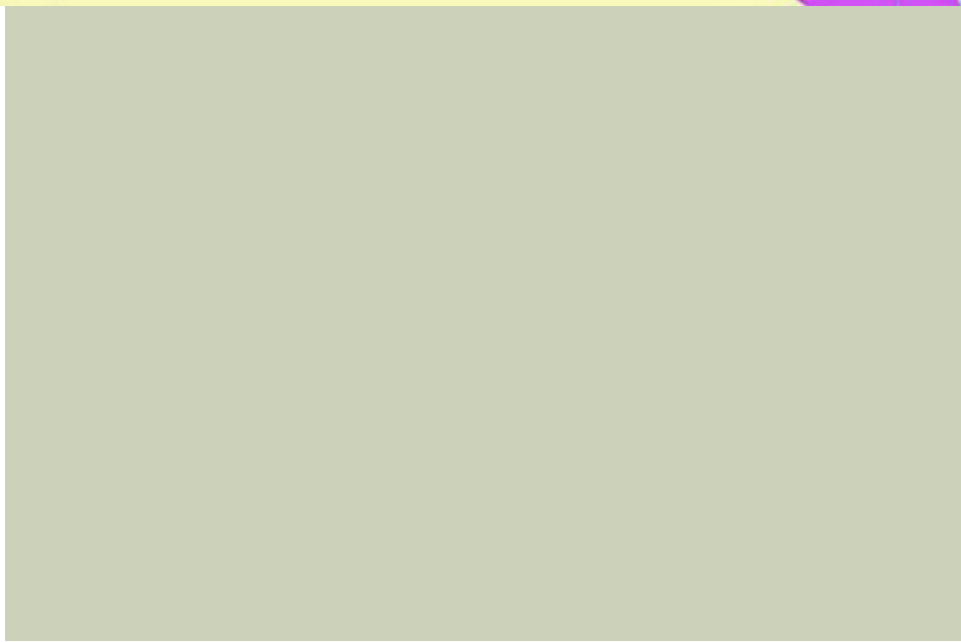


THE MIDDLE AGES

Chapters 8 &
9

INTRO TO THE MIDDLE AGES

- Time period from roughly 500-1500 in Western Europe
 - “Middle” Ages – occurred between the Roman Empire and the Renaissance
 - Also called the Medieval Age – “Medieval” is Latin for Middle Ages
 - Also called the Dark Ages – opposite of a Golden Age
 - Many in Western Europe lost ability to read, write, travel, life safely and freely
 - Advancements of Rome vanished



EASTERN EUROPE AFTER ROME'S FALL

- Eastern Roman Empire → Byzantine Empire
 - Still influenced by Roman culture
 - Strong, central government – few invaders
- Near Asia/Middle East
 - Center of trade (Constantinople)
- Very wealthy
- High education
- Many advancements
- Golden Age



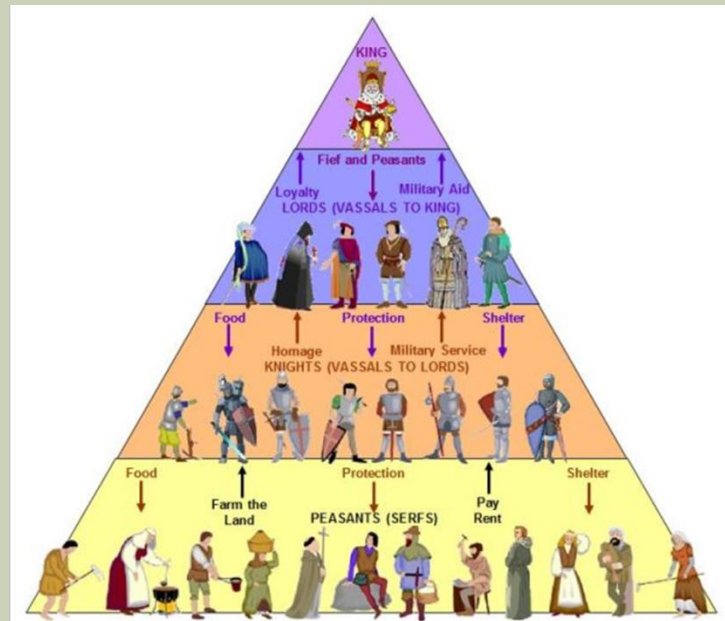
The Silk Road and related trade routes

WESTERN EUROPE AFTER ROME'S FALL

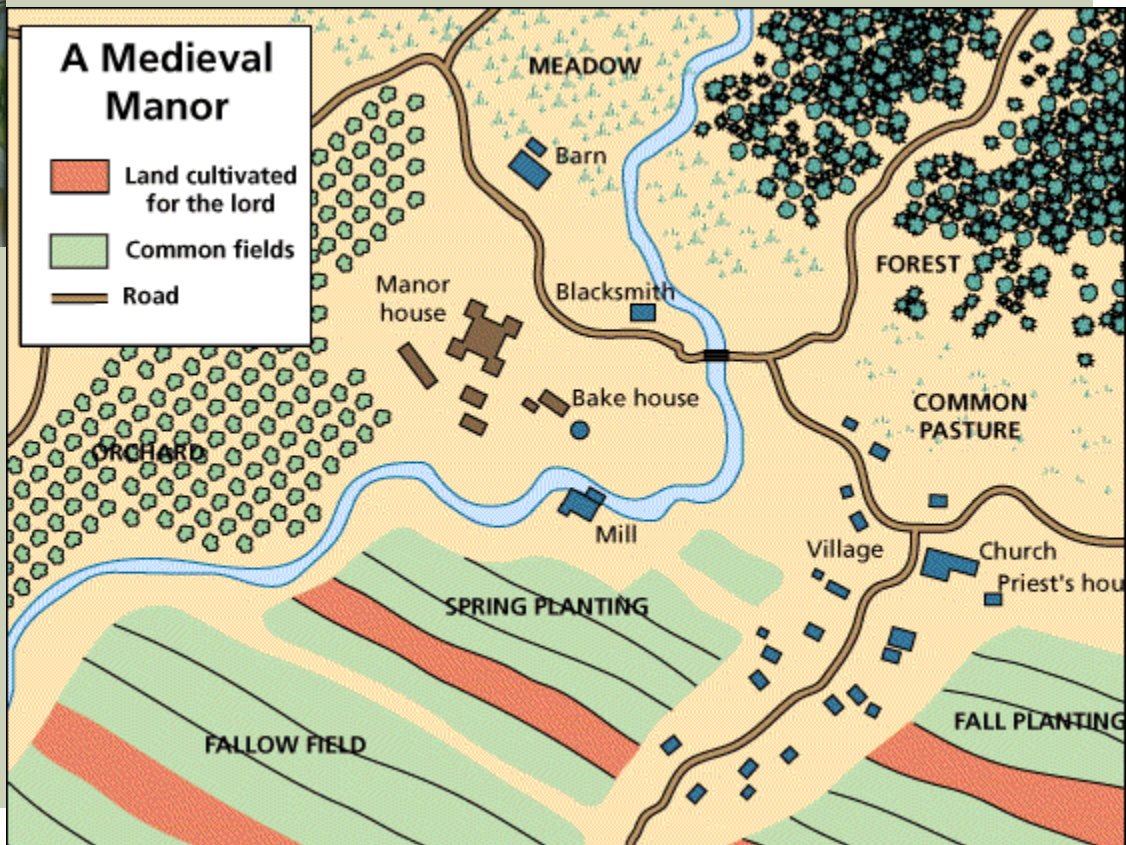
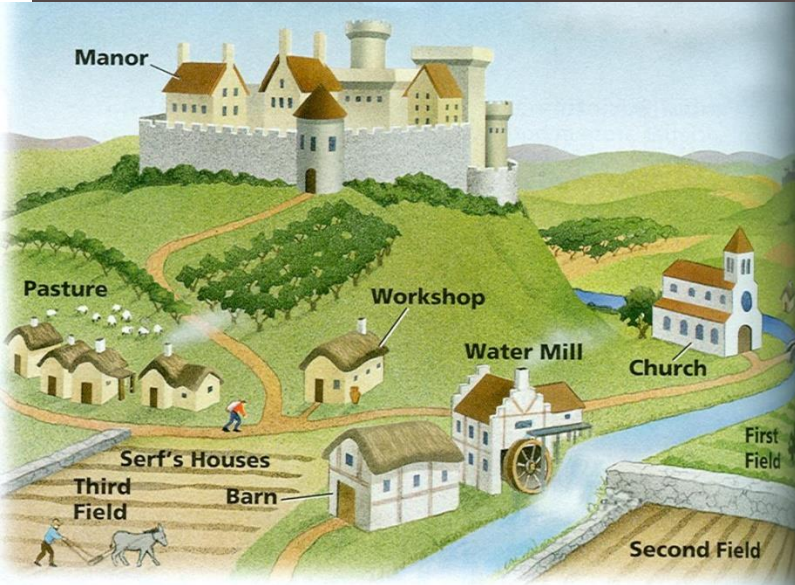
- Rome's fall in 476 → chaos
 - Rome had provided symbol of stability for 1,000 years
 - Small Germanic groups invaded, seized remnants of the land
 - Led to decentralized nation states and groups fighting for power
- Local lords fought for control of small pieces of land
 - Land = food/money = power
- Biggest concern for 99% of Western Europeans became safety
 - Decrease in towns/cities
 - Decrease in education
 - Decrease in trade
- Answer to chaos and instability – feudalism and religion

FEUDALISM

- Way to protect land from frequent invasions in Western Europe
 - King divided land among nobles (vassals to the King)
 - Nobles divided land among lesser nobles
 - Nobles gave some land to knights
 - Peasants worked the land
- Anyone higher up is a lord
- Anyone below is a vassal



MEDIEVAL MANOR



MEDIEVAL MANOR

- Medieval equivalent of a town (very few cities in Middle Ages)
- Completely self-sufficient:
 - Manor House – usually fortified, place where lord lived, stronghold in case of attack
 - Serf Houses
 - Mill – run by a miller, where grain was ground
 - Parish Church – center of town, place of socialization
 - Fields – parts for serfs and parts for the lord
 - Blacksmith/workshop
 - Bakery
 - Orchard
 - Barn

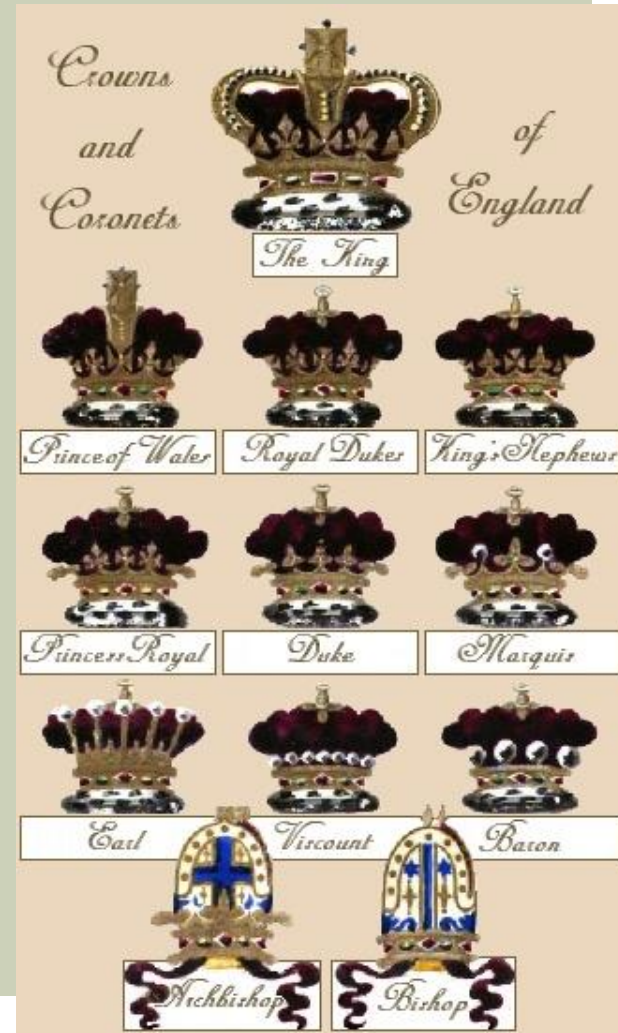
THE CLERGY'S ROLE IN FEUDALISM



- **Pope – the Bishop of Rome**
 - Original was St. Peter
 - Over time, Pope's power grew to the head of the Catholic Church
 - Had power to excommunicate Christians
 - Gained as much power as a King in the Middle Ages
 - Sole purpose was to save Christendom
- **Parish/Local Priests – lived on Manors**
 - For many, only connection to God
 - Responsible for praying for residents of Manor

THE NOBILITY'S ROLE IN FEUDALISM

- Oversee division of land to their vassals (lower lords)
 - Ex: a serf is a vassal to a baron, who is a vassal to a duke, who is a vassal to a king
- Protect their lands
 - May distribute lands to others
 - May hire knights



THE KNIGHTS AND PEASANTS IN FEUDALISM

■ Knights

- Go through extensive training to fight
- Know how to use swords, had armor
- Only members of society with combat training
- Tasked with protecting land and those on it
- In events of war, lords sent knights to higher lords/kings for larger armies

■ Peasants

- Worked and maintained land
- Provided food, clothing, supplies for everyone in society
- Also called serfs – bound to the land, treated like property

MATCH THE TERMS TO THE DEFINITIONS

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. Fief | A. A person of higher feudal power |
| 2. Manor | B. A person of lower feudal power |
| 3. Lord | C. Church officials |
| 4. Vassal | D. Decentralized social and political order |
| 5. Noble | E. Piece of land |
| 6. King | F. Person with a title |
| 7. Clergy | G. Head of a nation or state |
| 8. Peasant | H. Lowest class citizen |
| 9. Knight | I. Person who fights professionally |
| 10. Feudalism | J. Self-sufficient, village-like unit |

POLITICAL ORGANIZATION OF THE MIDDLE AGES

- Before Middle Ages – power was seized through large empires
 - Rome, Byzantine, Ottoman, China, Alexander, Persia etc.
- During Middle Ages – large-scale power collapsed in favor of smaller, easier to protect nation-states
 - Started small with lords ruling over small areas of land
 - Feudal relationships led to condensed manors = larger areas of land
 - Lords became kings ruling over vassals
- Nation – political entity made up of similar ethnic groups
 - Ruled by kings/queens
 - Kings could be vassals/lords to other kings
 - Nations often fought over land, religion, and feudal relationships
- Modern-day European countries start forming in Middle Ages



Medieval Europe, c. 950-1300

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Europe



Map not to scale
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MEDIEVAL RUSSIA



- Settled by Slavic tribes and nomadic groups from Central Asia
- Conquered by the Mongols, Huns, and other empires throughout Middle Ages
- Consolidated power in hands of Russian Princes, eventually known as czars
 - Last czar of Russia – Nicholas II – killed during Russian Revolution in 1918
- Transitioned into an Orthodox state
- Developed slower than rest of Europe (failed to modernize and industrialize as quickly; isolated from rest)



MEDIEVAL ITALY

- Center of Roman Empire – fell very far when Rome collapsed
- Remained the center of Christianity/Catholicism
 - Home of Pope
- Home to many small, decentralized states
- Towards end of Middle Ages, Italy was center of trade revival
 - Trade = wealth, knowledge
 - Led to birth of the Renaissance in Florence



MEDIEVAL GERMANIC GROUPS

- Germanic groups helped contribute to the fall of Rome
- After Rome's fall, groups able to seize up land and power
- Most influential – the Franks





■ The Franks

■ Clovis I

- Conquered Roman province of Gaul
- Converted to Christianity to reinforce legitimacy to rule Roman lands

■ Charles Martel

- Led Franks to defeat Muslim expansion at Battle of Tours 732

■ Charlemagne

- United much of Roman Empire under his rule
- Given the title “Emperor of the Romans” by the Pope



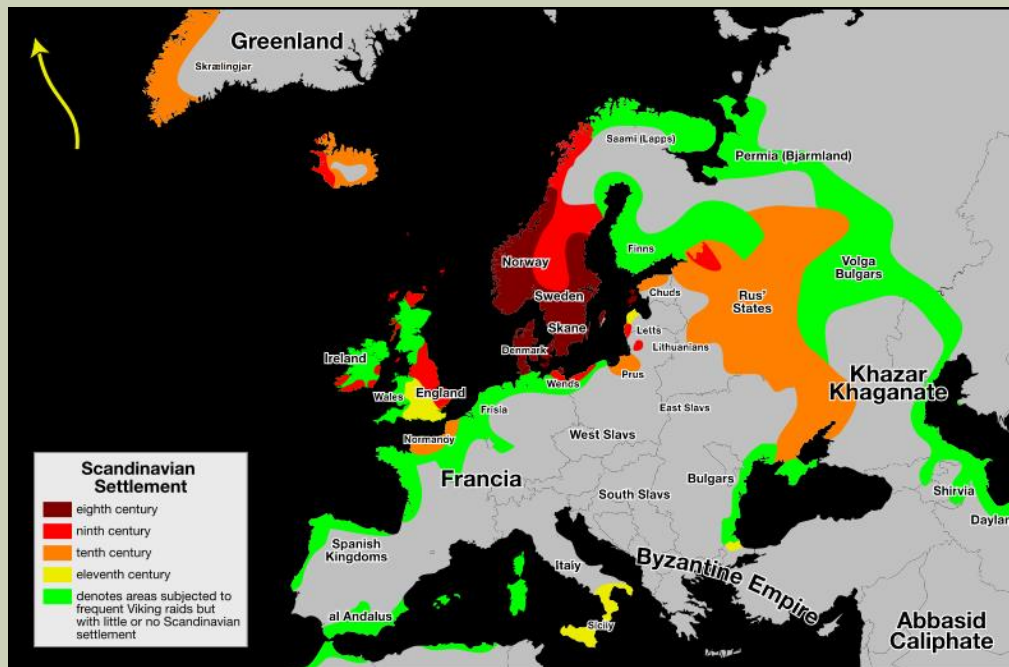
■ Charlemagne (r. 768-814)

- Stopped rebellions in Rome, rewarded by Pope
- Crowned on Christmas Day 800 – symbolic for Christianity – tied to Rome
- Emperor of the Romans
- Helped contribute to the division between Eastern and Western Europe
- Created large, prosperous empire
 - Spread Christianity to Northern Europe
 - Wanted to create a “second Rome”
 - Built schooling system to try and preserve Roman/Greek knowledge
- Died in 814 – land divided by sons according to Treaty of Verdun
- Land ripped apart by invading Vikings, Muslims, Germanic groups



MEDIEVAL ENGLAND

- Originally home to small tribes (Angles, Saxons)
- Constant Viking invasions in early Middle Ages
- Anglo-Saxon monarchy established in 849 – Alfred the Great

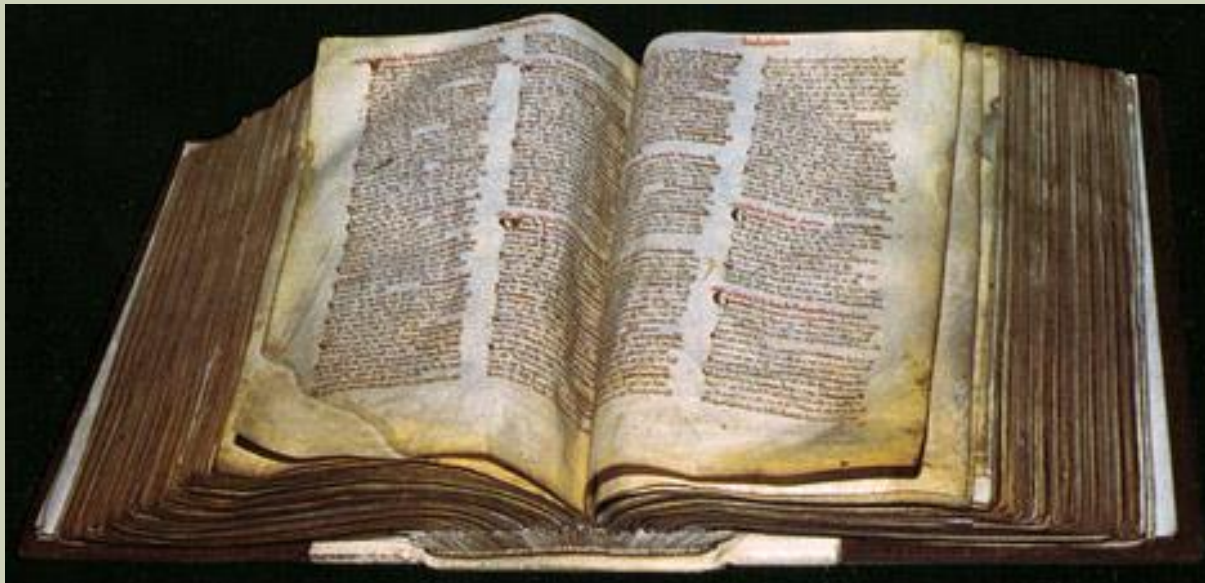


- 1066 – Anglo-Saxon King Edward of England died without an heir
 - Led to disputes among his many vassals to control his land
 - Eventually it was decided brother-in-law Harold would become King
- William of Normandy (France)
 - Vassal to King Edward
 - Raised an army to conquer the land
 - Led army across English Channel
 - Defeated Harold at Battle of Hastings – 1066
 - Assumed title “William the Conqueror”
 - Crowned King of England
 - Continued to hold much land in France



■ King William the Conqueror (1066-1087)

- Strengthened the English monarchy
 - Made vassals re-swear allegiance
 - Conducted official survey of his land and titles of his vassals
 - Results were recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086
 - Helped created an efficient tax system



■ King Henry II (1154-1189)

- Created new laws that eventually became “common law”
 - All of England had to follow
 - All courts had to uphold these laws
 - Created the first jury of men sworn to always tell the truth
- Attempted to expand power of the King and nobles
 - Especially – wanted to be able to put the clergy on trial for crimes
 - Led to power struggle between King and Church
- Appointed old friend Thomas Becket as Archbishop of Canterbury Cathedral
 - Becket opposed Henry’s power
 - Becket was murdered in 1170



■ King John II (1199-1216)

- Son of Henry II, very ineffective ruler
- Lost England's landholdings in France
- Argued with the Pope over choosing the Archbishop of Canterbury
 - Resulted in the excommunication of England Christians
- Implemented many harsh taxes for nobles
 - Angered nobles
 - Refused to obey the King
 - Forced John to sign the Magna Carta



■ The Magna Carta

- Signed 1215
- Officially recognized rights of the nobility and church
- Limited rights of the King and forced him to follow the law
- Called for a Great Council to advise the King on policy and new taxes

■ The Great Council

- Eventually became Parliament
- Would become made up of two parts:
 - House of Lords – nobles
 - House of Commons – other citizens
- Over time gained more power and helped checked the power of the king

THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE

- Charlemagne's empire dissolved after death
- Pope wanted a new Christian, Frankish king as an ally
- Officially created with the coronation of Otto I – Emperor of the Romans - 962
 - Given title by the pope
 - Modeled title and empire after that of Charlemagne
 - Lasted from 962 to 1806
- Often encompassed Germanic kingdoms and parts of present day France, Italy
- Creation of the Holy Roman Empire caused conflict in 2 ways:
 - Pope vs. Emperor
 - East vs. West Europe



MEDIEVAL FRANCE

- Origins with the Frankish Germanic tribe
- Didn't fully consolidate into an independent nation until Charlemagne's death
 - Land divided among sons
 - France was given to one son
- For most of Middle Ages – France struggled to maintain all of its land
 - Often given away by lords to vassals in England, HRE, Spain, Italy, Germany
 - Each region = very unique = hard to unite
- Towards end of Middle Ages, often fought with England over land rights (100 Year's War)



MEDIEVAL SPAIN

- Overtaken by the Germanic Visigoths after Rome's fall
- Conquered by Muslim Moors in 700's (from Northern Africa)
- For much of Middle Ages, Spain was controlled by foreign Muslims
- Reconquista
 - Spanish Catholic "reclaiming" of the land from Muslims
 - Lasted for centuries (700's-1492)
 - Ended with King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella's defeat of the Moors



RELIGION IN THE MIDDLE AGES

- For most of Middle Ages, only one religion – Christianity
 - Eventually broke in two with Great Schism
 - East – Orthodox
 - West – Roman Catholic
- Roman Catholic Church headed by the Pope
 - Lived in Rome (became known as the Vatican)
 - Pope's power grew over time



- For most people – only connection with the church was the local parish priest
 - Parish priest – the priest who lived on the manor
 - People took great pride in decorating churches
 - Churches = places of worship, social gatherings
 - People paid a tithe (10% of income) to the church
- Church eventually developed a hierarchy of power
 - Pope
 - Bishops
 - Priests/Monks/Nuns
- The ability to appoint bishops and priests became a power both Kings and the Pope wanted
 - Bishops/priests had much influence over people

PAPAL VS. ROYAL POWER

- As power of pope increased, so did the power of kings
 - People believed their souls were full of sin and destined to Hell – only way to Heaven was the clergy
 - However, the King controlled wealth and land distribution, head of Feudalism
- Often fought over appointing bishops, bestowing fiefs, and creating feudal contracts
 - Pope crowning Otto I as Holy Roman Emperor
 - What gave the Pope the right to bestow a crown?
 - Further divided eastern and western churches
 - Alienated Byzantine Empire
 - Was Otto I a vassal to the Pope?
 - Pope Gregory VII vs Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV
 - Gregory believed power to appoint bishops belonged to Pope
 - Henry believed it belonged to Emperor (who controlled fiefs)
 - Settled with Concordat of Worms – Church could appoint, emperor could grant fiefs

- **Excommunication**

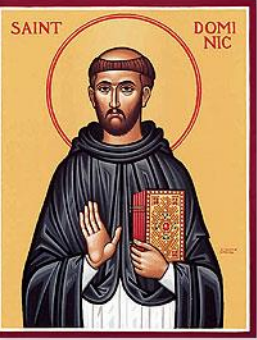
- Pope could excommunicate a king and all loyal to him

- **Pope Boniface VIII vs. King Phillip IV of France**

- Philip wanted to tax the clergy and the church
 - Pope forbade it, was murdered by French protestors
 - Papacy moved to Avignon, France, to ensure French control over Pope
 - On occasion, there were two Popes at one time (Avignon and Rome)
 - Eventually Papacy moved back to Rome



CORRUPTION IN THE CHURCH



- As power of Church grew, so did levels of corruption
 - Clergy were supposed to take vows of charity, poverty, obedience
 - Abuse of power = broken vows
- To combat corruption, monasteries and orders were created
 - Monasteries
 - Homes to monks and nuns, devoted life to prayer and God
 - Served as schools, hospitals, lodging for towns
 - Helped develop canon laws (religious laws) to keep Church pure
 - Orders
 - Organization of monks and nuns, tried to spread pure Church ideas
 - Franciscan Order (started by Francis of Assisi) and Dominican Order (Dominic of Spain)

HEIGHT OF CHURCH POWER

- By 1000, Catholic Church had become most powerful institution
 - More powerful than any King or Emperor
- Contributed to tension with the Byzantine Emperor
 - Great Schism in 1054
 - Splitting of Catholic and Orthodox Churches
- Church's power most exemplified in architecture
 - Romanesque
 - Gothic



MEDIEVAL CHURCH ARCHITECTURE

Romanesque

- Simpler designs
- Fewer windows
- Thicker walls
- Fewer details
- Rounded columns, arches similar to Rome

Gothic

- Complex designs
- Many windows
- Thinner walls
- Many details
- Pointed spires, tall and pointed arches

- Lessay Abbey
- France
- Late 11th Century
- Romanesque



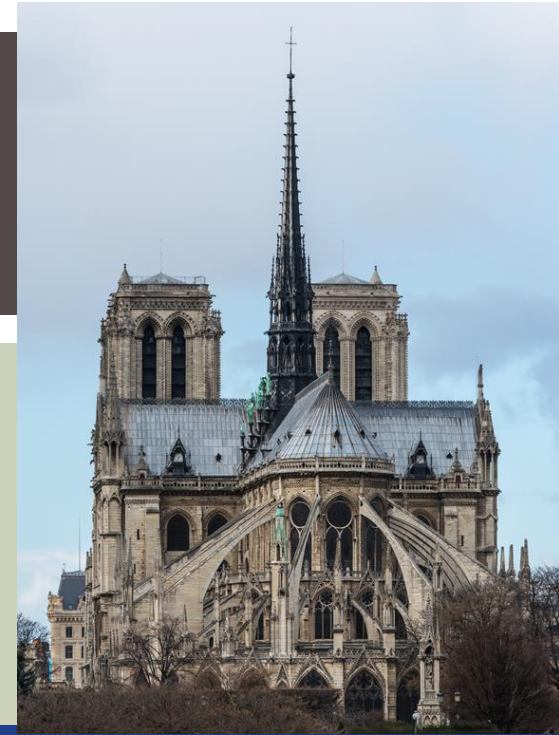
- Milan Cathedral
- Italy
- Mid 14th Century
- Gothic



- Pisa Cathedral and Leaning Tower
- Italy
- Mid 11th Century
- Romanesque



- Notre Dame Cathedral
- France
- 13th Century
- Gothic



- Westminster Abbey
- England
- Late 13th Century
- Gothic



- Maria Laach Abbey
- Germany
- Late 11th Century
- Romanesque



- Tum Collegiate Church
- Poland
- 12th Century
- Romanesque



- Salisbury Cathedral
- England
- 13th Century
- Gothic



THE CRUSADES

■ BACKGROUND

- By 1054, Great Schism occurred
 - Split between Eastern Church (Orthodox) and Western Church (Catholic)
 - Catholic Church had become powerful, corrupt
- Seljuk Turks had seized control of Jerusalem
 - Byzantine Empire felt threatened, asked Pope for help
- Church's power = increase in religious fervor



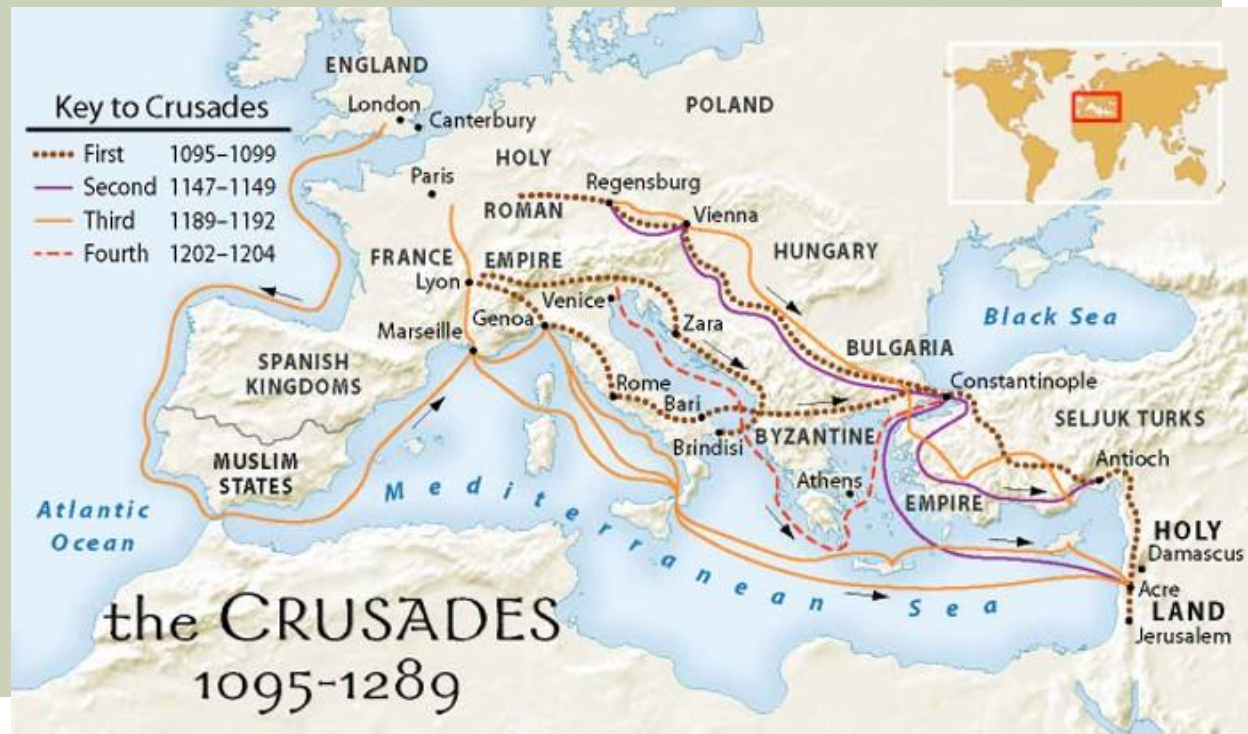
■ Council of Clermont – 1095

- Meeting held by Pope Urban II in France
- Officially asked Christian knights to take up arms against Muslims in Jerusalem, destroy the Muslim religion and all others to donate to the cause
- To persuade – granted immediate salvation to any who fought
- First time a Pope had commanded secular armies
- First time a Pope granted salvation for an act of violence
- Begins long standing tension between Christians and Muslims



CRUSADES

- Lasted from 1095-1291
 - 8 total crusades, only first 4 were major
 - Invasions by land and sea
 - Although intended to capture Jerusalem, many battles along the way



RESULTS OF THE CRUSADES

- **No true winner**
 - Land did not change hands
 - Jerusalem and holy lands stayed under control of Turks
 - Both Western Europe and Turks power increased
- **Byzantine Empire – ultimate loser**
 - Weakened, loss of trade
 - Ultimately fell in 1453 – fall of Constantinople
- **Increased power of King, Pope, and Church**
 - King – raised taxes to finance wars
 - Pope – now able to call on Christendom for war
 - Church – increased religious fervor = more holy wars, Reconquista in Spain
- **Increased trade in Western Europe**
 - Knights' travels to Middle East led to foreign relations
 - Middle East = center of trade, end of Silk Road
 - More trade = more wealth, culture, growth of towns and cities
 - Most importantly – renewed interest in Greek/Roman learning

GROWTH OF MEDIEVAL CITIES

- Increased trade from Crusades and new agricultural technologies led to the increase of towns, cities, wealth
- Agricultural Revolution – between 800 and 1000
 - New farming technology – all increased food production
 - Iron plows instead of wooden plows
 - New harness = used horses instead of oxen
 - Windmills led to quicker grain production
 - 3-field system with a fallow field
 - Increased food production led to population increase from 1000-1300
 - Population growth also contributed to growth of cities

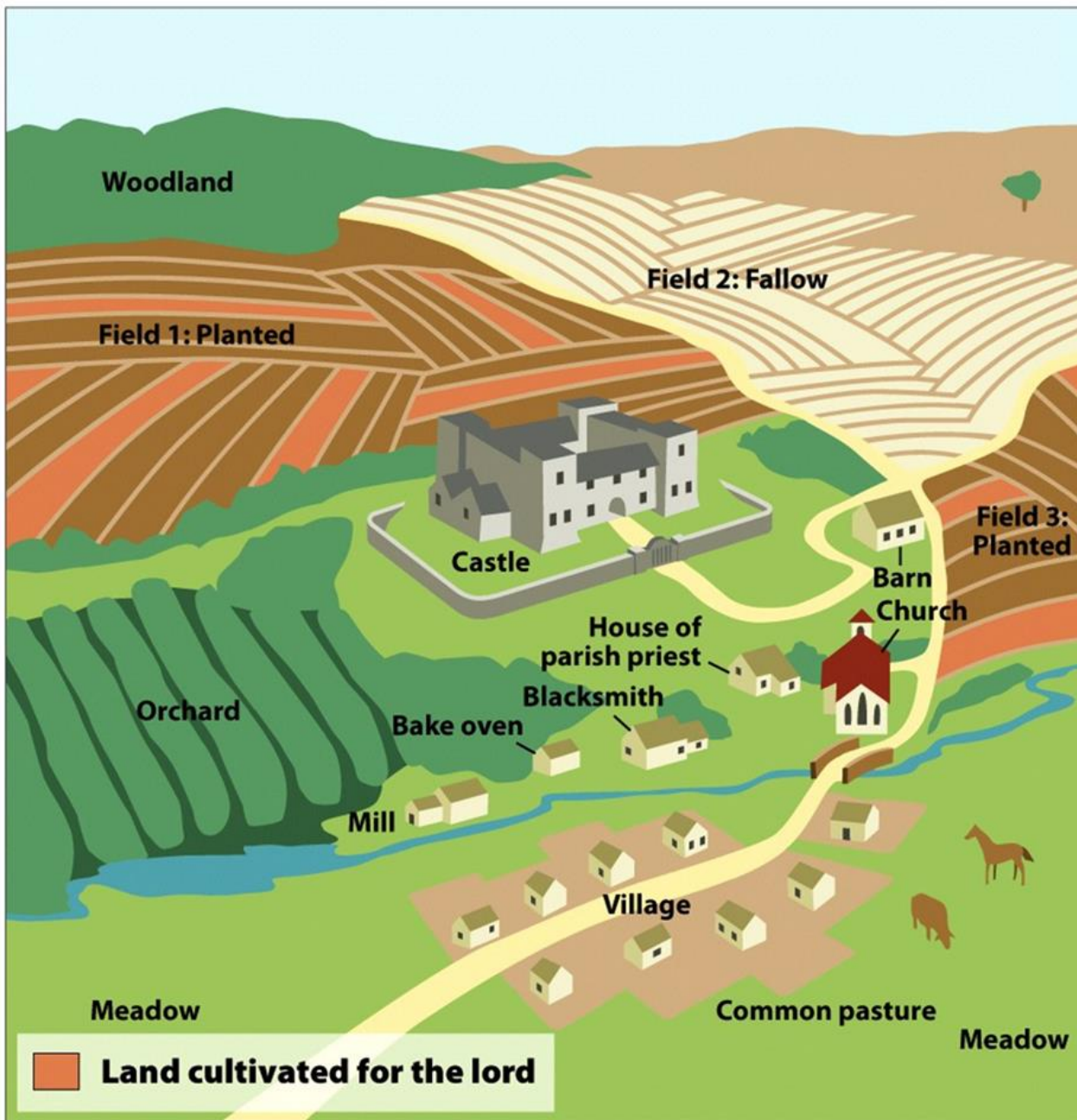


Figure 10.1 A Medieval Manor
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Page 276

- Medieval cities (Paris, London, Rome) grew significantly towards end of Middle Ages
 - Cities expanded as population grew, led to poorer layouts of cities
 - Largest populations since Roman Empire
 - Often overcrowded, unsanitary
 - Attracted more trade → culture, education centers
 - Kings granted charters to cities, allowed townspeople to elect city leaders



MEDIEVAL TRADE REVIVAL

- Growth of cities and Crusades = revival of trade
 - Increasing trade routes, revival of Silk Road in Europe
- Growing population meant renewed desire for luxury goods from Asia
 - Silk, spices etc.
- Increased trade led to growth of new middle class made of merchants, artisans, craftsmen that lived in cities
 - Neither rich nor poor
 - Not involved in feudalism = beginning feudal breakdown
 - Led to growth of medieval guilds

■ Medieval Guilds

- Members all had same trade (blacksmith guild, silk trader guild)
- Worked together to protect members
- Helped families in times of need
- Contributed to communities
- Regulated prices, product quality, hours

■ Medieval Fairs

- Market type communities for selling goods
- Helped merchants and craftsmen sell goods
- Contributed to foreign trade

MEDIEVAL EDUCATION REVIVAL

- Middle East had preserved knowledge from Rome and Greece traveled back into Europe after the Crusades
- Renewed interest in ancient texts → renewed interest in schooling
 - Literacy increased in late Middle Ages
 - Oldest European universities founded (only for men)
 - University of Bologna – Italy – 1088
 - University of Oxford – United Kingdom – 1096
 - University of Cambridge – United Kingdom – 1209
 - Degrees were required to practice law, medicine etc.

END OF THE MIDDLE AGES – CRISIS OF THE 14TH CENTURY

- 14th Century (1300's) led to end of Middle Ages
- Century of three major crises
 - 100 Years War
 - Climate Change
 - Black Plague
- Within 100 years, everything that had led to stability in the Middle Ages had collapsed

CRISIS #1 – 100 YEARS WAR

- 1337 – 1453
- France vs. England over feudal territory
 - King of France was technically a vassal to King of England
 - Most of Europe dragged into war due to feudal relationships
- Eventual French victory, but England remained powerful
- One of many wars between France/England rivals
- Significant – Battle of Crecy – 1346
 - First use of English Longbow
 - Anyone can use, even peasants
 - Knights/nobles no longer have monopoly over fighting
 - Feudalism now pointless, breaks down
- War also disrupts trade, which contributes to collapse of economy



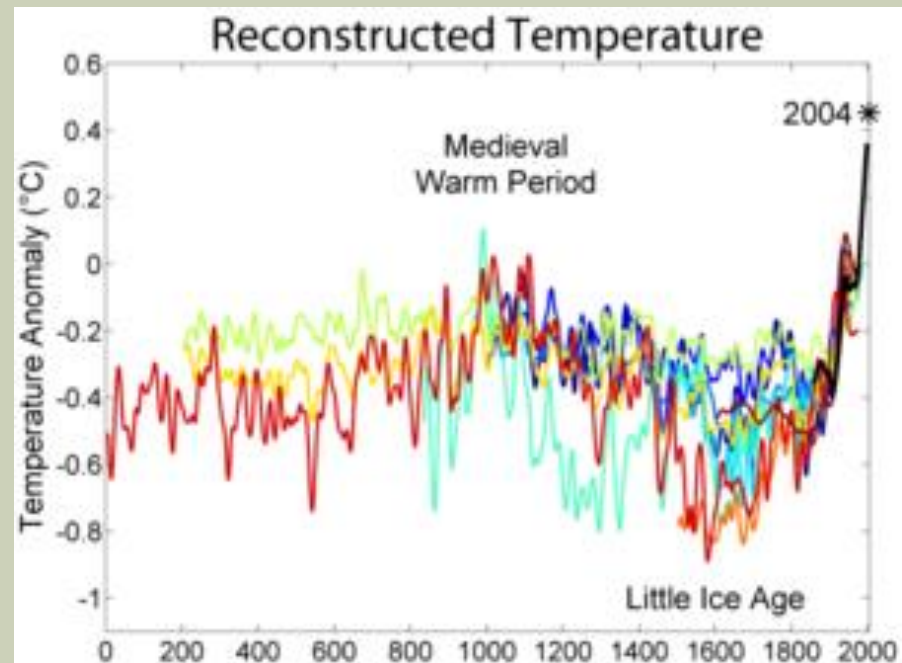
CRISIS #2 – CLIMATE CHANGE

■ Medieval Warm Period

- Generally warmer temperatures during Middle Ages
- Led to more productivity

■ 1300's – Average temps began to drop (only a few degrees)

- Known as Little Ice Age (lasted until 1800's)
- Agricultural productivity dropped
- Led to Great Famine of 1315-1317
- Many believed world was ending, God was angry
- Some even resorted to cannibalism



CRISIS #3 – BLACK PLAGUE

- Started in Asia, spread through trade routes by fleas on rats
- Reached Europe by 1347
- Killed within days of exposure
- About 35%-50% of Europe's population killed – over 25 million people
- Mainly in cities with dirty conditions
- Misunderstood causes of disease
- Already weakened by famine



RESULTS OF THE PLAGUE

- Huge death toll
- Fear → peasant revolts
- Fewer people = decline in agriculture, workforce → economic decline
- Faith in Church lost
 - Church was supposed to pray, protect from God's wrath
 - Despite following all church rules, people still died
 - Only explanation was that God was punishing Christians
- Faith in nobility lost
 - Nobility were supposed to be better than peasants (justification for titles and feudalism)
 - Nobility just as likely to die = death is a social equalizer
 - Led to breakdown of feudalism











IMAGE E



IMAGE F

