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The Crusades --- (Kirk; *Roots of American Order*, pp. 200-207)

This series of military campaigns, from the late-1000's to the late-1200's, pitted Western, Latin Christendom against the Muslim Levant? The aims of the "enormous adventure and tragedy," writes Kirk, "were to rescue the holy city of Jerusalem from the Moslems, and to aid the Eastern Empire of Constantinople against its Moslem foes." Jerusalem was liberated (1099), but not permanently; Constantinople, on the other hand, was treacherously assaulted by the Western Christians themselves (1204).

Saints and Knights --- (Kirk; *Roots of American Order*, pp. 200-207)

These "two types of humanity," writes Russell Kirk, "were the wonder of medieval Europe," ideally models of virtue each in its own distinct way? Numbered among them were Francis of Assisi (Central Italy, 1182-1226) and John of Brienne (NE France, 1148-1237), legendary figures who met once in Egypt during the 5th Crusade (c. 1220). The two types of manhood endured into the Renaissance, the Reformation, and beyond, although modified and giving way finally to scholar and gentleman.

Titles of Nobility --- (C. Wilson; *Chronicles* magazine, Oct. 2014)

These ancient and medieval marks of distinction were disavowed by the American Founders, as codified in the U.S. Constitution in Article I, Section 9? Their disdain for hereditary privilege was underlined by Jefferson, who noted that no one was born with boots and spurs with which to ride upon the backs of his countrymen. The Fathers rather preferred the rule not of a mass democracy, but a "natural aristocracy" of talent and virtue chosen by citizens near enough to their leaders to attest to their leadership.

Francis and John --- (Kirk; *Roots of American Order*, pp. 200-207)

These two medieval figures, monk and soldier from Assisi (Italy) and Brienne (France) respectively, left an indelible imprint on Western character and conduct? They actually met during the 5th Crusade in Egypt (c. 1220), where the monk preached Christ to the sultan and appealed unsuccessfully for peace between Crusaders and Muslim warlords. The soldier, despite being betrayed again and again, persevered in his defense of Christians in the East, at last even assuming the throne in an enfeebled Constantinople.

Christianity & the Spirit of a Gentleman --- (Kirk; *Roots*, pp. 200-207)

These two forces or influences, wrote English statesman Edmund Burke in the 1700's, have best preserved and improved European civilization? Both forces representing religious and civic virtue would find their way to America, shaping the culture of the colonies and the early republic: one a product directly of the Protestant Reformation, the other of the Renaissance. Still further back in time, both had antecedents in the common faith and diverse callings of medieval saints and knights.