The Emerging Europe and the Byzantine Empire

Church of All Saints - Brixworth
Built prior to 675 A.D.
Oldest Saxon Church in England

The Fall of Rome in the West
Advent of the “Dark Ages” (Approx. 500 A.D.)
- Early “Middle Ages” – Society becomes more basic
- Period of History in which knowledge / learning declines
- Fewer written records / Less is known

Four Periods
- The Barbarian Century (6th / 500 - 600)
- Muslim Century (7th / 600 - 700)
- Carolingian Century (8th / 700 – 800)
- Viking Century (9th / 800 – 900)

Frankish Europe
- Germanic Barbarian tribe settles in Modern France and Western Germany

Merovingian Dynasty Emerges
- Clovis – Becomes King of Franks
  - Accepts Catholicism (Clothilda/Burgundy)
  - Bishop Remi (Reims)
  - Division of Kingdom among heirs (Frankish Custom)
Family Tree of the Merovingian's

- Merovech (Clovis' Grandfather)

Three kingdoms gradually emerge:
- Neustria
- Austrasia
- Burgundy

Division of Clovis' Frankish Kingdom on his Death

Custom creates constant strife among the heirs to consolidate power (511 – 673 A.D.)

Rise of the Mayors of the Palace (673 – 718 A.D.)

- Paris (“Lutetium”) of the Roman Era (4,000 pop.)
- Became one of the Frankish Capitals

The Rise of the Medieval Catholic Church

Religion is central to the life of the people: “Cradle to Grave”
Sacraments important to all the people

Parish priests were from the local area, education varied
“In saeculo” (“In the World”) – Secular

Western monasticism began with St. Benedict in 529
Abbey of Monte Cassino, Italy (Benedictine home)
“regula” (“Followed Rules”) = Regular

Women’s religious orders follow with St. Scholastica
Sister of St. Benedict

Our own Brother Rick Wilson
T.O.R. Franciscan
Third Order “Regular”
Monastic life important to Western Europe
Schools / Hospitals / Agriculture
Balance between work and prayer
Benedictines pray seven times a day
Vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience

Monasteries Served to Care for Travelers
Early Medical Practices
Early Pharmacies

Monasteries Provided Sanctuary for People Accused of a Crime
Durham Cathedral and Monastery, England

Cistercian Monastery of Vauclair, France Founded 1134
Destroyed in 1789 / 1918
Center of Western Monasticism

Interior of Monte Cassino Abbey

Tombs of St. Benedict and St. Scholastica

Pope St. Gregory I (the Great)
(Rather in Handout)
597 A.D. use of Benedictine Rule
Sends Missionaries spread Catholicism
- England – St. Augustine of Canterbury
- First Bishop of England
- Christianization of Anglo-Saxon England

England – St. Augustine of Canterbury
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Christianization of Anglo-Saxon England
Irish Missionaries important
- Spread Catholicism to Europe (Re-evangelize)
- Glendalough Community = 2,000 Monks!!
- Synod of Whitby – 664
  - Follow Roman (Latin) Traditions

**Cathedral of Canterbury – Archbishop – Primate of England (Anglican!)**

**Illuminated Manuscripts**
Guido da Pomposa  
992 - 1050  
Monk at the Benedictine Abbey of Pomposa, Italy  

- Inventor of Modern Musical Notation (1025 / 1026)  
- To help Choir Monks learn Chant and to sight read music.  

Mayors of the Palace (Prime Minister)  

Charles Martel (“The Hammer”)  
- Begins to consolidate and control Frankish conquests and lands  
- Continues to govern in the name of the Merovingian monarchs  

Battle of Tours 732  
Watch where you walk!
Pepin the Short
Deposes the Last Merovingian King / 751
Lombards / Pope / 754 / Byzantines
Donation of Pepin / Papal States

Donation of Pepin
754 A.D.
Start of the Papal States (Ends 1870)
(Vatican Today)
1. Roman Empire Falls
2. Byzantine Reconquest
3. Pope gains degree of autonomy
4. Lombard Invasions
5. Pepin becomes “King” of Franks 751
6. Franks conquer N. Italy 754
7. Charlemagne adds more territory 767 - 789

Carolus Magnus (Charles the Great) = Charlemagne
Physical Stature = 6'4" (Einhard – Biographer)
Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle)
Capital city – today is between modern France and Germany
The Carolingian Dynasty lasts for over 150 Years

Emergence of France / Germany

Frankish Kingdom Expansion (Division)
Development of the Holy Roman Empire 800 A.D.
• Modern France will emerge
• Modern Germany will emerge

Carolingian Renaissance – Revival of Learning

Palace school, Alcuin of York (Benedictine Monk)
• Educate clergy, nobility, commoners (grammar, rhetoric, logic)
• Latin the “official” language of the government & law
• Carolingian Script – Addition of punctuation to Latin
• Abbey/monastery schools develop - scriptorium

Becomes Holy Roman Emperor; 800 A.D. – Rome
Dies in 814
Louis the Pious (surviving son) becomes the emperor
The Invasion of Europe – Development of Feudalism

Vikings – Hit and Run Raids

- Charlemagne is able to temporarily halt the Viking raids on the Holy Roman Empire (Frankish Kingdom)
- Vikings attack and plunder in the spring and summer – return to Scandinavia in the fall
- Becomes harder to halt raids
- People begin to lose faith in ability of rulers to protect them – turn to local nobles for protection
- Rise of Feudalism
Additional !!

Islamic Arabs Attack Europe from the South

Magyars Attack Europe from the East
(From modern Hungary)

- Louis the Pious is able only to partially halt the raids as they increase
- Viking raids continue to increase during the rule of Charles the Bald
- Viking impact on France is more destructive than on Germany
- Charles III (King of the West Franks) invites Vikings to settle in France
  Viking leader Rollo (Robert) – Normandy – 911

Viking raids first come to England at the Monastery at Lindesfarne 793 A.D.
Begin to Settle in England – York – 866
Danelaw Established / Conflict with the Saxons – Alfred the Great

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Lindesfarne Monastery, England
First Viking Raid 793 A.D.

Rise of Feudalism
Has its roots in Roman times 3rd Century
Monarchs unable to protect people who turn to the local nobles for protection
Highly decentralized form of government
Mutual relationships
Began in Northern France – Why?
Spread to rest of Western Europe
Vassal could pledge loyalty to more than one lord

The Rise of Anglo – Saxon England
(4th – 5th Century)
Romans Depart by Early 4th Century
Settlements of Early Celtic and Romans in England

Some areas taken over by Angles and Saxons in 5th Century and later invasions

Larger Anglo-Saxon Settlements in England

Replacement for Roman presence
Brought new culture to England
Portchester
• Roman
• Saxon
• Norman

Portchester Today

Wessex Town approximately 800 A.D.

Alfred the Great unifies the Saxon kingdoms

- Defeated the Danes in 886 A.D.
- Becomes known as England
- Revival of Learning
- "Anglo-Saxon Chronicles" records the early history of England – written by Monks
William the Conqueror
Duke of Normandy (aka “The Bastard”)
- Brings French culture to England
Battle of Hastings – 14 October 1066
- Last Successful Invasion of England
- Defeats Harold Godwinson – Last Saxon King of England

Battle of Hastings - 14 October 1066

William the Conqueror - 1070
- After the Battle – Abbey Built
- To commemorate the Conquest
- To honor the deceased warriors

Battle Abbey Today
London will eventually become the political capital of England

- Fortress of London – “Tower of London”
- Roman Walls & Norman Castle

Domesday Book
(HIGHLY TESTABLE!)

- 1st Census of Western Europe since the Romans
- Taxable Wealth
- 1086
- Accurate Record of England in 11th Century

Succession of William the Conqueror
(Divides wealth among sons)
Henry II: King of England, Duke of Normandy, 1154 - 1189

(Please NOTE!) The Most Powerful Monarch of the Medieval European Period

- Henry II – Duke of Normandy
  - Marries Eleanor of Aquitaine
  - Controls more of France than the French King

- Becomes King of England
- English Legal System develops

- Common Law
  - Roman Laws
  - Local Customs
    - Grand Jury
    - Petit Jury

- Conflict with Church
  - Church Courts vs. Royal Courts
  - St. Thomas a’ Becket – Archbishop of Canterbury

Murder of St. Thomas a’ Becket = 1170

Canterbury, England

Struggle between Church & State

Small fragments of his relics – St. Thomas Catholic Church, Canterbury, England

The Magna Carta (The Great Charter)

15 June 1215

King John vs. Barons

- Protects the Rights of the Nobles
- Later includes all English People
- Main Focus – The King is NOT above the Law
- Nobles will give advice and counsel to the King

Under John, England loses the Duchy of Normandy to France in 1204

(Tomb Effigies; Fontevraud Abbey, France

Eleanor & Henry’s Tomb Effigies; Fontevraud Abbey, France

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The Magna Carta (The Great Charter) 1215
Four copies Still Exist – Salisbury Cathedral

New Social Class Emerges in England – the Middle Class – Burgesses
- Income from business – Trade
- Towns become more influential – Burgesses involved in Local Government

Edward I Creates the Model Parliament
- Includes representatives from Clergy, Nobility & Burgesses
- Function is to Give Advice to King

By 1400 Parliament Divides in Two Bodies
- House of Lords – Nobility
- House of Commons – Middle Classes

England has Representative Government

Emergence of Medieval France

Monarchs begin to break away from Feudalism

Frankish Lands Dissolve – Local Rulers Emerge

987 A.D. – Hugh Capet (Capetians)
- Seize French Throne
- Capital on the Isle de Cite (Paris)
- Control the Lands Surrounding Paris

Limestone quarries dating back to Roman times.
Successors of Hugh Capet begin to Expand Borders of France

- Adopt Primo-geniture (First Born Male Heir)
- Later provide positions to townspeople (Bourgeoisie) and authority to local towns
  - They remain loyal to King – Weakens the power of Feudal Lords

Rise of Philip II (Augustus)

- Captures / Conquers land from Normandy / England (Conflicts with Richard / John)
- Doubles the Borders of France
- England retains the Aquitaine

**Louis IX (Saint Louis)**
- Holy Individual / 7th & 8th Crusades
- Royal Courts rise / Feudal Courts diminish

**Philip IV (the Fair)**
- Gains more English Lands in France
- Controls Flanders – Trade – Wool and other products
- Instrumental in the Dissolution of the Knights Templar Military Order – 1307 – 1313
  - Pope Clement V
  - Jacques DeMolay

Holy Roman Empire – Germany

**Different Results – Never Unifies**

- Many German Kings and Holy Roman Emperors spent more time in Italy than in Germany
- German Rulers begin to be involved in Papal (s)election – resulting centuries of conflicts. They claim right to appoint popes / Pope claims right to anoint monarchs
- Henry IV vs. Pope (St.) Gregory VII
- Lay Investiture – who will appoint bishops?

Concordat of Worms – 1122

- Emperor can still name bishops
- Pope can reject unworthy candidates
- These problems will never go away

As late as 19th century the Austro-Hungarian monarchs claimed right to approve of papal selections.
Development of the Slavic East and Russia

Dnieper River (North – South Commerce Route)
Steppes – Vast Plains (Short Agriculture Season)
• Heavily Wooded Forests in Parts
• Little Urbanization
• Poor Transportation Network

Three Slavic Groups
West Slavs (Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia)
Latin/Western

South Slavs (Balkans = Serbs, Croats, Slovenes)
Latin/West & Orthodox/East

East Slavs – Largest (Russians, Ukraine, Byelorussians)
Orthodox/East

Harsh Life / Brutal Winters / great use of Wood / Live off the Land

“Primary Chronicle” – Documents the early history of Russia

Begins in the north – Novgorod – Seeks order and protection
• Invites (for a second time) the Varangians (Scandinavians)
• Viking leader Rurik = Slavs called them the “Rus”
• Novgorod important for northern trade
• Novgorod controlled by assemblies of the people

Primary Chronicle
Written 1100 A.D.

Know who he is!!

Early Novgorod
Oleg of Novgorod conquers Kiev to the south – Dnieper River

Location important for trade

Kiev = “Mother of Eastern Slavic Cities”

The Kievan Rus are ruled by “Grand Princes”

The First Russian State = Kiev

Christianity arrives in Russia

Olga – First to Accept Christianity (Eastern)

Grandson Vladimir – Grand Prince of Kiev

Kievan ruler who accepts Christianity for the Slavic people

Impact: Russians adopt Orthodox faith and Byzantine Practices

Kiev / Russia becomes more isolated from the West

Vladimir Expands the Borders of Kievan Rus
Golden Age of Kiev

After Vladimir’s reign, his son Yaroslav comes to power
Kiev enters what is called the “Golden Age of Kiev”
Culture develops that follows example of Byzantines
• Library
• Legal system
• Political marriages – daughters
• Trade flourishes

After Yaroslav’s death
• No clear line of succession
• Internal fighting
• Begins to decline
Trade declines – problems in Constantinople (Latin’s)

Mongols Arrive at Europe’s Doorstep

Mongols Sack and Destroy Kiev 1240
Kiev looses importance for many decades
Mongols never conquer Novgorod in North

Mongol Rule of Russia
- Lasts for approximately 200 years
- Mongol culture does not contribute to Russia
- All advances of the Kievan society were erased

Use many Russians to work for them – collect taxes
- Some Russian city-states begin to rise in power/status
- Moscow of note

Novgorod becomes independent
- Builds trade network
- Comes into conflict with West

Walls of Novgorod

Alexander, Prince of Novgorod

Prince of Novgorod in early 13th century
- Defeats Swedes at Neva River in 1240
- Becomes known as Alexander "Nevsky" (of the Neva")
- Defeats German Teutonic Knights in 1242
- Ensures prosperity for Novgorod

Alexander Nevsky becomes client ruler for Mongols
- Son Daniel moves to Moscow, becomes ruler
- Daniel is client ruler for Mongols

The City of Moscow / The Third Rome

After the fall of Constantinople (1453) – center of the Eastern Orthodox Church
- Ivan III marries a Byzantine princess – successor of the Roman's
- Symbol of Russia = Double Headed Eagle
- Rulers adopt the title Czar (Caesar)

Greek and Latin (Byzantine) influences are found in Moscow

However, a unique Russian culture emerges that is reflected in the Slavic language, buildings, religion, arts (icons)

Russian Orthodox religion stresses obedience to the Czar as God's representative on earth.
Rise of the Byzantine Empire

Begins with Division of Roman Empire -- Diocletian -- 284AD

Germanic Invasions -- Frontiers Not Secure

*Note: Majority of invasions are in the Western part of the Roman Empire

Constantine Comes to Power -- 306AD (Mother is St. Helena)

† Defeats Maxentius at Battle of Milvian Bridge -312 AD

‘Hoc signo vinces’ (By this sign win your victory)

† Edict of Milan – 313 AD = Christianity is a LEGAL religion

Becomes sole emperor by 324 AD

† Decides to build new capital in the east (escape invasions)

Byzantium -- Greek trading colony

New capital is opened 330 AD = Constantinople (“Constantinopolis”)

Constantinople develops

* East / West Crossroads by land

* North / South Crossroads by sea

Trade!
Western Roman Empire "Collapses" in 476
Christian Church (Pope/papa) remains in Rome
- Accepts leadership role in west
- Retains Latin
- Roman Catholicism develops

St. Peter’s Basilica – From Constantine

Eastern Roman Empire continues
Still Known as “Roman Empire” (Consider themselves to be Roman)
Since 16th Century known as “Byzantine Empire”
- Cultural Blend of Greek, Roman (Latin) and Persian Cultures
  - Greek eventually becomes the dominant language
  - Distinctive form of Christianity develops – Eastern Orthodox

Justinian
Humble origins (Balkans) – Uncle Emperor Justin I
Marries Theodora (19 years younger)
- actress / beautiful / smart
Ultimate dynamic power couple of Byzantine age
- shared power
  - Each supports the other – both have their own courts – regal lifestyle

Where have you seen this picture?

Basilica of St. Vitale = 548 A.D.
Byzantine Architecture
(Greek & Roman)

Kudo’s Question? What is the largest Byzantine Church in Metro Washington, D.C.?
Constantinople is considered one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

Considered to be the center of knowledge inherited from the Greeks and the Romans.

Justinian Dies in 565
Gains in the West begin to be lost

The empire c. AD 600

Justinian’s Code of Laws
Roman law codes accumulated for 1,000 years
Never organized into a useful system
Under Tribonian updated legal system
Corpus of Civil Law — “Justinian Code”
Become the basis for the majority of European legal codes

KUDO’s QUESTION!!
Justinian and the Church

Construction of the Church of Hagia Sophia ("Holy Wisdom")
532 – 537 (5 years to build!)
Largest Christian / Catholic church for 1,000 years!
Western Europe – Abbey of Cluny was the largest Catholic church.
St. Peter’s Basilica became the largest church in the 17th century.
Became a mosque!
Today it is a museum!

Byzantine Emperors and the Church

Heavily involved in church affairs.
Appoint the Patriarch (Bishop) of Constantinople
Majority of the people are involved in religion
Dispute over Icons (Images)
Images = God, Jesus, Saints
Bible = Do not worship Images

vs.

Icons = Symbols of God & Saints
Iconoclast ("Image Breaker") Controversy (726 A.D.)
Emperor Leo III – Removal of Icons from churches
Pope Gregory II – Supported the use of Icons in churches
Conflict between east and west
Council of Nicaea 787 A.D. – icons were allowed – no statues.

Great Schism (Split) – 1054

- Eastern Catholic (Orthodox / Greek) Church splits from Western (Roman / Latin) Church
- No longer recognizes authority of the Pope
Byzantine Economy

- Trade / Crossroads / Central location
- River networks / Seaways
  - Northern goods – furs / wood products
  - Eastern goods – spices / silks / precious goods
- Silk Industry develops in Constantinople

Spread of Christianity

Missionaries
- St. Cyril & St. Methodius
- Apostles to the Slavs
- Cyrillic Alphabet

Development of monasticism
- Mono = One/Alone

Major Events Hasten the Decline of the Byzantine Empire

- Islamic Arab attacks beginning 630's A.D.
- Norman Seizure of Southern Italy – 1071
- Battle of Manzikert – 1071
  - Byzantines vs. Seljuk Turks
  - Byzantine Army decisively defeated
- Capture of Constantinople – 1204 – 4th Crusade
The Crusades -- an Overview

Latin = "Crux" (Cross)

Crusading Period = 1095 – 1291
- 1095: Council of Clermont, France (Pope Urban II)
- 1291: Fall of Crusader Fortress at Acre

Holy Land -- Jerusalem
- Byzantine Empire Control
- Falls to Islamic Forces -- Arabs in 637/8
  - Jerusalem Third most Sacred City - Islam
  - Muhammad Ascended to Heaven from the "Dome of the Rock"

Byzantines fight for control of Holy Land off -- on for 400 years.
Our Focus:

Eight Numbered Crusades

Others with different names:
- Peasants (People's) Crusade (April – October 1096)
- Children's Crusade (1212 / Tragic End!)

Focused on Recapturing the Holy Land (Jerusalem)

Begins with:
- Seljuk Turks Capture Baghdad 1055
- Seljuk Turks – Manzikert – 1071 Defeat Byzantine Army
- Seljuk's Capture Jerusalem in 1073
- No Further Pilgrim Visits – Very Dangerous
- Byzantine Emperor Alexius Comnenus
  - Realizes the Threat of the Seljuk’s to His Empire
  - Seeks Help from the West (Remember the Great Schism!)

Council of Clermont, France 1095 – Pope Urban II

19 – 28 November 1095
Approx. 300 Bishops, Abbots, Religious

"Deus Vult" = "God Wills It!"

Papal Promises
- Indulgences
- Protection of the Church

First Crusade: 1096 – 1099

- French Nobility (No Kings)
- Goal to Capture Jerusalem
- Meet in Constantinople (Move Eastward)
- Capture Islamic / Arab Fortified Coastal Cities along Eastern Mediterranean.
- Conquer Jerusalem 15 July 1099
- Begin 88 Years of Christian Occupation
The Holy Land after the First Crusade – Peace Reigns 1099 – 1187

Second Crusade: 1147 – 1149
Preached by St. Bernard of Clairvaux
• Speyer, Germany
King Louis VII of France
Holy Roman Emperor Conrad III
Conrad’s Army arrives early, marches across the interior of Turkey
• Is destroyed at Dorylaeum 25 October 1147
Later Louis VII and remnants of Conrad’s Army attack Damascus and are defeated.
Louis returns to France
Saladin Emerges from Egypt – Conquers The Middle East

Third Crusade: 1189 – 1192
“Crusade of the Kings”
❖ Richard the Lionhearted (England)
❖ Philip II (France)
❖ Frederick I (Holy Roman Emperor)
➢ Drowns enroute to Constantinople
➢ Richard insults Duke Leopold of Austria
Richard and Philip Argue
➢ Philip returns to France
➢ Usurp Richard’s Lands?
Richard campaigns against Saladin
➢ Series of battles that are split between both armies
➢ Richard’s greatest victory at Arsuf 7 September 1191
Results of the Crusades

- Improvements in Art of Warfare
  - Innovations
  - Learned things from the Arabs
  - Better ships / maps / compass

- Serves to initiate the breakdown / decline of Feudalism

- People travel to different parts of the world – new view of world

- Development and improvement in trade with the east
  - Luxury goods
  - Prosperity for Venice & Genoa
  - Foster the start of the Italian Renaissance

- Unified the Muslims against a common enemy