

Church History Sr. 10

were really poorly organized. They were a movement in which a great many people came looking for absolution, looking for great blessing, looking for, perhaps no possibility of gain for themselves but it was people from different nations with different leadership and there was no good organization and compared to the thousands of people who took part and the tremendous amount that was expended, the accomplishment was very, very little. The/first crusade did conquer most of Palestine. It established power over Jerusalem and held it for a time. Then when it was retaken, the second crusade and the third followed but the Saracen power grew greater and the crusading power grew less as the crusades went on. Finally there was one of them in which Frederick II, a very able ruler of Sicily, had promised the pope when he became emperor that he would go on a crusade and then he didn't go on the crusade and the pope excommunicated him for not going and the result was that he picked up and went immediately without getting the excommunication removed and he captured Jerusalem, but he was still under excommunication, so the pope wouldn't recognize it so he gave up Jerusalem and came back and sought the absolution and received it from the pope, but they didn't have Jerusalem. That's one of the later, smaller crusades. There was a children's crusade in which thousands of children set out, thinking that what the great knights couldn't do the little children could do and thousands of them under the leadership of groups of monks went down through the Balkans and down into Palestine and in the end most of them were taken prisoner and sold as slaves into Mohammedan countries, those that hadn't died on the way. It was a tremendous outpouring of misdirected energy and certainly not the way to advance the Kingdom of God. The details of it there's no great point in our going into here. It's important more from the viewpoint of general history than church history.

So we go on to 8. 1200-1500, three hundred years. This three hundred-- we looked at most of the outstanding events of two and a half years ago. I just want to remind you of some of them. A--The papacy during this period. It begins with Innocent III. Nearly a century later we have Celestine V, 1294. You recall he was the old monk, over eighty, who was made pope. THE CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA