

St George - The Pocket Essential Guide - Morgan, Giles

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St. George is a figure that bridges many worlds. At the heart of the myths and legends surrounding this English icon lies the story of an Early Christian Martyr persecuted by the Roman Empire around the third century AD. But England is only one country to have adopted this legendary soldier saint as their patron. Other countries including Germany, Armenia, Hungary, Portugal and Malta have all claimed him as their own. The cult of St. George is astonishingly widespread with churches being dedicated to him in Ethiopia, Egypt, Greece and France. His heroic struggle and victory against the dragon can be interpreted as representing the bravery of an individual Christian or as the eternal battle between good and evil. But closer examination of the cult of St. George yields unexpected results. There are clear parallels between his legendary battle and that of earlier pre-Christian heroes such as Perseus and Beowulf. St. George is also identified with the Islamic hero Al Khidr who is said to have discovered the fountain of youth. He has been associated with the coming of spring and has functioned as fertility symbol and been closely linked to the Green Man of Pre-Christian Myth. St. George has also acted as a symbol of chastity and served as a healing saint. His flag has been appropriated by the far right but in recent times come to identify a multi-cultural England. david beckham arguably embodies many of the contradictory aspects of St. George as sex symbol, multi-racial icon and national hero. Words: beckham david, country flag, david beckham, flag country, george saint, hero legends, patron of saint, patron saint of, saint george Author: Morgan, Giles, Publisher: Pocket Essentials Illustration: N Language: ENG Title: St George - The Pocket Essential Guide Pages: 00000 (MicrosoftReader.lit) / 00000 (Encrypted PDF) On Sale: 2007-01-08 SKU-13/ISBN: 9781904048572 Category: Fiction : Fairy Tales, Folklore & Mythology

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