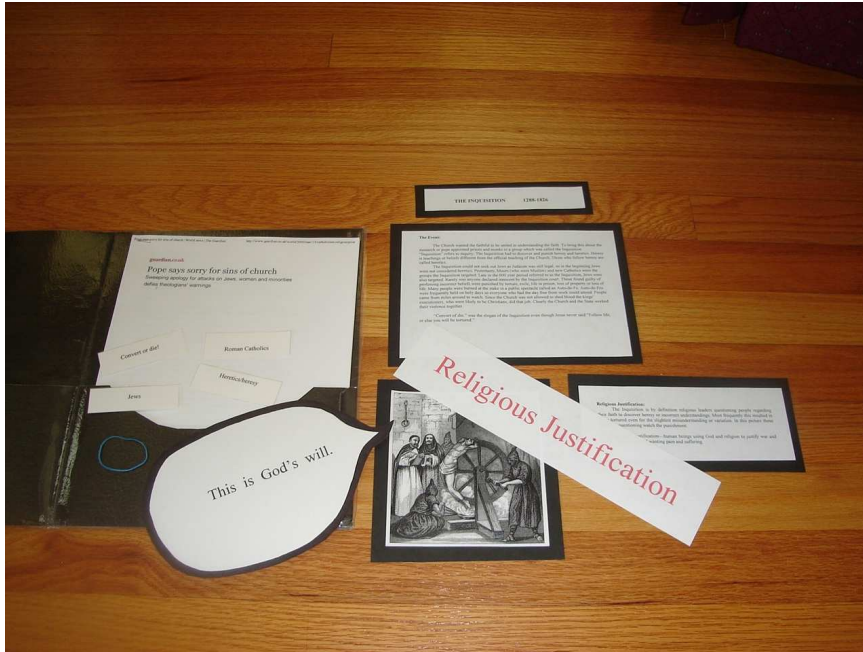


Re Religious Justification Pictures and Text Cards



The religious justification pictures with the write-up

Print each page and cut:

1. Picture—glue to black card stock and place in folder
2. Text Comments is the Religious Justification; can be glued to black card stock
3. Additional material for folder if available-such as page 4.
4. Consider keeping a second copy of this document intact.

Web sites are the sources of the pictures and were **not reviewed** for content or its commentary—they were only a source of the pictures.

Crusades 1096-1270



Pope Urban II gives a stirring homily to start the first Crusade.

The picture was obtained from the following website. The content is not from that website. <http://catholicdiscussion.wordpress.com/2007/11/>

Religious Justification:

The Crusades were originally armed pilgrimages. The word 'crusade' comes from the Latin 'crux', meaning cross. Many members of the expedition sewed the symbol of the cross of Christ on their clothing. "To take up the cross" meant to become a crusader.

After a stirring sermon to start the first Crusade Pope Urban II promised the crusaders both spiritual and material rewards for their effort/violent work. The crowd enthusiastically responded shouting, "God wills it."

St. Bernard was a noted theologian of the 1100's (and is a Doctor of the Church). He offered significant support for the shedding of blood necessary for the return of the Holy Land to Christians. The following is taken from Rev. Howard Goeringer's book called *Haunts of Violence in the Church: A Biblical Interpretation of Peace and Violence*.

"Much of the early success of the Cistercian monastic movement was due to (saint) Bernard, a monk who became more powerful than any pope in the 12th century. Along with a gift for preaching, Bernard gained a reputation as a person gifted with moral insight. There is no greater paradox on the pages of Church history than Bernard's reputation as a great churchman and moral force of his time and this monk's letter to the Knights Templar urging them to join the Second Crusade to drive the infidels out of Jerusalem. Bernard wrote:

The soldier benefits himself if he dies, and Christ if he kills.
To kill a malefactor is not homicide but malicide, the killing
of the bad. In the death of the pagan, the Christian is glorified
because Christ is glorified. . .

"Dues vult—God wills it," was the official validating principle and motto of the Crusades.

Urban II: Letter of Instruction to the Crusaders, December 1095

Urban, bishop, servant of the servants of God, to all the faithful, both princes and subjects, waiting in Flanders; greeting, apostolic grace, and blessing.

Your brotherhood, we believe, has long since learned from many accounts that a barbaric fury has deplorably afflicted and laid waste the churches of God in the regions of the Orient. More than this, blasphemous to say, it has even grasped in intolerable servitude its churches and the Holy City of Christ, glorified by His passion and resurrection. Grieving with pious concern at this calamity, we visited the regions of Gaul and devoted ourselves largely to urging the princes of the land and their subjects to free the churches of the East. We solemnly enjoined upon them at the council of Auvergne (the accomplishment of) such an undertaking, as a preparation for the remission of all their sins. And we have constituted our most beloved son, Adhemar, Bishop of Puy, leader of this expedition and undertaking in our stead, so that those who, perchance, may wish to undertake this journey should comply with his commands, as if they were our own, and submit fully to his loosings or bindings, as far as shall seem to belong to such an office. If, moreover, there are any of your people whom God has inspired to this vow, let them know that he (Adhemar) will set out with the aid of God on the day of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary, and that they can then attach themselves to his following.

Source:

August. C. Krey, *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*, (Princeton: 1921), 42-43

Inquisition 1288-1826



Religious authorities watch the torture of this person under question.

Religious Justification:

The Inquisition is by definition religious leaders questioning people regarding their faith to discover heresy or incorrect understandings. Most frequently this resulted in being tortured even for the slightest misunderstanding or variation. In this picture those doing the questioning watch the punishment.

This is religious justification—human beings using God and religion to justify war and cruelty. This is not God wanting pain and suffering.

I used the following website **for the picture only**.

http://staffwww.fullcoll.edu/tmorris/elements_of_ecology/philosophy_science.htm

Hundred Years War 1337-1453



King Henry V prays with his army before the Battle of Agincourt.

Religious Justification:

That God is invoked for support and victory in battle means King Henry wanted, even assumed God was on his side, was accepting of his (meaning the King's) decision to fight. This is religious justification—human beings using God and religion to justify war and cruelty. This is not God wanting war.

For the picture only:

<http://www.britishbattles.com/100-years-war/agincourt.htm>

St Bartholomew's Day Massacre August 24, 1572



Medal ordered struck to commemorate the 1572
Saint Bartholomew's Day Massacre

<http://history.wisc.edu/sommerville/367/367-022.htm> scroll down to find picture (This site is for the picture only.)

Religious Justification

Pope Gregory XIII commissioned an artist to paint three murals depicting aspects of the Saint Bartholomew's Day massacre. Along with this he had a bronze medal struck commemorating the violent event. Protestants, of course, were horrified that the pope would have such an opinion. Catholics killed about 20,000 Protestants in this massacre. This is religious justification—human beings using God and religion to justify war and cruelty. This is not God wanting war.

Thirty Years War 1618-1648



Ferdinand II, Holy Roman Emperor, 1619-1637

Religious Justification:

To get to the religious justification there is included a portion of the biography of Ferdinand II. This is religious justification—human beings using God and religion to justify war and cruelty. This is not God wanting war.

This basic history is taken directly from:

<http://reference.findtarget.com/search/1620/>

This biography is included as a way of showing how totally a person's identity can be bound to both Church and state even though the goals of each are so very different.

Ferdinand II, Holy Roman Emperor ([July 9, 1578](#) – [February 15, 1637](#)), of the House of [Habsburg](#), reigned as Ferdinand II, Archduke of Inner Austria (normally called **Ferdinand II of Germany** when referred to as Archduke) and [Holy Roman Emperor](#) from 1619-1637. He was also the Archduke of [Styria](#) ([Inner Austria](#)) from 1590–1637, [King of Bohemia](#) from 1617-1619 and again from 1620-1637, as well as King of [Hungary](#) and [Croatia](#) from 1618-1625. The expansion of the ongoing [acts of rebellion](#) against his Imperial Governors in [Bohemia](#) on May 23rd, 1618 directly triggered the [Thirty Years' War](#), and can be blamed on his religious intolerance toward Protestants.

A devout and very pious [Catholic](#), his recognition as King of [Bohemia](#) and suppression of [Protestantism](#) precipitated the early events of the [Thirty Years' War](#), and he remained one of the staunchest backers of the [Anti-Protestant Counter Reformation](#) efforts as one of the heads of the [German Catholic League](#), prolonging the Thirty Years' Wars by insisting the [Edict of Restitution](#) be enforced. The duration of his reign was occupied by confessional and military concerns, and some historians blame him for the large civilian loss of life in the [Sack of Magdeburg](#) in 1631, as he'd instructed [Count Tilly](#) to enforce the edict upon [Saxony](#)—his orders causing Tilly to move the Catholic armies east, ultimately to [Leipzig](#), where they suffered their first substantial defeat at [First Breitenfeld](#).

Biography

Early years

Born in [Graz](#) to [Charles II of Austria](#) (1540-1590) and [Maria Anna of Bavaria](#) (1551-1608), Ferdinand was provided with a strict [Jesuit](#) education culminating in his years at the [University of Ingolstadt](#). After completing his studies in 1595, he acceded to his hereditary lands (where his older cousin Archduke [Maximilian III](#) of Austria had acted as his regent 1593-95) and made a pilgrimage to [Loreto](#) and [Rome](#). Shortly afterwards, he began to suppress the practice of non-Catholic faiths within his territory.

Procession of the Catholic League



In 1620 the Catholic League had an army of 30,000 men.

http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/0072316551/student_view0/chapter3/chapter_outline.html

U. S. Civil War 1861-1865



Priest celebrating mass for the 69th New York State Militia, Fort Corcoran, Washington, D.C. Religion was an important motivating force for many soldiers who served in the Civil War. (photo by Mathew B. Bradley)

Image courtesy of [National Archives](#) or

http://media.photobucket.com/image/religion%20and%20American%20civil%20war/bravo-juliet/American_Civil_War_Chaplain.jpg

Religious Justification:

We can assume the military would not allow a priest or other clergy with opinions different from the military near the soldiers. The military only wants the soldiers encouraged in their work of soldiering. Because of this we must take the presence of clergy as religious justification of war (or at least neutrality or silence on the topic of killing). This means human beings are using God and religion to justify war and cruelty. This is not God wanting war.



Gen. U.S. Grant leans over church pew to study map held by Gen. George Meade, May 21, 1864 Massaponax Church, Va. In a rare moment of relaxation, Grant's men can be seen smoking pipes, reading, and engaging in humorous conversation. *Image courtesy of [Library of Congress](#).*

Religious Justification:

Do you think the presence of pews (or church services of any sort) would be allowed if the preachers were preaching the nonviolent love of God and the impossibility of Christians participating in violence of any sort?

This is religious justification—human beings using God and religion to justify war and cruelty. This is not God wanting war.

From Religion and the American Civil War. Randall Miller, Harry Stout, and Charles Reagan Wilson. Oxford University Press: USA. 1998. ISBN: 0195121295.

“Irish Catholics saw the war as a way to advance Irish nationalism by linking it with the defense of the American republic. As a result, the war accelerated the Irish Catholic takeover of Irish identity in America. . .” pg 273

While Peter (Welsh) rhapsodized on his masculine duty (to fight), Margaret (his wife) complained that he affronted her by writing on patriotic stationery and by citing St. Paul and Archbishop Hughes on the moral obligation to fight for a just cause.” Pg 281

World War I



Mass kit

Religious Justification:

“The primary duty of a citizen is loyalty to country... exhibited by an absolute and unreserved obedience to his country's call...The members of both Houses of Congress are the instruments of God in guiding us in our civic duties." Cardinal James Gibbons, from his press release after Congress passed the CONSCRIPTION ACT for WWI. This is religious justification—human beings using God and religion to justify war and cruelty. This is not God wanting war.

World War II



The Concordat between the Vatican and the Nazis

Cardinal Secretary of State, Eugenio Pacelli (later to become Pope Pius XII) signs the Concordat between Nazi Germany and the Vatican at a formal ceremony in Rome on 20 July 1933. Nazi Vice-Chancellor Franz von Papen sits at the left, Pacelli in the middle, and the Rudolf Buttman sits at the right.

The Concordat effectively legitimized Hitler and the Nazi government to the eyes of Catholicism, Christianity, and the world.

The full text of the concordat appears on the [Concordat Watch](#) website.



Hitler greets a Catholic Cardinal (Source: [USHMM](#))



Hitler greets Protestant Bishop Muller the "Bishop of the Reich" and Catholic Abbot Schachleitner.

http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/sub_imglist.cfm?startrow=1&sub_id=199§ion_id=13&language=english

Religious Justification:

No matter what the conversations were that happened connected to these pictures of Protestant and Catholic religious leaders, we can be quite sure it was not about the truth of Jesus' nonviolent Way and the impossibility of Christians participating in war. This is religious justification of violence. It is not God wanting war.

Random quotes

"A curse on him who is lax in doing the LORD's work! A curse on him who keeps his sword from bloodshed!" -- Jeremiah 48:10, Motto of Pope Gregory VII.

"Kill them all. Let God sort them out!" -- Attributed to various sources, including Pope Innocent III, Abbot Arnold Amaury, and Saint Dominic, at the genocide of the Albigensians. (13th century)

"I am surrounded by priests who repeat incessantly that their kingdom is not of this world, and yet they lay their hands on everything they can get." -- Napoleon Bonaparte