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THE STORY OF MISSIONS TO MOSLEMS

The long neglect of the Christian Church has made the story of missions to Moslems all too brief. At first the terror of the Saracen and the Turk smothered in every heart even the desire to carry them the gospel. And when Christendom in Europe recovered from the shock of the Saracen invasion and that of the Turks, its first impulse was to take the sword and by the sword its hosts of Crusaders perished. The Crusades were the reply of Christendom to the challenge of Islam, but the reply was not in the spirit of the gospel. The first missionary to the Moslems, Raymund Lull, wrote: "I see many knights going to the Holy Land beyond the seas, and thinking that they can acquire it by force of arms; but in the end all are destroyed before they attain that which they think to have. Whence it seems to me that the conquest of the Holy Land ought not to be attempted except in the way in which thou and thine apostles acquired it, namely, by love and prayers and the pouring out of tears and blood." But his was a voice crying in the wilderness.

**Mistaken
Efforts of the
Crusaders**