Engraving, laid down.

THE ‘CHRISTIAN KNIGHT’ PRINT

Spirituale Christiani militis certamen.

Author
WIERIX, Hieronymus; [after] Marten de VOS

Publication date
[1591].

Publisher
Gerard De Jode,

Publication place
Antwerp,

Physical description
Engraving, laid down.

Dimensions

Notes
The source of the figures depicted upon the famous ‘Christian Knight’ Map.

The human figures illustrate the battle between Catholics and Protestants. The armoured ‘Christian’ knight represents King Henry IV of France, a Protestant ally. The figures fighting him symbolize Catholicism: (left to right) Worldly Vanity, Sin, Carnal Weakness, the Devil, and Death. To the upper left is a path that leads to the New Jerusalem. The engraving was in used by Jodocus Hondius for his

famous map of the world, published in 1596 – the first map of the world upon Mercator's projection.

The prints purpose was to rally Protestants in Holland and throughout Europe to the side of Henry IV of France at the moment of crisis in his struggle against Spain and the Catholic powers of Europe.

Bibliography
BM 1874,1212.484; G.Bartrum in F. Carey (ed.), 'The Apocalypse and the Shape of Things to Come', exh. cat., BM, London 1999, p.193, no.102.

Provenance

Price:

Inventory reference: 2262

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