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THE GODS OF THE TEUTONS, SECTION 1

Introduction, pp. 5-6



FACTS TO KNOW

1. **Woden (Odin)** – *king of the gods*; "mighty warrior"
2. **Sleipnir** – "eight-footed horse" ridden by Woden
3. **Thor** – *god of thunder*; son of Woden; weapon is hammer that returns to him when he throws it
4. **Tiew** – *god of battle*; son of Woden; weapon is sword that flashes like lightning
5. **Frija** – *queen of the gods*; wife of Woden; rules the clouds and causes them to rain
6. **Baldur** – *white god*; son of Frija; night turns into day wherever he goes
7. **Loki** – spirit of evil
8. **barbarian tribes** – Goths, Vandals, Huns, Franks, Anglo-Saxons

VOCABULARY

1. Teutons _____
2. dialect _____
3. tempest _____
4. waft _____
5. brandish _____
6. burnish _____
7. mistletoe _____

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

According to Germanic mythology, what is:

1. the tempest _____
2. winds at sea _____
3. lightning _____
4. thunder _____
5. rainbow _____

Days of the week:

6. Tuesday is the day of _____
7. Wednesday is the day of _____
8. Thursday is the day of _____
9. Friday is the day of _____

10. Who are the king and queen of the Germanic gods?

11. What is unique about Thor's hammer?

12. What does Frijia rule? _____
What does she control? _____

13. What makes the happiness of spring and summer?

14. What makes the gloom and sadness of winter?

15. Why was Baldur killed?

16. How was Baldur killed?

ACTIVITIES

1. Draw a family tree of the Teutonic gods, including Woden, Thor, Tiew, Frijia, Baldur.

Sleipnir, Woden's "eight-footed horse," did not really have eight feet. "Eight-footed" is a way of saying that Sleipnir was very fast and very powerful.



FACTS TO KNOW

1. **Frederick I** – famous German emperor; called "Barbarossa (Red Beard)" because of his long red beard
2. **Henry the Lion** – duke of Saxony; Frederick's cousin; accused of treason for refusing to fight the Lombards
3. **Saladin** – leader of the Muslims in their recapture of Jerusalem in 1187 A.D.

"When the ravens cease to fly round the mountain, Barbarossa shall awake and restore Germany to its ancient greatness." – **German legend**

VOCABULARY

1. treason _____
2. infidel _____

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. How did Lombardy become a problem for Frederick?

2. How did Henry the Lion come to be charged with treason and what came of this?

3. After the Lombardy fiasco, what became Frederick's main cause?

4. How did Frederick go about uniting Germany?

5. How did Frederick get involved in the Crusades?

6. How did Frederick die?

7. What legend arose about his death?

ACTIVITIES

1. Locate on your maps:

- **Countries:** Lombardy, Bavaria, Palestine, Saxony, Asia Minor
- **Cities:** Milan

2. Update your timeline to include Saladin's capture of Jerusalem.