

Name: _____ Period: _____

HA: Pope Urban's Speech Calling for Crusade HA HA!



Around 1095 AD the Byzantine emperor sent a message to Pope Urban II and asked for help against the Turks, a Muslim group from Asia, who had taken over part of his empire. Pope Urban urged his people to go recover the land from the rule of the Muslims. The acts of the council were not written down, but we have an account of the speech written by a man who was there and heard it.

Interact

MTT

From Pope Urban II -

“Although, good Christians, you have strongly promised to keep the peace among yourselves and to protect the church and Christian faith, there is still an important work for you to do. Your Christian brothers who live in the east in Constantinople, are in urgent need of your help. As most of you have heard, the Muslims have attacked them and have conquered part of their territory. The Muslims have killed and captured many Christians, destroyed their churches and devastated their empire. If you allow them to continue, they will attack our Christian brothers even more.

So, for this reason the Lord begs you as Christ's followers to share this message everywhere and to persuade all people of whatever rank, kings and knights, poor and rich, to send help quickly to those Christians in danger and to destroy the enemy that are in the lands of our brothers. Christ commands it. All who die on the way, whether by land or by sea, or in battle, shall have immediate forgiveness of all their sins. This I grant them through the power of God which I am given.

So now let those who for a long time have been robbers, now become knights. Let those who have been fighting against their brothers and relatives now fight in a proper way against our enemy the Turks. Behold! On this side will be the sad and poor, on the other, the rich; on one side, the enemies of the Lord, on the other, his friends. Choose your side! Do not wait if you plan to go. Sell your lands and collect money for your expenses; and as soon as winter is over and spring comes, eagerly set out on the way with God as your guide."

MTT Icons:	! interesting	+ important	? I don't get it	= Reminds me of	:) Like	: (Don't like
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1. Is this document a newspaper article, a personal letter, a speech or a diary? How do you know?

2. List three reasons from the document that the pope wants people to go fight.

3. The pope promised “immediate forgiveness of sins” for anyone who died while going on Crusade. This meant that they were guaranteed to go to Heaven no matter what they had done before. What would you do if offered this promise?

4. Explain why this document **would not be** a reliable source for a historian trying to learn about the Muslim Turks. Think about the author and why he might be biased.

5. If you were a peasant or knight living in Christendom and you heard this speech would you want to go fight in the Crusades? Explain.