution of Jews and Christians

- 2) Which statement best describes the result of the Crusades?
 - a. Europeans maintained a lasting control over much of the Middle East
 - b. Islamic influence dominated Europe
 - c. Europeans developed tolerance of Non-Christian religions
 - d. trade between Europe and the Middle East was expanded

- 3) One major result of the Crusades was the...
 - a. permanent occupation of the Holy Land by the Europeans
 - b. long-term decrease in European trade
 - c. conversion of most Muslims to Christianity
 - d. spread of Middle Eastern culture and technology to Europe

- 4) The Crusades have been called “history’s most successful failures.” Which statement best explains this expression?
 - a. The Crusades did not achieve their original goals, but they brought about many desirable changes in Europe.
 - b. Although the Crusaders captured the Holy Land, they were unable to bring about democratic reforms.
 - c. The Crusades helped bring about the fall of the Roman Empire
 - d. The Crusaders prevented the Turks from capturing Constantinople for many centuries

- 5) A major goal of the Christian Church during the Crusades (1096–1291) was to
 - a. establish Christianity in western Europe
 - b. capture the Holy Land from Islamic rulers
 - c. unite warring Arab peoples
 - d. strengthen English dominance in the Arab world

- 6) Which heading would be best for the partial outline below?

I. _____ A. Desire to be released from feudal obligations B. Defense of the Holy Land C. Forgiveness of sins D. Desire for wealth from the Middle East
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- (1) Reasons for the Reformation
- (2) European Motives for Fighting the Crusades
- (3) Causes of the Fall of the Roman Empire
- (4) Reasons for the Split Between the Eastern and Western Churches

7) Read and answer the following document based question on the Crusades.

. . . One positive, undisputed result of the Crusades was a greatly expanded knowledge of geography gained by the West. With the coming of such vast hordes of invaders from all points of Europe, the veil of the “mysterious East” had been lifted for good. . . .

The Arab builders learned much about military masonry from the Crusaders who had brought this knowledge from Normandy and Italy. In constructing the famed Citadel of Cairo, Saladin had taken some of the features of Crusaders’ castles he had observed up and down the Levant [lands of the Eastern Mediterranean]. Then, when the great cathedrals of Europe began to rise in a somewhat later period, their builders installed windows of stained glass made with a technique which had originated with the ancient Phoenicians of Syria and passed along by Syrian Arabs to Europeans living in the East. . . .

From a purely military point of view, the Crusades must be written off as a failure for the West, because, after changing hands so many times, the territory comprising the Christian Kingdom of Jerusalem reverted [returned] to the Moslems [Muslims] for good. But during that two-century struggle between East and West, it is plain now that each side made major contributions to the culture of the other. That vast interchange let in a few rays of light over a darkened Europe, and removed for good the wall of ignorance that had always existed between Europe and Asia. . . .

Source: “Legacy of the Crusades,” *Aramco World*, VII, May 1956

A) According to this document, what was ONE positive, unexpected outcome of the Crusades on Western civilization?

B) According to this document, what was ONE reason the West was disappointed with the outcome of the Crusades?

8) Read and answer the following document based question.

. . . Though the great princes were apt to remain aloof, western knights responded readily to the appeal of the holy war. Their motives were in part genuinely religious. They were ashamed to continue fighting amongst themselves; they wanted to fight for the Cross. But there was also a land-hunger to incite them, especially in northern France, where the practice of primogeniture [eldest son inherited all] was being established. As a lord grew unwilling to divide his property and its offices, now beginning to be concentrated round a stone-built castle, his younger sons had to seek their fortunes elsewhere. There was a general restlessness and taste for adventure in the knightly class in France, most marked among the Normans, who were only a few generations removed from nomadic freebooters. The opportunity for combining Christian duty with the acquisition of land in a southern climate was very attractive. The Church had reason to be pleased with the progress of the movement. Could it not be applied also to the eastern frontier of Christendom? . . .

Source: Steven Runciman, *A History of the Crusades*, Cambridge University Press, 1951

According to this document, state *one* reason European knights and soldiers joined the Crusades.

9) Read and answer the following document based question on the Black Death.

Henry Knighton, a 14th-century author, wrote about the effects of the Black Death in England between 1348–1350.

... Ox hides fell to a wretched price, namely 12*d.*, and yet a pair of gloves would cost 10*d.*, 12*d.*, or 14*d.*, and a pair of breeches 3*s.* or 4*s.* In the mean time the king sent word into every shire [county] that mowers and other workmen should take no more than they had before [the outbreak of the plague], under the penalties laid down in the order, and thereupon made a statute. Nevertheless the workmen were so puffed up and contrary-minded that they did not heed the king's decree, and if anyone wanted to hire them he had to pay what they asked: either his fruit and crops rotted, or he had to give in to the workmen's arrogant and greedy demands. . . .

In the following winter there was such a want of hands, for every kind of work, that people believed that the like shortage had never been known at any time in the past, for cattle and such livestock as a man might have wandered about without a keeper, and there was no one to look after people's possessions. And thus the necessities of life became so dear, that what in previous times was worth 1*d.* now cost 4*d.* or 5*d.* . . .

Source: G. H. Martin, ed., *Knighton's Chronicle 1337–1396*, Oxford University Press, 1995

Based on this document, state **two** effects of the Black Death on the economy of England.

10) Read and answer the following document based question on the Black Death.

... The plight of the lower and most of the middle classes was even more pitiful to behold. Most of them remained in their houses, either through poverty or in hopes of safety, and fell sick by thousands. Since they received no care and attention, almost all of them died. Many ended their lives in the streets both at night and during the day; and many others who died in their houses were only known to be dead because the neighbours smelled their decaying bodies. Dead bodies filled every corner. Most of them were treated in the same manner by the survivors, who were more concerned to get rid of their rotting bodies than moved by charity towards the dead. With the aid of porters, if they could get them, they carried the bodies out of the houses and laid them at the doors, where every morning quantities of the dead might be seen. They then were laid on biers [coffin stands], or, as these were often lacking, on tables. . . .

Not to pry any further into all the details of the miseries which afflicted [struck] our city, I shall add that the surrounding country was spared nothing of what befell Florence. The villages on a smaller scale were like the city; in the fields and isolated farms the poor wretched peasants and their families were without doctors and any assistance, and perished in the highways, in their fields and houses, night and day, more like beasts than men. Just as the townsmen became dissolute and indifferent to their work and property, so the peasants, when they saw that death was upon them, entirely neglected the future fruits of their past labours both from the earth and from cattle, and thought only of enjoying what they had. Thus it happened that cows, asses, sheep, goats, pigs, fowls and even dogs, those faithful companions of man, left the farms and wandered at their will through the fields, where the wheat crops stood abandoned, unreaped and ungarnered [not gathered]. Many of these animals seemed endowed with reason, for, after they had pastured all day, they returned to the farms for the night of their own free will, without being driven. . . .

Oh, what great palaces, how many fair houses and noble dwellings, once filled with attendants and nobles and ladies, were emptied to the meanest servant! How many famous names and vast possessions and renowned estates were left without an heir! How many gallant men and fair ladies and handsome youths, whom Galen, Hippocrates and Æsculapius themselves would have said were in perfect health, at noon dined with their relatives and friends, and at night supped with their ancestors in the next world! . . .

— Giovanni Boccaccio, *The Decameron*

According to this document, what was **one** impact of the Black Death on European society?