

# **THE FALL OF ROME AND THE BEGINNING OF THE MIDDLE AGES**

## **Fall of the Roman Empire**

- Rome was the most powerful empire the world had ever seen.
- Its architecture was \_\_\_\_\_ and its \_\_\_\_\_ was as impressive as that of the \_\_\_\_\_ in South America.

## **Roman Legal Accomplishments**

- Rome had a \_\_\_\_\_ sometimes
- Rome had a \_\_\_\_\_ where patricians could represent people.

## **Rule of Law**

- It means \_\_\_\_\_, not the king, not the senate, not the people, not the police.
- Laws are \_\_\_\_\_ down and must be respected.

## **Disease led to its Fall Bubonic Plague → “Black Plague”**

- It was called the Black Plague because of the dark spots found on its victims.
- Coffins were rare, most of the dead were buried in mass graves!
- Why was Rome so affected by the Plague?

## **Fall of Rome**

- Rome was besieged by various \_\_\_\_\_ tribes from modern day \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Although the fall of the Roman Empire did not happen overnight, many consider its fall the beginning of the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Major Eras of European History**

- \_\_\_\_\_ → (Greece & Rome) 500 BC- 600 AD
- \_\_\_\_\_ → (time of knights and castles) 500 AD-1500AD
- \_\_\_\_\_ → (time of powerful kings and exploration) 1500 AD-1776 AD

## **The Middle Ages were a Dangerous Time in Europe**

- The strong empires of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that protected \_\_\_\_\_ and encouraged science and personal liberties were fading away.
- The Roman Empire not only had to fight the plague but fight invaders from \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Genghis Kahn—Mongolian warrior leader of the Mongols & Vikings

## **No More Large Cities, Trade or Scholarship**

- With all the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ people fled the cities of the once strong Roman Empire.
- In Europe, people now lived on \_\_\_\_\_, self-sufficient communities consisting of a castle, church, village and surrounding farmland.

## **Feudalism (political system)**

- The \_\_\_\_\_ had lots of land; he gave land to lords in exchange for protection and money.
- \_\_\_\_\_ gave their land to knights in exchange for protection and money
- \_\_\_\_\_ let \_\_\_\_\_ work the land and he would protect them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ got food and shelter.
- \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Magna Carta**

- Signed in \_\_\_\_\_
- Example of \_\_\_\_\_
- English \_\_\_\_\_ was a bad king so his nobles forced him to sign it.
- \_\_\_\_\_.

## **There are 2 Wars you need to Know about:**

1. **Battle of Hastings 1066** → in \_\_\_\_\_ England was invaded by \_\_\_\_\_ (Vikings from modern-day \_\_\_\_\_) and conquered all of England).  
\_\_\_\_\_ helped make England what it is today and codified feudalism (gave it the force of law).
2. **Crusades** → The \_\_\_\_\_ were a series of battles between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Middle East (specifically over control of \_\_\_\_\_).  
Christian knights wanted to take the \_\_\_\_\_ and give it back to Christians.  
Why was Constantinople so important geographically?

## **Crusades**

- Thousands of knights and “barbarian” soldiers united under Christianity and attacked Muslims and Jews in Turkey and Jerusalem to gain the land for Christians.

## **Impact of the Crusades**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- Economic development via \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ gained power as a result.

## **Role of Church in Middle Ages**

- Never was there a time when the Church was more powerful in \_\_\_\_\_.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ was led by \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ converted and gave care to people.

## **Role of Church**

- \_\_\_\_\_ were spiritual leaders. They lived in \_\_\_\_\_ that acted like trade schools and YMCAs of today. They spent years \_\_\_\_\_ the Bible since the \_\_\_\_\_ wasn't used in Europe yet.
- Since there were no strong empires or kingdoms the \_\_\_\_\_ was one organization that had respect and power.
- \_\_\_\_\_ were more powerful than kings!

## **Important Middle Ages Technologies**

- Water Wheel
- Eyeglasses
- Mechanical Clock
- Printing
- Gunpowder

## **Summary**

- The Roman Empire fell due to outside attacks and disease (brought on by trade)
- The Middle Ages began as the Church replaced governments as the central authority.
- Feudalism/manorialism came from people's need for protection. Each member had rights and responsibilities.
- Cultures interact through wars, such as the Crusades, and trade ideas such as democratic ideas or religious ideas.