

Legend of Kosovo:

Themes:

- betrayal

- Sacrifice for God (provided an explanation for Serbian oppression under the Ottomans)

- Eternal reward (Lazar chooses the kingdom of Heaven in exchange for a Kingdom on earth, temptation parallel to the temptations Christ experienced in the desert before he was crucified)

Lazar chooses God's Kingdom and sacrifices his life so that one day the state of Serbia would be resurrected...this legend assure the Serbs that they will one day have a kingdom again and that are in the favor of God (as God's 'chosen people' Serbs identify with the Jews)

- Serbs see themselves as victims and martyrs but that they are destined to survive and ultimately prosper

- also that death is preferred to live in shame, do not surrender (later in history the role of the Ottomans will be replaced by Albanians, Croats, and Bosniaks...the struggles w/ these groups an equivalent reoccurrence of the Battle of Kosovo in the Serbian perspective)