Byzantine Empire

TIME: 295-1453
PLACE: Byzantine Empire (eastern half of Roman Empire)
CONCEPTS: civilization, urban, scholarships

What is the importance of the Byzantine Empire in medieval Europe?

centered at Constantinople
preserved philosophical and scientific texts of the Greco-Roman world

Emperor Justinian: (and his best general Belisarius)
527-565
gets a lot of land but can’t hold onto it
his conquests exhausted resources, destroyed Italy’s economy, killed large parts of the population (disastrous effects)
left Constantinople weaker than ever

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good emperor but ^^

Slavs: Indo-Europeans that took over the Balkin Peninsula
Arabs also took over huge chunks of territory

The Byzantine people are famous for their icons (religious images of people)
• some thought of this as idolatry

Empress Theodora: after the Nika Rebellion Justinian got scared from all the revolts and wanted to run away but Theodora told him it’s better to deal with it than leave (shames him into staying)

• In every city the population is divided into blue and green — “gangs” (colors of the teams they supported in chariot race that ultimately ended up splitting them — they hated each other without knowing why)

Justinian Code: 529 (very needed — can’t manage an empire without an extensive legal code)
Justinian created a committee of jurists/legal scholars to sort through and organize the laws —
turned it into 1 uniformed code of law

4 works: code = 5,000 Roman laws
digest = codified Roman legal thought in 50 volumes
institutes = told students how to use law (textbook)
novellas = new laws passed after 534

• divided the answers to legal questions that regulated areas of Byzantine life
becomes a center of trade & pilgrimage — people set up stalls outside the ka’aba at times when people would travel there

Muhammad: born in 570 into a powerful Meccan Clan — Insider no proper education, (illiterate) but smart — Outsider (no written tradition because they were all moving around together so they didn’t need it) trader & business manager for a woman named Kadijah and married her (she was his 1st convert) doesn’t like polytheism — wants a religion that speaks directly to him

610: receives a revelation in a cave
• angel Gabriel told him to proclaim one God: Allah
• Muhammad adopted monotheism and preached ISLAM publicly Islam appealed to the poor (less fortunate) not the wealthy
Umayyad Clan: detractors of Islam

Muhammad got a hard time from tribal leaders — 622: Muhammad flees Mecca to Yathrib (Medina)
^^ this is known as Hijrah (start of Muslim calendar)
• very successful in Medina — people kept converting (religious leader)
• Mecca started wars with him — he was a powerful general (military leader)
• also a very successful political leader

630: regained power in Mecca — rededicated the Ka’aba to Allah gained control of Hijaz (Mecca, Medina, and everything in between)
died in 632
• hard to find a new leader bc Muhammad had no son, only a daughter (Fatima) who married Muhammad’s cousin Ali
• hard to live up to Muhammad

Beliefs of Islam: (descendants of Yishmael) heavily influenced by Judaism
Community called Umma individual relationship with God = important
Ulema: scholarly class that interprets law

Learnings: Holy book = Quran (not originally written down bc when angel Gabriel told him the Quran he couldn’t write b/c he was illiterate)
oral law = Hadith
prophet’s guide to proper practice, thought, and behavior = Sunna
Sharia = Muslim religious law that united a person’s entire life (religious + ordinary activities)

Five Pillars: fundamentals of the religion that everyone knows

Faith: believe that there is one God and Muhammad is his prophet

Prayer: pray 5 times a day (Salat) direction you pray = Qibla (direction of Mecca, if in Mecca face the Ka’aba)
Feudalism evolved because there was no central government… it came from chaos!!
• everything was personal
• fighting
• local
• NO written codes
• NOT based on institutions
• loyalty to individuals

743-1000: Vikings began attacking and raiding Europe
these raids led to further decentralization and made people more reliant on their lords

Society kept on becoming more local, personal, and dependent on nobles

manor: lord’s estate
Manorialism: economic side of feudalism

Chivalry

TIME: High Middle Ages
PLACE: Western Europe
CONCEPTS: code, loyalty, honor, control

How was the code of chivalry designed to keep order in Western Europe?

medieval warriors descended from the Germanic tribes who overran the Roman Empire

FIGHTING was the chief value and most honorable pursuit among the warriors
• fought on horseback
• income came from fiefs

Chivalry: a code of behavior for knights
• knights must protect the weak & defenseless (along with the powerful)
• fight for the general honor of all people
• obey 3 masters:
  heavenly lord (God)
  earthly lord (Lord who gave him land)
  lady love (the woman he wanted but could never get)

Training to become a knight began at age 7:
boys would be sent to another noble’s house and was known as a page (watched other knights)

age 14: became a squire — servant to the knight (cared for the knight’s horse, armor, weapons, and accompanied the knight to battle)

age 21: became a KNIGHT! (warrior with all the responsibilities and needed to be a vassal to a new lord)
• so many contradicting images and thoughts in chivalry
Capetian Dynasty Rules France

TIME: 987-1328
PLACE: France
CONCEPTS: dynasty, centralization, authority

How did Capetian kings expand their power?

nobles basically ruled France — French kings have little true authority and power (counts — nobles who ruled over counties & dukes ruled under the feudal system)

1000: France was divided into 30 feudal territories
987: Louis the Sluggard the last Carolingian king died (no descendants)
Hugh Capet (a duke) succeeded him & founded the Capetian Dynasty (one of the most powerful French dynasties)
• started out very weak but then became very powerful
• small area but had Paris (river seine, good for communications and trade)
• also ruled over area of France’s patron saint = St. Denis (now also Joan of Arc) — used it to gain power

Philip Augustus (II): 1180-1223
son of Louis VII
began the work of unifying France
took the land from John Lackland
master of Northern France
1204: Normandy fell to the French (after John refused to swear loyalty to the French)
• King of France was now the strongest — nobles couldn’t succeed in challenging his authority

Philip wanted to centralize things:
Royal Agents (ballifs): middle class people sent from Paris to province’s as the kings official representatives (authority to act for him)
royal interests > local interests

Louis IX (Louis the Pious): 1226-1270
concern for justice — created a royal judicial system
strengthened the central authority
Parlement de Paris = heard appeals from local administrators and courts of feudal lords in France (later allowed to register the laws — approve the King’s laws)

Philip the Fair (Philip IV): wanted to raise tax in order to go to war with England
Estates General = parliament in France
representatives of all estates gathered together
rarely called together — more power, less $ for king
taxed 3rd estate more heavily

Jewish-Christian Relations
Absolutism — Spain

TIME: 16th-17th centuries
PLACE: Spain & her colonies
CONCEPTS: absolutism, colonialism

Why did Spain’s wealth ultimately undermine its empire?

Charles V: monarch of empire (as far as Austria and Spain)
Holy Roman Emperor
Ferdinand & Isabella’s grandson
big believer in aggressively fighting for Catholicism (devout Catholic)

In 1556 he retired to a monastery and divided his empire:
- Austria and Holy Roman Empire (Central and Eastern Europe) to his brother Ferdinand
- Spain, Spanish Netherlands, and American colonies to his son Philip II

Phillip will marry Queen Mary I (his 1st cousin once removed)

Philip II’s Empire: aggressively enlarged his empire
- got Portugal after their king died & claimed all their imperial possessions
world spanning empire
great wealth
large standing army!! — augments power (50,000 soldiers)
used to…

Defend Catholicism: defended Europe against any non-Catholics
imposed Catholicism everywhere (Philip followed in his family’s footsteps)
- sent a fleet that defeated the Ottomans at Lepanto in 1571
- prosecuted the Inquisition in Spain
- Civil war with the Netherlands (the Netherlands wanted to break off)
- 1588: Spanish Armada — ships sent to England (bc they were Protestant)
**Seven Years War:** Maria made an alliance with France (Hapsburg’s enemies)
Frederick made an alliance with Britain
**Austria, France, Russia VS Prussia & Great Britain**
every European nation was embroiled in it
Prussia emerged as 1 of the great powers of Europe and got the reputation of having the best soldiers

**Parliament Limits the Monarchy**

**TIME:** 1625-1689  
**PLACE:** England  
**CONCEPTS:** absolutism, constitution

**What transformation undergo between 1625 & 1689?**

BG: When Elizabeth died in 1603 with no heir, James VI of Scotland (King James I) inherited the throne — this began the Stuart Dynasty

Any ruler who succeeded Elizabeth would have an issue with Parliament
• she had a problem w $ & Parliament wouldn’t help pay her expenses

Parliament was changing:
dissolution of monarchies & sale of monastic land made men rich  
new agriculture techniques enriched land owners  
people invested successfully in business ventures  
^^ led to SOCIAL MOBILITY
Parliament was united — 1 national group  
many people in Parliament were lawyers and distrusted absolutism  
members of Parliament were Puritan
• don’t like the fancy trappings that Elizabeth left in the Anglican Church — thought they were too papist

A wise understanding Monarch was needed to make everything work. Someone who understood Parliament and English customs, a good negotiator, and commanded respect. They got James Stuart
• foreigner — Scot  
• lacked the touch for dealing with English  
• ABSOLUTIST  
• lectured Parliament on royal rights  
• wrote a book called The Trew Law of Free Monarchy  
(free meaning from control of Parliament, churchmen, laws, or customs)  
• thought he was above all others  
• declared the divine right of kings (kings drew authority from God so were only responsible to God)

**Charles I:** James’ son  
Absolutist  
High Church Anglican (appointed a new archbishop & married a Catholic)
Test Act 1673: someone had to receive communion in the Anglican Church if they wanted to hold public office, teach, preach, or attend university

Charles would summon frequent Parliaments and they would give him enough money

1670: Charles entered into a secret agreement with his cousin Louis XIV (Louis would give Charles 200,000 pounds per year, in exchange for Charles relaxing laws against Catholics, gradually re-Catholicized England, supported the French against the Dutch, and converted to Catholicism himself)

when this got out a great wave of anti-Catholic fear swept England

Charles had no heir, so his younger brother James II took the throne (already converted to Catholicism and was open about it)

• James appointed Roman Catholics to positions in the army, the universities, and local government
• suspended the law and reviving the absolutism of his father and grandfather
• issued the Declaration of Indulgence, giving religious freedom to ALL!!

A group of leaders of Parliament from both parties invited James' Protestant daughter Mary, and her husband William, the Prince of Orange (basically king of Netherlands but they had no king) to be joint monarchs of England

In November 1688 William and his army landed in England
December 1688: James fled with his family and went to live in France

GLORIOUS REVOLUTION

Feb. 1689: Mary and William summoned a free Parliament and were declared joint sovereigns their sovereignty depended on their contract with Parliament: the English Bill of Rights which stated:
• King couldn't be a Roman Catholic
• A standing army in a time of peace without Parliament’s approval was illegal
• Taxation without Parliament’s consent was illegal
• Excessive bail and cruel and unusual punishments were prohibited
• Trial by jury was guaranteed
• Free elections to Parliament were held

established the principle of constitutional (limited) monarchy

18th century: the cabinet (a group of ministers from the majority party in Parliament who acted as executive agents for the king) was a vital link between the monarch and elected reps

the idea that the executive needed to be limited, and that a representative body was the key to government, were very important principles established at this time

Scientific Revolution
discovered the moons of Jupiter using the telescope

conducted experiments relating the movement of objects and math (necessary to describe that movement)
defended his discoveries and mocked his opponents
church forced him to recant his views

**Scientific Method:** merged experimentalism & deductive reasoning
observation, charting, testing hypotheses, re-evaluating
rigorously test & repeat tests many times

**Francis Bacon:** 1561-1626
Englishman
wrote *Advancement of Learning*
advocate of experimental approaches
formalized empiricism (used **inductive reasoning**)

**Rene Descartes:** 1596-1650
Frenchman
scientific laws can be found through **deductive reasoning**
formulated analytic geometry
“I think therefore I am”

1662: English Royalty Society
1675: Royal Observatory at Greenwich

**Sir Isaac Newton:** 1642-1727
taught math at Cambridge
president of Royal Society for 25 yrs
focused on astronomy
**principle of universal gravitation:** 2 parties attract each other with forces directly proportional to the product of their masses divided by the square of the distance between them

**tools of science:** microscope, telescope, thermometers, barometers
developed between 1590 & 1742

**developments in medicine:**

**Andreas Vesalius** (flemish doctor)
did his own dissections and found nothing that resembled what Galen said
De Humanis Corpus Fabrica (fabric of the human body — said animals and humans weren’t the same)
^ published the same year as Copernicus’ revolution (1543)

**William Harvey:** found out that the heart was a pump that circulated blood through the body (disproving Galen)
used 🐸 to figure this out