World View and the Crusades

Answer the following questions in complete sentences in order to enhance your understanding of the world view of Europeans during the Middle Ages.

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1) Give 3 reasons why nobles had a better understanding of the outside world than serfs?
2) Why might Marco Polo's accounts be important to European traders? Monarchs? Ordinary people?
3) a) Imagine that you lived in a community with no technology or books. How might you gain information about the outside world? How could you be sure what was true?
b) Without consulting a printed map, draw a rough map of North America from memory. Compare this map with maps of your classmates. Why would a lack of scientifically made maps make it difficult to determine whose map is most accurate?
4. a) Examine the map of the Crusades on page 64. What modern countries were at least one part within the Crusader kingdoms?

b) Give at least 3 reasons why the Crusaders could not keep control of their conquests.
5. Why did so many people take part in the Crusades, not only knights and soldiers but also ordinary people and even children?
6. Many historians today think that the Crusades were not justified. Why might they think this way? Is it always fair to criticize an event that occurred hundreds of years ago? Explain your reason.
7. a) List the positive and negative consequences of the Crusades for Europeans.
b) How did the Crusades help end the feudal age?