

# The Late Middle Ages

Because the Early Middle Ages weren't Dark Enough...

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## End to the Hundred Years War

After 107 years of constant warfare, the battle over land and money between England and France has finally ended. "The 100 Years War", as it is now being called, was originally fought over English King, Edward III's claim to the French throne through his grandfather, Philip IV of France.

Fought mostly on French soil, the victories went back and forth between the two powerful nations. The English gained many early victories, primarily through the invention of the long-bow, a more accurate bow for longer distances, and the cross-bow. During the Battle of Agincourt, in 1415, English king Henry V, lead his troops to a spectacular victory, despite being outnumbered 6,000 to 30,000. This type of warfare ended the chivalric ideal of doing heroic deeds in battle. The English seemed to have the upper hand, until 1429 when a French girl named Jeanne

D'arc (Joan in English), claimed that the voices of Christian saints spoke to her. Although these rumors have not been confirmed as of yet, she convinced the French dauphin (prince) Charles, and he appointed her to lead the French army against the English. After the battle of Orleans, Joan helped crown Charles as King Charles VII at Reims Cathedral on July 17, 1429. Shortly thereafter, Joan was captured in battle and turned over to the English. She was tried by the church for heresy and was burned at the stake. The French still managed a full victory, driving the English out of France everywhere except the small port of Calais, on the English Channel, which would remain in English possession for over 100 more years. The war resulted in French devastation and the growth of



"You, men of England, who have no right in the kingdom of France, the King of Heaven sends the order through me, Joan the Maid, to return to your own country."

power of the English Parliament. Both nations developed a sense of national pride, unified under a single king rather than a Feudal Lord, to many marking the end of the Middle Ages.

### DID YOU KNOW:

- A Long-Bow may be the size of a man, or taller.
- The Black Plague may have spread from infected fleas and rats carried in the food of a Mongol army who traded with the Italians and Chinese.
- Robin Hood stories were popular even during the Middle Ages, though stories about him varied, and the name originally described, not a hero, but a felon.
- In 1212, thousands of children left on the now infamous "Children's Crusade," believing that God would give them the Holy Land without a battle. Many died from cold and starvation, or were sold into slavery. Many consider this historical event as the basis for the tale of the Pied Piper of Hamelin.

*If you see someone who looks like this, do not fear, this is a doctor. They have stuffed their mask with sweet herbs and spices in an attempt to ward off the disease*

## Surgeon General Warning: Plague is Spreading

Today, the surgeon general has issues a new warning about the plague which has been spreading through Europe for the past year. It is now believed that this "Black Death" arrived in Europe through a merchant ship landing in Sicily. The first symptoms are a headache, followed by chills and high fever. Next you may experience nau-

sea, vomiting, back pain, or soreness in the arms and legs. You may also be sensitive to bright light. Within a day or two, the swellings appear. They are hard, painful, burning lumps on the neck, under the arms, or inner thighs.

As described by Giovanni

Boccaccio these develop "in the groin or under the arm-pits, some as big as a small apple others as an egg; and afterwards purple spots in most parts of the body; in some cases large and but few in number, in others smaller and more numerous."

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## Plague Continued...

Soon these lumps, or buboes, will turn black, split open, and begin to ooze pus and blood. Death comes less than a week after symptoms first appear. Very few can survive, but reasons why or how are unknown.

*Ring Around the Rosie  
Pocket full of Poise  
Ashes, Ashes  
We all Fall Down  
~New Poem Circulating about the  
Black Death*

Although the cause of the disease is currently unknown, it is known to spread very quickly. Many rats have also been infected by and killed by the disease, and an increase of fleas

have been noticed.

It is expected that over 1/3 of the population will be effected before the end of the plague. The death tolls right now are so high that the dead are not able to be buried properly in a Christian burial. Instead, they are buried in a



*Symptoms of the plague are evident on this person.*

mass grave by those who have managed to survive the disease.

As of right now, the economic turn down has been devastating as people are moving away from cities and population is declining. There have been reports of abandoned farmland and manors in which almost the entire population has been killed. Many people are even beginning to question God and the church.

If you are unable to leave town, please avoid contact with anyone who has been infected. Leave your dead outside of your homes and they will be collected for burial.

## A Church Divided

Who would have thought that after the split between the Orthodox and Catholic churches, that ever again our Holy Temple would be divided? After a conflict over power between King Philip IV of France and Pope Boniface VIII, Philip had the pope kidnapped and held captive in France. Although Boniface died in October of 1303, France had proven that the power of a king was greater than that of the pope.

The next pope, Clement V, was loyal to Philip and moved residence of the Pope from Rome to Avignon,

France. After 67years, the people of Rome called for a Roman pope, so the College of Cardinals elected a Roman, Urban VI, who has taken residence in Rome. However, they almost immediately regretted their decision and chose Clement VII, who residences in Avignon. Each pope has declared his rival a false pope and had him excommunicated, but the people of Europe are unsure where to turn for spiritual guidance. It is now being called The Great Schism. In an attempt to end the conflict, a council in Pisa has tried to re-

solve the issue by electing another man has pope, however, it has only caused the problem of three popes. The Holy Roman Emperor is currently meeting in an attempt to force the resignation of all three popes, in order to end the Schism.

**ON SALE NOW!**

**John Wycliffe's English Bible!**

**Aren't you tired of listening to the corrupt Popes? Interpret the Bible for yourself by purchasing a beautiful English translation of the New Testament! WARNING: Don't tell the church, it's kind of illegal ...**

### OBITUARY

It is with great regret that we inform our readers of the death of church reformer and professor, Jan Hus.

Hus was influenced by the ideas of John Wycliffe and claimed that the authority of the Bible should be placed higher than that of the pope.

He was also noted for condemning the recent Crusade. Hus was excommunicated by the pope in 1412, and has since been captured and burned at the stake as a heretic. Hus leaves behind no family. In lieu of flowers, the Hus estate asks that you

donate to the Hussite Foundation.



The execution of Jan Hus  
University of Oregon The Art Archive  
Chapter 15: Western Europe & Its History  
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*Execution of Hus*