**Two Sides to a Crusade – Sources and Questions!** (Side 1)

Annotate the sources while initially reading for understanding. When finished, answer the questions in the space provided.

**An Account of the Taking Jerusalem by the Christian Crusaders, July, 1099 A.D.**

 The Crusaders spent at least that night and the next day killing Muslims. Not even women and children were spared. The city's Jews sought refuge in their synagogue, only to be burned alive within it by the Crusaders. Raymond of Aquilers reported that he saw "piles of heads, hands and feet" on a walk through the holy city. Men trotted across the bodies and body fragments as if they were a carpet for their convenience. The Europeans also destroyed the monuments to Orthodox Christian saints and the tomb of Abraham.

The Crusaders cut open the stomachs of the dead because someone said that the Muslims sometimes swallowed their gold to hide it. Later, when the corpses were burned, Crusaders kept watch for the melted gold that they expected to see flowing onto the ground. While the slaughter was still going on, many churchmen and princes assembled for a holy procession. Barefoot, chanting and singing, they walked to the shrine of the Holy Sepulcher through the blood flowing around their feet.

"Some of our men (and this was more merciful) cut off the heads of their enemies; others shot them with arrows, so that they fell from the towers; others tortured them longer by casting them into the flames. Piles of heads, hands, and feet were to be seen in the streets of the city. It was necessary to pick one's way over the bodies of men and horses. But these were small matters compared to what happened at the Temple of Solomon, a place where religious services are ordinarily chanted. What happened there? If I tell the truth, it will exceed your powers of belief. So let it suffice to say this much, at least, that in the Temple and porch of Solomon, men rode in blood up to their knees and bridle reins. Indeed, it was a just and splendid judgment of God that this place should be filled with the blood of the unbelievers, since it had suffered so long from their blasphemies. The city was filled with corpses and blood."

[Fall of Jerusalem](http://www.hillsdale.edu/dept/History/Documents/War/Med/Crusade/1099-Jerusalem.htm), Accounts from Eye Witnesses.

**1. What happened when the Christians took Jerusalem?**

**2. Why do you think the Christians did all of those things?**

**3. Look at the last part of the account in the last paragraph. How do you think this witness feels about the massacre in Jerusalem?**

**4. How is this contrasted with the way the Muslims took Jerusalem?**

**Two Sides to a Crusade – Sources and Questions!** (Side 2)

**An Account of the Taking Jerusalem by Saladin (Salah al-Din), September, 1187 A.D.**

"After lengthy negotiations, an agreement was reached between Salah al-Din and the Latins [the European Christians] according to which they were granted safe conduct to leave the city, provided that each male paid a ransom of ten dinars, each female paid five dinars, and each child was ransomed for two dinars. All those who paid their ransom within forty days were allowed to leave the city, while those who could not ransom themselves were to be enslaved.”

There were many examples of **magnanimity** (kindness) on the part of the Muslim victors. [Salah al-Din was asked to set some slaves free. Accordingly, he freed 3,200 slaves who could not afford the ransom.] Furthermore, Salah al-Din sent his guard throughout the city to announce that all old people who could not pay would be allowed to leave the city: Their departure lasted from the rising of the sun until night fell. Salah al-Din also allowed many noble women of Jerusalem to leave without ransom.

After the **exodus** (going out) of all those Latins who could leave, there were 15,000 individuals who remained in the city... 7,000 of them were men and 8,000 were women and children. All were enslaved.

One historian was amazed at the amount of treasure that had been carried away by the departing Latins... valued at 200,000 dinars. Salah al-Din's agreement with the Latins was for safe conduct for themselves and their own property. "Let us deal with them according to the wording of the treaty so they may not accuse the believers of breaking the covenant. Instead, they will talk of the favors that we have bestowed upon them."

**1. What did Saladin do when he took the city of Jerusalem?**

**2. How were the Christians treated?**

**3. Why do you think the Muslims treated the Christians like that?**

**4. How is this contrasted with the way the Christians took Jerusalem?**