

## Source Analysis

### Why did people go on Crusades?

What is the source about? (What is the source trying to say?)

Who said this?

Who were they?

Why are they important to Christians?

“ Brothers, I speak as a messenger from God. Your fellow Christians in the east desperately need help. The Saracens have attacked them and have pushed deep into Christian land. They are killing great numbers of Christians. They are destroying churches and land. In the name of God, I beg you all to drive out these foul creatures.

Your own land has too many people. There is not much wealth here. The soil hardly grows enough to support you. Set out for Jerusalem. Take that land from the wicked infidel and make it your own.

If you die on the journey or if you are killed in a battle against these Saracens all your sins will be forgiven at once. God Himself has given me the power to tell you this.

Some of you have spent too much time fighting against your fellow Christians. But now you must fight the Saracens. Let bandits become soldiers. Soldiers who have been fighting for money must now fight for heavenly riches. ”

Speech by Pope Urban II, 1095

### Key Words:

Crusade: A war for the Holy Land between Muslims and Christians during the Medieval period

Saracens: A medieval word for Muslims

Foul: disgusting, horrible

Infidel: people who do not believe in Christianity.

Bandits: people who rob or steal

Pope: A person who is the leader of the Catholic Church.

What reasons does the source give for going on a Crusade?