



TAKE NOTE

Comes Flandrēnsium Robert II, the Count of Flanders (a region of Belgium today), was one of the principal generals in the First Crusade.

Comes Tolōsānus Raymond IV, the Count of Toulouse (in southern France) was one of the leaders of the First Crusade.



The Place Royale in Brussels, Belgium celebrates Godfrey of Bouillon, one of the leaders of the First Crusade. The equestrian bronze was placed here in front of the Art Museum in 1843 when the new state of Belgium wanted to legitimize its historic roots and several statues celebrating famous Belgians were erected across the country.

Francī The Franks were, properly speaking, a Germanic group who had settled in parts of modern France (hence the name “France”) and Germany in the later Roman Empire. By the eleventh century CE, this word was often used loosely to describe all western Europeans.

Godefrīdus Godfrey of Bouillon was a noble from the area of modern Belgium, who became the principal leader of the First Crusade. He became an almost legendary figure in later medieval culture, when he was celebrated in song and literature as the model of the “chivalric knight.”

nostrī Used as a substantive, this adjective literally means “our <people>.” In the history of William of Tyre and in other crusade chronicles, this phrase always refers to the Frankish warriors from the Latin West.

Sanctī Stephanī <porta> The gate of St. Stephen led into the city of Jerusalem.

Tancrēdus Normannus Tancred of Hauteville and Bohemond of Taranto that is located in southern Italy led a powerful contingent of Normans in the First Crusade.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Why were the soldiers under Godfrey able to scale the walls of the city without opposition?
2. Where did the inhabitants flee before the victorious invaders?
3. What is the author’s view of the behavior of the Franks in the capture of Jerusalem?