



STRIKING VIKINGS AXE LINDISFARNE!

By our national affairs reporter, Aldin of Wessex.

Vicious raiders from across the sea have attacked Lindisfarne **monastery**, killing the peaceful monks and carrying off our Christian treasures.

Blood-covered survivors have told stories of fierce men with fearsome weapons, and of the dreadful destruction they **meted** out.

'They came from the sea, in great, long ships covered in shields,' said Father Oswald, a monk. 'Some of our brothers went to meet them on the shore to welcome them! We thought they were traders. But instead of accepting our Christian hospitality, the **heathen** madmen hacked my friends down. They do not care for God or men. They wanted gold, silver, slaves... They did not speak a Christian language, but the first swing of their axes told us all we needed to know.'

The **marauders** carried off great treasures and even some of the peace-loving monks. They **desecrated** the Holy Island, overturning God's **altar** and seizing sacred crosses and goblets.

'They were wild and uncontrollable,' Father Oswald told *The Anglo-Saxon Angle*. 'I could see the fire in their godless eyes flashing from under the rims of their helmets. I can remember the bright colours of their shields; the glint of light on their axe heads. Some were covered in furs. One of them was wearing a tunic of metal rings. He was the scariest warrior of all. I fled from him and managed to hide. God protected me so I can warn our people about this new threat from the sea.'

Of course, reports from Northumbria have not been good for a while. Many **ominous** signs have been seen there: whirlwinds, famine and

even sightings of dragons. Many people across the land have wondered if something awful would happen to the area, and it appears those fears were **warranted**.

News of the terrifying attack has spread quickly, even to mainland Europe. Alcuin, the famous **scholar** of Emperor Charlemagne has written to Lindisfarne's bishop, Higbald, all the way from Frankia. *The Anglo-Saxon Angle* has **obtained** a copy of the letter, and can now exclusively reveal clever Alcuin's **insightful** thoughts on the matter:

'Either this is the beginning of a greater **tribulation**, or the sins of the inhabitants have brought it upon them. Truly it has not happened by chance, but it is a sign that it was well **merited** by someone.'

So it would appear that the Northumbrians have brought this vile attack upon themselves.

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