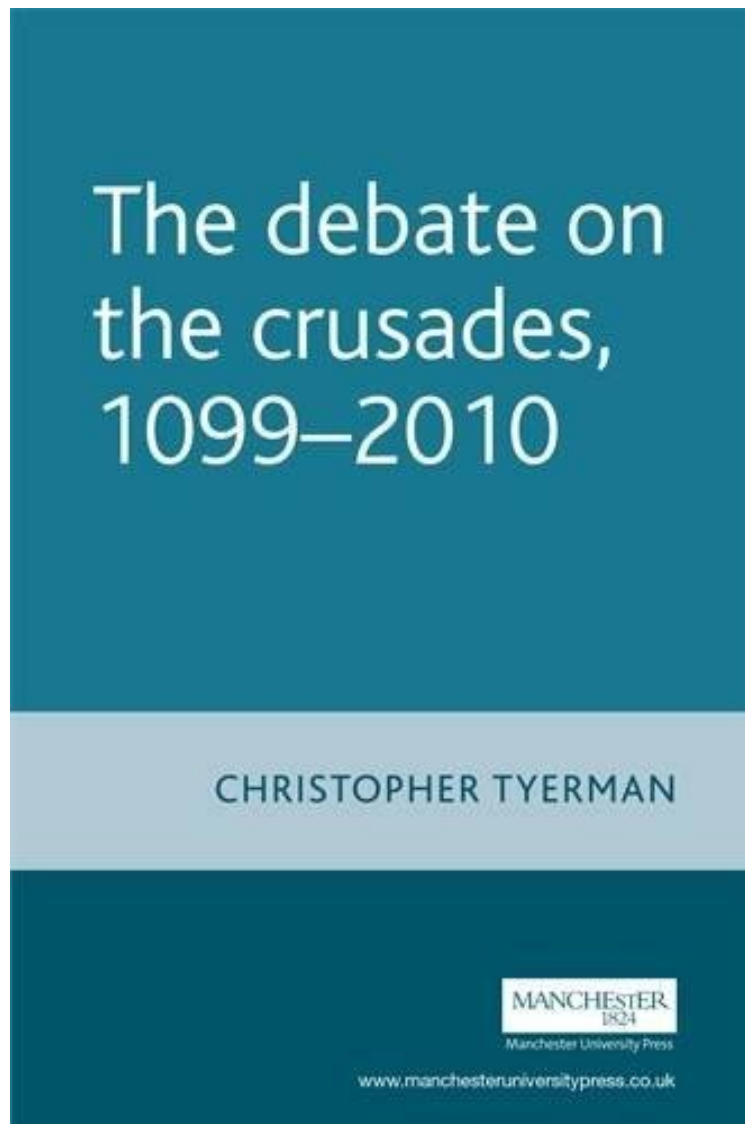


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The Debate on the Crusades, 1099-2010 (Issues in Historiography MUP)

Christopher Tyerman

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Christopher Tyerman : The Debate on the Crusades, 1099-2010 (Issues in Historiography MUP) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Debate on the Crusades, 1099-2010 (Issues in Historiography MUP):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy customerExcellent book by one of the foremost Crusade scholars. His critique of Runciman is, in fact, spot on.5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A

History Of Crusading History By Chimonsho This is no book for beginners. Readers must know the basic outlines, and probably more, of Crusades history to get the most out of Tyerman's book. But within its own terms as part of a "Debate" series it has much to offer. It's a very good guide to the development of crusading historiography, especially in locating specific authors and works in broader context. Tyerman helpfully IDs discrete trends, if not exactly schools of thought, in interpreting these not-always-holy wars. The critique of Steven Runciman's classic trilogy is overly harsh. Sir Steven got many things right and no historian has written more vividly about the Crusades, but Tyerman does lay out why Runciman's work is no longer definitive (if it ever was). I'd like to see similar criticism of Jonathan Riley-Smith, currently considered the doyen of Crusades historians, but whose works have their own limitations (e.g. as a Knight of St. John, he's something of a crusader himself). It's refreshing to read frank but informed assessments of familiar scholars, and as author of a major one-volume history ("God's War") and numerous other publications, Tyerman writes with authority.

David Hume, the eighteenth century philosopher, famously declared that 'the crusades engrossed the attention of Europe and have ever since engaged the curiosity of man kind'. This is the first book length study of how succeeding generations from the First Crusade in 1099 to the present day have understood, refashioned, moulded and manipulated accounts of these medieval wars of religion to suit changing contemporary circumstances and interests. The crusades have attracted some of the leading historical writers, scholars and controversialists from John Foxe (of Book of Martyrs fame), to the philosophers G.W. Leibniz, Voltaire and David Hume, to historians such as William Robertson, Edward Gibbon and Leopold Ranke. Accessibly written, a history of histories and historians, the book will be of interest to students and researchers of crusading history from sixth form to postgraduate level and beyond and to cultural historians of the use of the past and of medievalism.

"This is criticism at its bravest.... Summing up: Essential." About the Author Christopher Tyerman, MA, DPhil, FRHistS, is a Fellow and Tutor in History at Hertford College, Oxford and a Lecturer in Medieval History at New College, Oxford