

The Crusades

A **crusade is a religious war.** The most famous crusades were to Jerusalem and the Holy Land.

For centuries, Christians visited Jerusalem and the Holy Land. They were called pilgrims¹. They wanted to see the places where Christ lived. The Arabs², who ruled³ the Holy Land, treated



the pilgrims well. The Arabs were Muslims⁴, but they respected the Christians.

In the 11th century, the Turks⁵ conquered⁶ the Arabs. The Turks were Muslims too. But **they did not like the Christians.** **They caused problems for them.**

Europeans got spices⁷ in the Holy Land. Spices were very important because they were used to preserve⁸ food. Europe wanted the Holy Land to be open to everyone.

The head of the Christian Church, **Pope Urban II, decided to fight**

1. pilgrims : 朝圣者。

2. Arabs : 阿拉伯人。

3. ruled : 统治。

4. Muslims : 伊斯兰教信徒。

5. Turks : 土耳其人。

6. conquered : 击败。

7. spices : 香料。

8. preserve : 保存。

the Turks. This was the First Crusade of 1096. Crusaders came from all parts of Europe. At that time, the Church had great power over the people of Western Europe.

One of the most important Crusades was the Third Crusade. Three of Europe's most powerful kings led¹ the Crusade. They were Richard the Lionheart of England, Philip Augustus of France, and Frederick Barbarossa of Germany.

Frederick Barbarossa died at sea before arriving at the Holy Land. Philip Augustus returned home.

King Richard and his men fought alone. They won many battles.

King Richard was unable to free² Jerusalem. He made an agreement³ with the Muslim leader, Saladin. The agreement said that the Turks could have control of Jerusalem, but the Christians could visit it freely.

The Crusades continued for more than 200 years. By the year 1291, Western Europe lost all political power in the Holy Land.



1. led : (动词 lead 的过去式) 带领。

2. free : 解放。

3. agreement : 协议。

What did the Crusaders bring back to Europe?

Look at the list below and look in the dictionary for any words you don't know.

Damask (cloth decorated with a special pattern)

Apricot plants

Spices

Silks

Oriental rugs

Perfumes

Muslin (very fine cotton cloth)

Rice

Sugar

Lemons

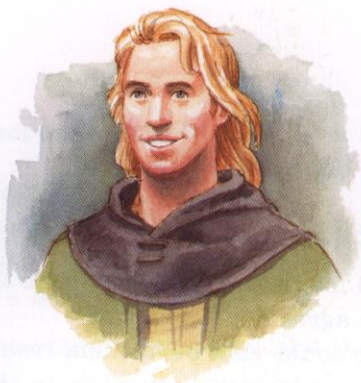
Dyes

Arab numbers



An old picture of the Crusades outside the Holy City, Jerusalem.

Are any of these things produced in your country?



Friar¹ Tuck joins the Outlaws

W

ill Scarlett told Robin that a big, fat man lived in a cavern near a river in Sherwood Forest.

One day Robin decided to meet him. He went to the river and saw a fat friar who was fishing.

'Good morning, young man,' said the friar.

'Good day,' answered Robin Hood. 'You are fishing in an outlaw river. The fish you catch are mine. You can fish here today, but only if you carry me across the river.'

The friar did not like what Robin said. So, he looked at him and said, 'I can carry you across the river. You are very thin! Can you carry me across the river?'

Robin was surprised to hear this. 'Of course, I can carry you! I am thin, but I am very strong.'

1. friar : 修道士。



Robin Hood



Robin lifted the enormous friar with great difficulty. Then he carried him across the river.

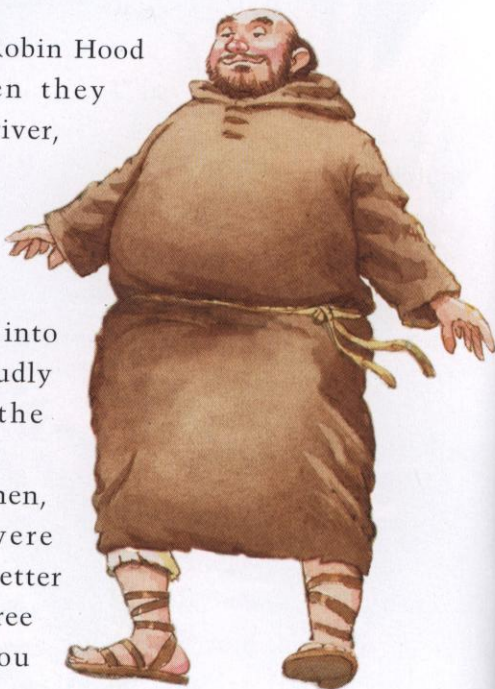
'You are very heavy, friar. But I can carry you,' said Robin. At the other side of the river Robin said, 'Now you must carry me back.'

The friar started to carry Robin Hood across the river. But when they arrived at the middle of the river, the friar stopped. He sniffed¹ Robin and said, 'Goodness! You smell like an old rat! You need a good, cold bath!' And so, the friar threw Robin into the cold water. He laughed loudly and then pulled Robin to the river bank².

Robin was angry at first. Then, he smiled and said, 'You were right. I needed a bath. I feel better now. My good friar, you are free to fish in this river when you want.'

'Let us shake hands³ before I go away,' said the friar.

'Oh, don't go away,' said Robin. 'My name is Robin Hood.'



1. sniffed : 闻。

2. bank : 河岸。

3. shake hands :





Friar Tuck joins the Outlaws



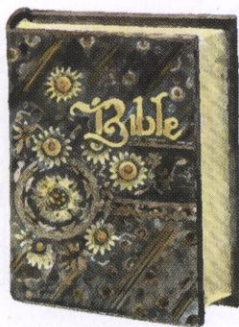
'What! *You* are Robin Hood?' asked the friar. He was very surprised.

'Yes! Come and live with me and my outlaws. We are all good, honest men. We take from the rich and give to the poor. We want a friar because we need the word of God. What is your name?'

'I am Friar Michael Tuck, of Fountains Abbey ¹. I had a quarrel ² with my abbot ³. He was very greedy and rich. He never helped the poor. He forgot God's teachings ⁴. When I told him this, he wanted to punish me. I escaped to the forest. Now I live a simple life.

'If you want to live a simple life, and help the poor, then come to Sherwood Forest,' said Robin.

The two men shook hands and promised ⁵ to be friends for life.



1. Abbey : 修道院。

2. quarrel : 争吵。

3. abbot : 男修道院院长。

4. teachings : 教导。

5. promised : 承诺。