

## **Biography of Raymund Lull**

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Travel by sea was dangerous and by land was full of hardship. In the Middle Ages the use of carriages was prohibited as tending to render vassals less fit for military service. As late as the sixteenth century it was accounted a reproach for men to ride in them, and only ladies of rank used such conveyances. Men of all grades and professions rode on horses or mules, and sometimes the monks and women on she-asses. Highway robbers infested the forests, and the danger from wild animals had not yet ceased even in the south of Europe.

In spite of all obstacles, however, we read that Lull "resolved to travel from place to place and preach wherever he might have opportunity." His purpose seems to have been to reach Jews and Christian heretics as well as Saracens.\* After laboring for

\* "Accessit ad regem Cypri affectu multo supplicans ei, quatenus quosdam infideles atque schismaticos videlicet Jacobinos, Nestorinos, Maronites, ad suam prædicationem necnon disputationem coarctaret venire." — *Maclear*, p. 364 n.