Discussion Post

Marie

[Institutional Affiliation(s)]

Author Note

Discussion Post

# Part 1

Romanesque architecture and art were revolutionary in terms of visual storytelling, architecture, decoration, and building. These glorious and grand spectacles of art drew in thousands of faithful to the Churches where they were exposed to various depictions of Christian figures and events (The Art Story, 2019). In particular, images depicting Christ’s Second Coming were common, where he is seen rewarding the faithful with heaven and the wicked with Hell. The art depicted the fire and brimstone strategy reminiscent of the early Romans which was especially effective to sway people into following the path of God. If I were to live in that era as a commoner and saw how kings and lords were equal to a low-class citizen in the eyes of God, I would have rather quickly become inclined towards the religion. Alongside being consistently exposed to such images, my inclination would not just be born out of the fear of hell but the belief that anyone regardless of their class, background or status, could be thrown into the fire for rejecting the path of Christ, or conversely, have their faith rewarded with no discrimination.

# Part 2

Romanesque architecture was characterized in monasteries by round arches, massive wall structures, and powerful vaults (Craven, 2019). Moreover, the period was also marked by an increased emphasis on visual iconography for proselytizing and educational purposes. The depictions of complex religious scenes would help teach and guide the predominantly illiterate people regarding the Christian doctrine, who otherwise lived outside the monastic order. The images would often feature a tympanum that would depict scenes such as the Last Judgment which would set a certain mood of the church-goers (The Art Story, 2019). It greeted the member with a warning as well as an admonition, yet it also signified that now Christians were free to practice their religion without persecution. Artisans and builders developed this art to tell the story of Jesus and sculpted corbels and capitals with symbolic art for the purpose (Craven, 2019).

# References

Craven, J. (2019, April 22). *Romanesque Portrayal of Christ, Detail Painted on the Apse of San Clemente in Taüll, Catalonia, Spain*. Retrieved June 12, 2019, from Live About: https://www.liveabout.com/romanesque-architecture-4134212

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