



Byzantine Empire (330-1453)

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

- 1) HOW DID JUSTINIAN RESTORE THE EASTERN ROMAN EMPIRE?
- 2) HOW DID THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE PRESERVE ROMAN CULTURE AND ADD NEW ELEMENTS?
- 3) WHY DID THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH DIVIDE?
- 4) WHAT WERE THE CAUSES OF THE COLLAPSE OF THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE?

DEFINITION

- ◉ *Byzantine*: this term is a modern invention. The Byzantines called themselves either 'Romans' or 'Greeks'. Invented by the classical scholar Hieronymus Wolf and popularized by Montesquieu
- ◉ It was used for the medieval Greek-speaking, Christian empire that dominated the eastern Mediterranean.
- ◉ The ancient Greek city of Byzantium was founded in 667 BCE by king Byzas.
- ◉ In antiquity, because of its strategic location, it was an important center for the transport of corn to Attica.



THE ORIGINS

- 292: **Diocletian** divides the Roman empire into two.
- 324: Constantine reunites the two parts
- 330: Constantine builds a new capital in the location of ancient Byzantium
- 337: The death of Constantine results in division between east and west.



CONSTANTINOPLE

- Successive emperors build strong walls, palaces, churches, gardens, aqueducts and made the city the biggest, strongest and most enlightened city of medieval Christendom



The Walls of Theodosius



Cistern Basilica

THE EARLY YEARS

- 337: Constantius II, succeeds Constantine
- East and West divided again, permanently.
- 361: New Emperor Julian tries to revert to paganism.
- 379-95: Roman Emperor **Theodosius I** reunited the empire. He was the last emperor of both the Eastern and Western Roman Empire.
- Christianity obligatory
- 396: Prohibition of Olympic Games



Hippodrome

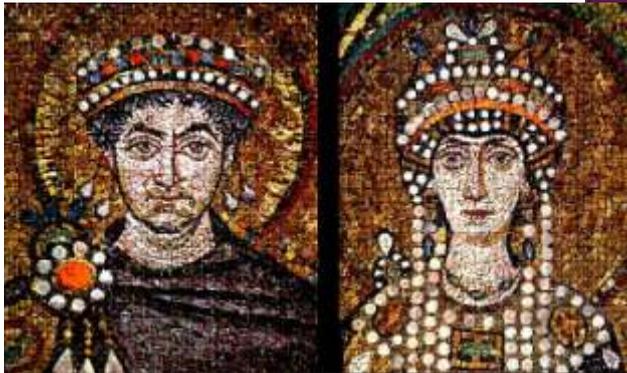
THE FALL OF ROME

- Barbarian tribes keep pushing into a fragmented and weakened Roman Empire.
- The east through bribery, diplomacy and better military resists effectively
- **476: Rome Falls**
- 491: **Anastasius I** of Eastern Roman Empire: His competent rule reorganizes the east. Financial strength and administrative success.



The Last Legion

THE REIGN OF JUSTINIAN



- The height of the first period of Byzantine history (324-632) was the reign of Emperor Justinian (r. 527-565) and his wife Empress Theodora (d. 548)

THE IMPERIAL GOAL: UNITY

- The imperial goal in the East was to centralize government and impose legal and doctrinal conformity.



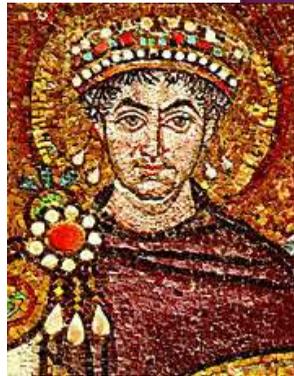
One God

One Empire

One Religion

THE AGE OF JUSTINIAN (527-75)

- **Procopius**, a famous Byzantine historian, writes his book *Histories*, which provides us most of our knowledge about Justinian and his empire.
- 532 The *Nica* revolt
 - The Nika riots took place over the course of a week in Constantinople, as a result over political rivalries during chariot racing! It was the most violent riot that Constantinople had ever seen to that point, with nearly half the city being burned or destroyed and tens of thousands of people killed.
- 536: Reconquest of Rome and much of Italy took many years.
- North Africa and the Spanish coast were easily conquered.
- Victories over Sassanid Persia in the east consolidate the borders



1ST METHOD: LAW

- Justinian collated and revised Roman law. His *Corpus Juris Civilis* (body of civil law) had little effect on medieval common law. However, beginning with the Renaissance, it provided the foundation for most European law down to the 19th century.



• Areas of Law in the Justinian Code:

Public Law: Law for government		
Private Law: Law for individuals <i>composed of Natural Law, Law of Nations, and Civil Law</i>		
Natural Law <p>"The law of nature is that law which nature touches to all animals. For this law does not belong exclusively to the human race, but belongs to all animals, whether of the earth, the air, or the water. Hence comes the union of the male and female, which we term matrimony, hence the procreation and bringing up of children. We see, indeed, that all the other animals besides men are considered as having knowledge of this law."</p>	Law of Nations <p>"[T]he law which natural reason appoints for all mankind obtains equally among all nations, because all nations make use of it."</p>	Civil Law <p>"The law which a people makes for its own government belongs exclusively to that state and is called the civil law, as being the law of the particular state."</p>

HOW DO NATURAL LAW, LAW OF NATIONS, AND CIVIL LAW WORK TOGETHER TO CREATE A LEGAL SYSTEM?

- "Civil law is thus distinguished from the law of nations. Every community governed by laws and customs uses partly its own law, partly laws common to all mankind. . . . The people of Rome, then, are governed partly by their own laws, and partly by the laws which are common to all mankind."
- "[N]ations have established certain laws, as occasion and the necessities of human life required. Wars arose, and in their train followed captivity and then slavery, which is contrary to the law of nature; for by that law all men are originally born free. Further, by the law of nations almost all contracts were at first introduced, as, for instance, buying and selling, letting and hiring, partnership, deposits, loans returnable in kind, and very many others."
- "The laws of nature, which all nations observe alike, being established by a divine providence, remain ever fixed and immutable. But the laws which every state has enacted, undergo frequent changes, either by the tacit consent of the people, or by a new law being subsequently passed."
 - Adapted from Justinian Code, "The Institutes: Book I, Section I," *Medieval Legal History Sourcebook*, Last modified : March 4, 2001. <<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/535institutes.html>>; Linda Karen Miller, "Justinian as a Law Reformer," *The Byzantine Empire in the Age of Justinian: A Unit of Study for Grades 7-10*, National Center for History in the Schools, University of California, Los Angeles, 1997. pp. 35-45; and Edward Gibbon: *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, Volume IV, Chapter XLIV : Idea Of The Roman Jurisprudence. (Ancient History Sourcebook.) <<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/gibbon-chap44.html>>

2ND METHOD: RELIGION

- Religion as well as law served imperial centralization. In 380, Christianity had been proclaimed the official religion of the eastern empire. Now all other religions were considered “demented and insane.”



INCREASE IN CHURCH WEALTH

- Between the 4th and 6th centuries, the patriarchs of Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem acquired enormous wealth in the form of land and gold.



INCREASE IN CLERGY

- The prestige and comfort that the clergy enjoyed swelled the ranks of the clergy in the Eastern Church.



LOYAL GOVERNORS AND BISHOPS

- Between the 4th and 5th centuries, councils were made up of local wealthy landowners, who were not necessarily loyal to the emperor. By the 6th century, special governors and bishops replaced the councils and proved to be more loyal to the emperor.



3RD METHOD: STRONG CITIES

- ◉ During Justinian's reign, the empire's strength was its more than 1,500 cities. The largest with 350,000 inhabitants, was Constantinople, the cultural crossroads of Asian and European civilizations.



"Not since the world was made was there . . . so much wealth as was found in Constantinople. For the Greeks say that two-thirds of the wealth of this world is in Constantinople and the other third scattered throughout the world."

- ◉ --Robert of Clari, a French crusader who witnessed the pillage of the city in 1204, describing Constantinople.

PROBLEMS FOR JUSTINIAN: “HERETICAL” MOVEMENTS

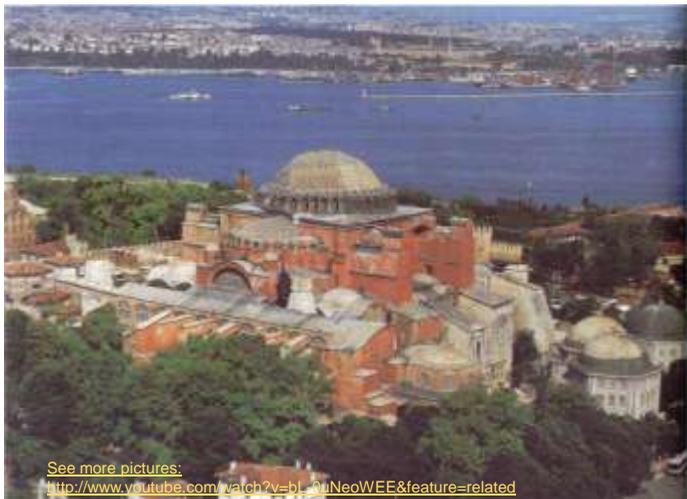
- Ideas thought to be heresies by the Roman Catholic Church received imperial support:
 - **Arianism** denied that Father and Son were equal and coeternal. It was the first major heresy which threatened to split the empire (4th-5th c.)
 - **Monophysitism** taught that Jesus had only one nature, a composite divine-human one. In the Age of Justinian, it won over the entire orient and Egypt (6th-7th c.).
 - **Future Problem: Iconoclasm** (8th c.) forbid the use of images (icons) because it led to idolatry.



EXTENSIVE BUILDING PLANS



Justinian was an ambitious builder. His greatest monument was the magnificent domed church of Hagia Sophia (Holy Wisdom), which was constructed in just five years (532-37).



See more pictures:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1...NeoWEE&feature=related>

Hagia Sophia, Church of the Holy Wisdom, 6th c.

JUSTINIAN'S LEGACY

- ◉ **Hagia Sophia** remained the seat of Eastern Christianity until the Fall of Constantinople.
- ◉ 552: Byzantine monks sneak silkworms and mulberry out of China.
- ◉ **Justinian orders the codification of Roman law (*Corpus Iuris Civilis*).**
- ◉ He was heavy-handed towards heresies
- ◉ In 529 he closed the philosophical school of Athens, thus destroying the last stronghold of paganism.



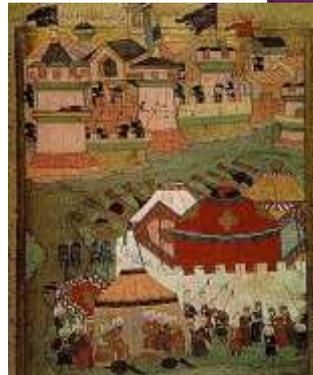
The Byzantine empire in 565, at its largest expansion ever.

VIDEO: “ENGINEERING AN EMPIRE: THE BYZANTINE GREEKS”

- ◉ GO TO THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE TO ACCESS EACH VIDEO CLIP:
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yymXqXabqls>
- ◉ Question: How did innovative construction and engineering projects, effective military organization, and brilliant leadership lead to the long-lived success of the Byzantine Empire?
 - 250 words

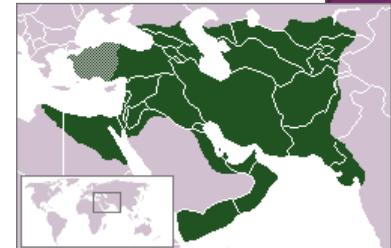
A PERIOD OF DECLINE IN THE 7TH CENTURY

- In the seventh century the empire lost Syria, the Holy Land, Egypt, and North Africa to invading Islamic armies.



A MAJOR CAUSE OF DECLINE: THE STRUGGLE WITH THE PERSIANS

- **Procopius** is a rich source for descriptions of the campaigns in the east against the Persians.
- Justinian and his successors were locked into a titanic struggle with an old enemy—Persia--and won.
- 627: **Heraclius** crushes the Persians at Nineveh.
- However, both Byzantines and Persians were exhausted and vulnerable to the Arabs and Islam.



HERACLIUS 610-641

- ◉ **Heraclius** seized the throne from unpopular Phocas
- ◉ He defeated Chosroes and the Persians
- ◉ Recovered many Byzantine territories
- ◉ Hellenized the empire
- ◉ Took the title *basileus*, meaning “sovereign” or “king.”



Heraclius fighting Chosroes over the True Cross

THE LEGACY OF HERACLIUS

- ◉ The final act for Sassanid Persia **IRONICALLY** took place outside Nineveh, the old capital of Assyria, which the Medes/Persians had defeated about a thousand years before.
- ◉ Sassanid power was dissolved and they were easily conquered by the Arabs
- ◉ The Byzantines were also exhausted and could barely sustain Arab attacks.
- ◉ In Europe, which had been depleted of troops the Slavs were fast seizing Byzantine territories.
- ◉ Under the successors of Heraclius, his hard won gains had been lost and the empire was nearly dissolved.



The Empire in 668

LEO III ISAURIAN (717-741)

- The **Isaurians**, against the odds, halted the dissolution of Byzantium, and preserved Christianity in Europe.
 - This comparatively obscure people produced two Byzantine emperors, **Zeno**, and **Leo III**, who ascended the throne of Constantinople in 717, reigned until 741, and became the founder of a dynasty of three generations.
 - The empire used Isaurians as soldiers, generals and at one point they even formed part of the emperor's personal guard, the Excubitores.
- **Leo III**, using the Greek Fire, defeats the Arabs decisively and halts Islamic expansion.
- **Constantine V** continued his father's successes against the Muslims and also against the **Bulgars**-- a seminomadic people, probably of Turkic descent, originally from Central Asia. Descendants formed Bulgaria.



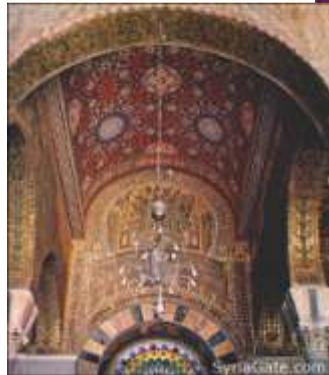
THE ICONOCLASTIC CONTROVERSY

- The **Iconoclastic Controversy**, a movement that denied the holiness of religious images, devastated much of the empire for over a hundred years (8th-9th C).



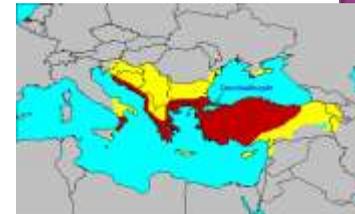
ICONOCLASM

- The Isaurians, followed by the **Phrygian dynasty (820-867)** tried to abolish icons.
- This divided the empire.
- By 843, Icons were restored as objects of veneration but not worship by two ecumenical councils under the leadership of two powerful women, Empress Irene the Athenian, and Theodora, Empress consort to Theophilos.



THE MACEDONIAN DYNASTY

- Under the Phrygian dynasty, a remarkable recovery had started driven from the inside.
- Under the following **Macedonian dynasty (867-1056)** the early Macedonian kings consolidate their power, expand their territory and create a vigorously healthy state.



BASIL I (867-886) OF MACEDONIANS

- Founder of the most glorious dynasty of Byzantium.
- Seized power by assassinating Michael III.
- Legislative Work
- Success in Adriatic/Sicily against Arabs
- Byzantine navy dominates eastern Mediterranean.



LEO VI, THE WISE (886-912)

- Leo received good education by Photios.
- He was not successful in the military field.
- However, he completed the legislative work of his father
- He is the author of a number of books
- He was an intellectual emperor for peaceful times.



CONSTANTINE VII, PORPHYROGENNETOS (913-20, 945- 59)

- Improperly legitimized son of Leo VI and his 4th wife Zoe Karbonopsina (dark-coal eyed).
- Reasonably successful
- Intellectual, author, painter



ROMANOS I, LEKAPENOS (920-45)

- The 'gentle usurper'
- His campaign against the Bulgarians indecisive, but made peace through dynastic marriage.
- The campaigns of the general Kourkouas against the Arabs in the east more effective.



NIKEPHOROS PHOCAS (963-9)

- Romanos II (959-63), a fun loving emperor died young. Theophano became regent.
- The warrior general **Nikephoros Phocas** seized the throne and married Theophano.
- He recaptured Crete and much of the eastern provinces from the Arabs



JOHN TZIMISKES (969-975)

- Unpopular emperor Phocas was murdered by a conspiracy of his wife Theophano and nephew John Tzimiskes (short man).
- Tzimiskes then renounced Theophano and was forgiven.
- Tzimiskes led successful campaigns against Sviatoslav of Kief and the Arabs in Northern Mesopotamia.



Lebedev: Sviatoslav I meets John I Tzimiskes

RECOVERY OF TERRITORY

- The Byzantines called upon the European states to push back the Muslim conquerors. The European states complied, successfully pushed back the Seljuks, returned territory to the Byzantines, and carved out kingdoms of their own in Syria and Palestine.



BASIL II (976-1025)

- The legendary, most glorious emperor of Byzantium.
- Suppressed revolt of Vardas Skleros after an alliance with Vladimir I of Kiev.
- With notorious ruthlessness he suppressed the power of the great landowners and protected the middle classes.



THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF BASIL II

- ◉ He recovered much of Syria. Many of the lands in the east had not been Byzantine since the time of Heraclius.
- ◉ After a long campaign the Bulgarians and Serbs submitted to Basil, and the frontier of the empire for the first time in centuries reached the Danube, again.
- ◉ He captured the southern Crimea from the Khazars
- ◉ He also recaptured much of Southern Italy.
- ◉ The 'Father of the Army' surprisingly left a full treasury at his death.



The Byzantine Empire in 1025, after Basil's death.

THE GOLDEN YEARS OF BYZANTIUM

- The 50 years following Basil's death were years of prosperity and growth.
- Constantine VIII (1025-28) was never interested in ruling.
- At his death his daughter **Zoe** became empress.
- Her accession was the greatest calamity for Basil's empire



Empress Zoe

ZOE'S HUSBANDS

- **Romanos III Argyros** (1028-34). Reversed Basil's financial arrangements and suffered a defeat in the east which cost him popularity. Probably murdered by Zoe
- **Michael IV Paphlagonian** (1034-41), a reasonably successful emperor.
- **Constantine IX Monomachos** (1042-1055)
- During this time, a major religious split occurs...



Constantine IX

WHAT WAS THE GREAT SCHISM OF 1054 CE?

- The **East-West Schism**, or the **Great Schism**, divided medieval Christendom into Eastern (Greek) and Western (Latin) branches, which later became known as the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Roman Catholic Church, respectively.
- **BACKGROUND:** Since the split of the Roman Empire and the Fall of Rome, relations between East and West had long been embittered by political and ecclesiastical differences and theological disputes.
- **Pope Leo IX** and **Patriarch of Constantinople Michael Cerularius** heightened the conflict by suppressing Greek and Latin in their respective domains. In 1054, Roman legates traveled to Cerularius to deny him the title Ecumenical Patriarch and to insist that he recognize the Church of Rome's claim to be the head and mother of the churches. Cerularius refused. The leader of the Latin contingent, Cardinal Humbert excommunicated Cerularius, while Cerularius in return excommunicated Cardinal Humbert and other legates. [\[1\]](#)
- The Western legates' acts might have been of doubtful validity because Leo had died, while Cerularius's excommunication applied only to the legates personally. Still, the Church split along doctrinal, theological, linguistic, political, and geographical lines, and the fundamental breach has never been healed.



The Second Ecumenical Council whose additions to the original Nicene Creed lay at the heart of one of the theological disputes associated with the East-West Schism. (Illustration, 879-882 AD; from manuscript, Homilies of Gregory Nazianzus; Bibliothèque nationale de France)

THE SPLIT IN CHRISTIANITY BECOMES PERMANENT...

- The Crusades, the Massacre of the Latins in 1182, the capture and sack of Constantinople in 1204, and the imposition of Latin Patriarchs made reconciliation more difficult. This included the taking of many precious religious artifacts and the destruction of the Library of Constantinople.
- On paper, the two churches actually reunited in 1274 (by the Second Council of Lyon) and in 1439 (by the Council of Florence), but in each case the councils were repudiated by the Orthodox as a whole.
- In 1484, 31 years after the Fall of Constantinople to the Ottoman Turks, a Synod of Constantinople repudiated the Union of Florence, making the breach between the Patriarchate of the West and the Patriarchate of Constantinople final.

WARM UP IN-CLASS ACTIVITY: CATHOLICISM VS. EASTERN ORTHODOX FAITHS **Read these first!**

Story A – Story of a Roman Catholic writing about the Byzantine Empire.

[Written in Latin]

Dear Diary,

Today was a day just like any other. As a good practicing Roman Catholic Christian, I showed my respect for my God and Pope. The Pope has called on us Christians to witness the Holy Lamb from the Mountain. How can I say "no" to the Pope!

However, those Orthodox Christians don't even believe in the Pope! Can you believe that? Instead they meet their emperor in the living God on Earth. I guess he has absolute power, like an emperor. Don't they know what happened to King Henry IV, when he challenged the authority of the Pope? The pope proved his power over kings. In Byzantium, instead the emperor appoints a patriarch. The patriarch is the religious head of the church. Every winter, they allow their powers to waver. These crazy Byzantines, they even conduct their Church services in Greek! What was so great about Greece anyway? They built some cathedrals and had a few people that would question authority. They even had a constitution about letting people rule their own government. Why would anyone want that?

Based on the Byzantine Empire they consider themselves the heirs to the Roman Empire. Rome fell – get over it. They want to keep preserving Roman and Greek culture. They think they are better because they don't have a feudal system. I heard in the Byzantine Empire the nobles actually farm the land for money and get paid for it. These lords, why pay people when they could work for free? Being a lord is like being a monarch. Supposedly the peasants are the backbone of the Byzantine Empire's money-based economy.

...And what's the deal with the Dome Architecture? A Church Cathedral is supposed to have gables and flying buttresses. Their churches have domes on the top. Apparently they think the domes are less sturdy than the cathedrals and reflect the true nature of a church. Also the Byzantine's are making out on some cool art. They paint bare trees, or religious images become a burden on the worship. The Byzantine Empire was always art. They piece together a few pieces of stone to create an image. Gilded, a little green, but in my opinion instead glass is so much cooler.

Well, it's time to go. The church bells are calling me. It is time to pay my respects to the almighty God and the Pope.

Story B – Story of a Orthodox Christian writing about a Roman Catholic.

[Written in Greek]

Dear Diary,

After having today's Church service conducted in Greek, I was inspired by the word of God to follow the true path of His teachings. Did you know that these are Christians that still believe in the authority of the Pope? These silly Western Europeans. I hope they are happy to hear God's plan. All these Kings fighting with the Pope – what a waste of time. We Byzantines' heads it much simpler. An Emperor by our Great Christian ruler becomes, the vice of the Emperor is both political and religious. The Emperor is the representative of God on Earth. Not the Pope. The Emperor is able to appoint church officials. We appoint the Patriarch, in the head of the Church. He doesn't get involved in any matters, like the Pope. Can you believe that the Pope is calling all Christians to fight in a crusade? I don't want the Roman Catholics. I see they might rule us in the back. They will conduct their services in Latin. How can anyone want Latin?

The Roman Catholics should know that the Byzantine Empire gives itself as many things. We try to follow the glory that was once Rome and Greece. We know their ideas and adapt it to our own culture. We modeled our Churches after Roman architecture. We took it one step further through and built a dome to show our faith to God. I heard that the W. Europeans built Cathedrals that are very sturdy and sturdy. We Byzantines value our religious services and has the use of icons in our churches. Sometimes people tend to worship these icons over the actual deity they should be praying to. Unlike the ugly stained glass that is covered above in all the RCC Cathedrals, our church has mosaics that show us art. We create mosaics out of stones or other materials to create a picture or design.

The Roman Catholics are so strict with their treatment of priests. Our priests are allowed to marry. We believe that marriage helps them become committed to God. I heard that Rome in the Roman Catholic faith not beyond from the treatment of marriage.

...and I hear that in W. Europe these peasants work the land for protection of a lord. That's so nice to live. Our glorious military protects our Empire. Our faith work for money? This always our weapon to flourish and spread the glory of Rome, Greece and what our true culture.

I don't want to keep the Almighty Emperor's teaching, so now I must go.

RCC or OCC?

After the following statement, decide if it is the Roman Catholic Church (RCC) or the Orthodox Christian Church (OCC).

1. Banned marriage of priests.
2. Banned worship of idols.
3. Emperor rules over the Church.
4. Services conducted in Latin.
5. Patriarch is the religious leader.

WHAT ARE SOME DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EASTERN ORTHODOX AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH?

◉ The Pope:

- A main difference between the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholics has to do with the recognition of the Pope. Roman Catholics recognize the Pope as the infallible. Moreover, the Pope has supreme authority over all churches and can, for example, contradict or usurp the power of a lower ranking church leader (e.g., a priest, bishop or cardinal). The Eastern Orthodox, also have various bishops with one being the highest bishop, also called the *first among equals*, but the Eastern Orthodox do not believe the highest ranking bishop, or archbishop, to be infallible, nor do they grant him with supreme authority over all churches.
- As people-centered forms of government become more common, papal authority extends far less than it did in the previous millennium. Today, the Pope may still advise leaders of countries, but has no power to make them change. The governments of predominantly Catholic countries, are rarely influenced by the Pope alone. In fact, many predominantly Catholic countries are lead in a way antithetical to what the Catholic Church may desire.



WHAT ARE SOME DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EASTERN ORTHODOX AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH?

◉ Language of Church Services:

- Another difference between the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches notable until the mid 20th century was that Roman Catholic services were conducted in Latin, rather than in native languages.
- The early Eastern Orthodox Church rejected the language of Rome and celebrated mass in native languages from its onset.
- Since Vatican II, the Second Ecumenical Council of the Vatican, however, Roman Catholic services are often conducted in the native tongue. Members of Opus Dei, a section within the Roman Catholic Church, continue to consistently celebrate the Latin mass.



WHAT ARE SOME DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EASTERN ORTHODOX AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH?

Original Sin:

- There are also many complex dogmatic distinctions that have arisen since the two churches separated. One is the concept of original sin which has its roots in Adam's sins in the Garden of Eden. Both Churches believe in the concept of original sin but hold it to have different consequences on humanity. Still, both Churches hold baptism as the way to cleanse the soul of sin.
- The Churches diverge in how original sin applies to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Catholics believe Mary was born without original sin, and thus was the appropriate vessel for the Son of God. The Eastern Orthodox Church believes this distinction matters little. Like all people, Mary was born and would die. She was chosen to be Jesus' mother because of her virtuous life.



WHAT ARE SOME DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EASTERN ORTHODOX AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH?

A few minor differences may also be noted:

- Eastern Orthodox Churches often have icons while Catholic churches have statues.
- Catholic Priests may not be married whereas Eastern Orthodox priests may marry prior to ordination.
- There are no separate religious orders of Eastern Orthodox monks or nuns whereas the Roman Catholics belong to these associations which are devoted to a specific form of service.
- The Eastern Orthodox Church does not believe in purgatory and does not observe the Stations of the Cross.
- The Roman Catholic Eucharist is an unleavened wafer while the Eastern Orthodox Church uses leavened bread.
- Easter and Christmas are calculated differently by the Orthodox and the Catholic.



An Overview of the Main Branches of Christianity				
	Roman Catholic	Eastern Orthodox	Protestant	Biblical Christianity
Number of believers	Over 1 billion	250 million	575 million	Unknown
Geography	Worldwide	Eastern Europe, Slav countries, Mediterranean	Worldwide	Worldwide
History	Developed from the Apostolic Church	Separated in 1054 AD	Separated in sixteenth century Reformation	Book of Acts, 33 AD
God	Belief in Trinity	Belief in Trinity	Belief in Trinity	Belief in Trinity
Bible	Historical reliable Word of God	Historical reliable Word of God	Historical reliable Word of God	Historical reliable Word of God
Jesus Christ	Messiah and God	Messiah and God	Messiah and God	Messiah and God
Resurrection	Historical fact	Historical fact	Historical fact	Historical fact
Apostles' creed	Completely accepted	Completely accepted	Completely accepted	Completely accepted
Nicene creed	Completely accepted	Completely accepted	Completely accepted	Completely accepted
God's Word	Scripture, Tradition and the Pope	Scripture, Tradition and the bishops	Scripture alone	Scripture alone
Authority	Apostolic succession	Apostolic succession	Varies	The original apostles
Head of the Church	Pope	Council of bishops	Varies	Jesus Christ
Leadership	Pope, cardinal, bishops and priests	Bishop and priests	"priesthood of all believers"	"priesthood of all believers" and church elders
Salvation	Faith + Sacraments + Works	Faith + Sacraments + Works → Deification	By Faith through Grace through Christ	By obedient Faith through Grace through Christ
Saints and Mary	Veneration and Super-veneration	Veneration to help with deification	-	-
Purgatory	Place of preparation for heaven	-	-	-
Icons	-	Symbols of saints	-	-

NAME _____

PER _____

Comparing the Roman Catholic Church to the Orthodox Church

Review:

	Roman Catholic Church	Similarities	Orthodox Christian Church
Official Language:		Base their faith on the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.	
Power:			
Spiritual Authority:		Have sacraments such as Baptism	
Marriage & Divorce:		Priests and Bishops are the religious leaders	
Architecture:		They seek to convert people to their faith.	
Art Work:			
Other:			

THE STEEP DECLINE OF THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE: MANZIKERT

- **Isaac I Comnenos** (1057-9) tried to reorganize the finances of the empire
- The Doukid emperors **Constantine X** and **Michael VII Parapinakes**: dangerously weakened the army
- **Romanos IV Diogenes** was defeated at **Manzikert**, and then brutally blinded and deposed.

DETAILED SUMMARY: The **Battle of Manzikert** was fought near the town in August of 1071. In one of the most decisive defeats in Byzantine history, the Seljuk sultan Alp Arslan defeated and captured Emperor Romanus Diogenes. The Turkish victory led to the ethnic and religious transformation of Armenia and Anatolia, the establishment of the Seljuk Sultanate of Rum, and later the Ottoman Empire and the Republic of Turkey. The Seljuks pillaged Manzikert itself, killed much of its population, and burned the city to the ground.



Battle of Manzikert

THE COMNENIAN RESTORATION

- **Alexios I Comnenos** (1081-1118) seized the throne from Nikephoros III Botaniates.
- Alexios stabilized the empire by fighting off the Normans in the West, and with the help of the Crusaders the Seljuk Turks in the east.
- He supported links with the Aristocratic families and initiated a century of prosperity and recovery





The empire in 1092



The Empire in 1143

JOHN II COMNENOS, THE GOOD (1118-1143)

- After fending off a challenge by his sister historian Anna Comnene, **John proved to be perhaps the last great emperor of Byzantium.**
- He was known for his piety, mild rule, charity and humanity.



JOHN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

- Through diplomacy and cautious warfare with small objectives at the time, he secured the west, recovered large parts of Asia Minor from the Seljuks and put them on the defensive.
- In a move designed to boost morale he marched into the Holy Lands, but his Crusader allies betrayed him.

MANUEL I, COMNENOS (1143-1180)

- The ruler and protector of Christendom, Manuel was seen in east and west as the head of the most powerful and rich Christian state.
- Surprise defeat at Myriokephalon
- Although he added to the empire, his ambitious goals were never reached to the full.



Manuel I Comnenos

THE ANGELI

- The cruel public murder of the last Comnenian emperor, the able **Andronikos I** (1185) signalled the beginning of the end for Byzantium.
- The incompetent rule of **Isaac Angelos** and his successors resulted in the loss of Constantinople to the Crusaders in 1204, who were hired by the Pope to protect all Christians but sacked the city for its riches!





The Fall of Constantinople to the Crusaders , 1204



The Latin Empire of Constantinople

FRANKISH CONSTANTINOPE (1204-1261)

- The sack of Constantinople: a great cultural calamity.
- Fragmentation-- Byzantine states form in provinces (Nicaea, Trebizond, Epirus)
- The Latin empire of Constantinople was doomed, cut off from the West, with a determined Byzantine kingdom next to it, and a clergy very hostile to the Catholic primate.



The Empire in 1265

THE PALAIOLOGEAN PERIOD

- 1261: **Michael VIII**
Palaiologos recaptures Constantinople, defeats the Latins and restores Byzantine form.
- The Empire he reconstituted would be squeezed between enemies from the west and the relentless assaults of the Turks in the east



THE PALAIOLOGEAN RENAISSANCE

- Although politically the reign of Byzantium's last and longest lasting dynasty was bleak, the arts and letters flourished.
- An increasingly more Hellenized state
- Some of the Palaiologean Emperors were able (e.g. Michael VIII, Manuel II)
- However, the weakened state did not have the manpower, energy, or resources to stop the the relentless march of the Ottoman Turks.
- The old empire fell after a long struggle.

THE FALL OF CONSTANTINOPLE

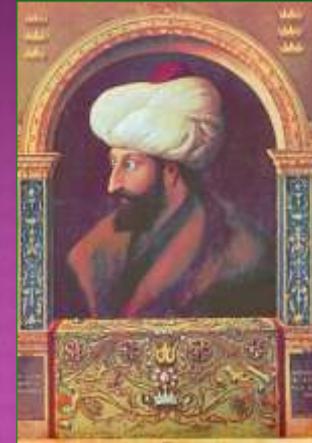
- The world turned its eyes on a depopulated Constantinople in the spring of **1453**.
- A shadow of its former glory the imperial city fell after months of siege.
- **Constantine XI**, the last emperor became the subject of legends.



Mehmet II: 1444-1445; 1451-1481

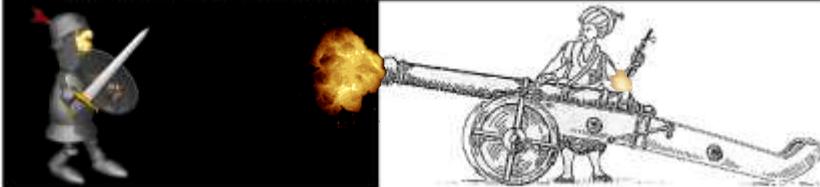
("The Conqueror")

- **Mehmet II** (Turkish for "Mohammed")— was an **Ottoman sultan** who is known for capturing **Constantinople** from the Byzantines in 1453.
- Mehmet wanted to establish **rule of Islam** over the former Roman Empire, especially Italy.
- He warred **against Venice and Hungary**, extending the Ottoman Empire from the Euphrates to the Danube rivers.
- He made himself **absolute sovereign**—**leader with absolute power** with a huge **bureaucracy**
- Mehmet was interested in the arts and learning of Europe, Byzantium, and the Latin West, as well as Islam.
- He mastered the principles of Christianity, European history, and geography and supported the works of scholars.



fall of Constantinople

- The fall of Constantinople has long been regarded as a watershed event in world history?
- Did it...
 - mark an abrupt end to the Middle Ages and the dawn of a new era?
 - spur the Age of Discovery?
- It does show the first the use of cannon and gunpowder effectively

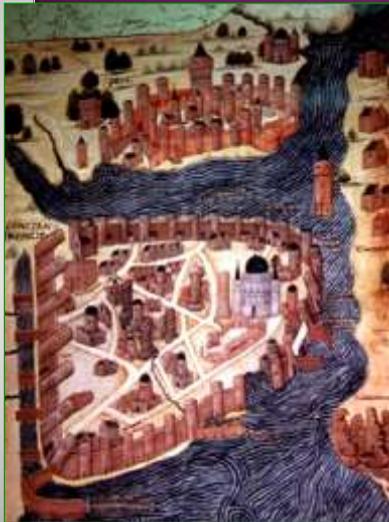


VIDEO ON MEHMET II (10:45 MIN)



Prompt: How did Mehmet earn the name “the conqueror?” How did he capture Constantinople, thereby defeating the Byzantine Empire, and change the city into an Islamic center?

Called the "Golden Horn" – 15c map



"Golden Horn" Today



Sunset on the "Golden Horn"



The Fall of Constantinople: 1453



EUROPEANS VS. TURKS



THE END OF THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE



The Muslims changed the European names of important sites to Islamic names. Constantinople was renamed to

The Ottoman Capital – Constantinople becomes Istanbul



Hagia Sophia

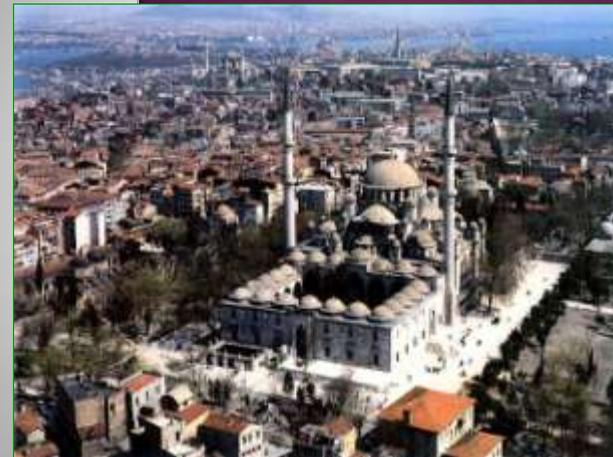


Hagia Sophia --The once Orthodox Christian church is transi mosque by the Muslim conquerors.

Hagia Sophia - interior



Faith Mosque



VIDEO: "BYZANTIUM" (51:34 MINUTES)

- VIDEO INTRODUCTION:** Rome fell in 476, but the empire moved east and lasted another thousand years. Part one of Byzantium describes how Constantine, a Christian convert, moved the center of power to this former Greek city and made it the glory of the Christian world. Part two examines the legacy of Byzantium, conquered by the Ottomans in 1453. You'll learn how Byzantine refugees helped spark the Renaissance by bringing classic Greek and Roman texts back from the East.

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

- List and discuss the most impressive and beautiful accomplishments of the Byzantine Empire.
- One thousand years is a really long time for a civilization to last. The United States civilization is about 300 years old. Do you think we'll make it to 1,000? Why or why not? What will be considered our crowning achievements?
- Compare the power of Roman and Byzantine emperors to current international political leaders. Be sure to consider different forms of government and the routes to power available to 20th century heads of state. Make sure to note their similarities and differences.
- Explain why certain cities are associated with specific architectural structures. List international capitals and choose one symbolic structure for each. Be prepared to defend your choices.
- Brainstorm and discuss reasons underlying the fall of the Byzantine Empire.
- Analyze the decision of Mehmet II to convert St. Sophia into a mosque after his conquest of Constantinople. What other options did he have?



CONTRIBUTION TO WESTERN CIVILIZATION

- Throughout the early Middle Ages, the Byzantine Empire remained a **protective barrier** between western Europe and hostile Persian, Arab, and Turkish armies.
- The Byzantines were also a **major conduit of classical learning and science** into the West down to the Renaissance. While western Europeans were fumbling to create a culture of their own, the cities of the Byzantine Empire provided them a **model of a civilized society**.

THE RELIGIOUS ART OF BYZANTIUM

- ◉ Intellectual, idealistic, schematic, with restrained colors and reserved form.
- ◉ Realism is rare and undesirable
- ◉ The objective is the spiritual elevation of the believer



THE LITERATURE OF BYZANTIUM

- ◉ 4th-5th century:
- ◉ Still within the boundaries of Classical Literature.
- ◉ Authors:
 - Basil
 - Gregory Nazianzenos
 - Gregory of Nyssa
 - John Chrysostom
 - Athanasius

