

Cistercian practice

- Uniformity
- New foundations
- Adherence to RSB
'more strictly and more perfectly'
- Rejection of certain revenues
- *Conversi*
- Granges
- Manual labour
- Plain churches lacking in gold and silver
- Rejection of anything that is superfluous
- The 'family' linked through visitation and the General Chapter

The Evidence (Cistercian)

- Carta Caritatis Prior (1119)
- Capitula (problematic date, but perhaps brought together in one surviving manuscript (Trento) soon after 1134)
- Exordium Parvum (in its final form c. 1147)
 - see especially chapters XV and XVII

The Evidence (non-Cistercian)

■ Orderic Vitalis (c. 1135)

- Rejection of tithes
- Manual labour
- Modest clothing
- Meagre diet
- Silence
- Seclusion
- Rural locations

Bernard of Fontaines

- Born c. 1090 into a family of minor nobility
- 1113 entered Cîteaux with 30 companions
- 1115 aged 25 founding abbot of Clairvaux



EVIDENCE FOR DIVISION IN THE MONASTIC WORLD

- Letter of Bernard to Robert his nephew, 1119/20
- Bernard's *Apologia*, 1125
- Peter the Venerable, abbot of Cluny, 'Letter 28' (date unknown – late 1120s?)

Vita Prima

- Three authors
 - William of St Thierry (c. 1145)
 - Arnald of Bonneval
 - Geoffrey of Auxerre

The Letter to Robert

- c. 1119 – what is it about?
 - an actual case
 - monastic vocation
 - monastic practices

The Apologia: the context

Hugh, abbot of Cluny, d. 1109 and was succeeded by Pons.

Trouble at the abbey!

Resignation of Pons 1122 and election of Peter the Venerable

Pons leads a revolution (1125) but fails!

Bernard's later career

- *Apologia*, 1125
- *On the Steps of Humility and Pride; On Loving God*
- 1130: death of Pope Honorius II; schism, Anacletus II v Innocent II; Bernard's support of Innocent projects him onto the European stage
- Letters
- Preaches Second Crusade

Apologia

- Food and drink
- Dress
- Relaxation of austerity
- Architectural show
- Note use of word 'superfluous'

Soaring height



Cluny – the surviving transept



Cluny and visiting prelates



Moissac – the cloister





Annunciation to the shepherds



Temptation



Miracle at Canaan

