

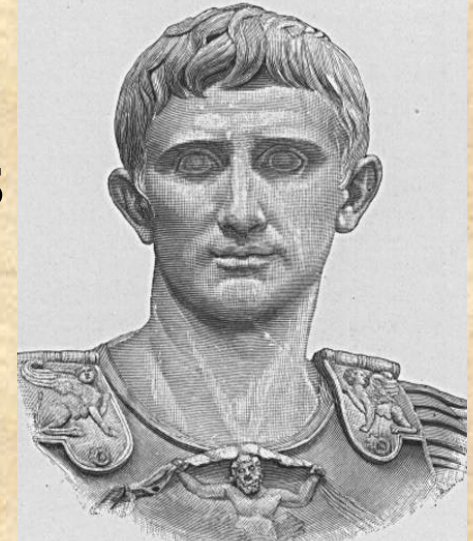
# The Roman Empire



# Caesar Augustus

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- 63 BC-14 AD
- Octavian was winner of 18 years civil war
- Designated heir of Julius Caesar
- Was of the family of Caesar (adopted) so he took the name Caesar
- Given the name Augustus by the Senate



# Caesar Augustus

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- Beginning the Empire
  - Marked by the reign of Octavian
  - Returned to principles of the republic (in theory)
  - **But, created important changes to make it work**
    - Senate received power of nominal governing
    - Allowed free elections
    - Accepted title "*princeps civitatis*" or first citizen ("prince")
      - Initially offered to retire to private life
    - Held a variety of jobs but ruled effectively regardless of position
      - ***Auctoritas* = prestige, power from trust, influence**
      - Who else has had this kind of power?
      - How does a leader get this kind of power?



# Caesar Augustus

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- Beginning the Empire
  - Augustinian Code
    - Roman Law was rewritten and solidified
    - Basis of western laws today
    - Equity
  - Honest government
  - Added to the road system
    - 53,000 miles of paved roads
  - Postal system and other city infrastructure
  - Standard currency system
  - Improved harbors



# Caesar Augustus

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- Military

- Reduced the size but created a permanent army

- Territorial expansion

- Purpose: to consolidate boundaries, ensure peace

- Generalship given to loyalists—Agrippa and Tiberius

- German defeat/consolidation (Herman the German)

- Central Europe and the Balkans expansion

- Spain consolidation

- Africa, annexation of Egypt

- *Pax Romana*

- 60 million people in peace for more than 400 years





# Caesar Augustus

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- Worship of  
    “Roma et Augustus”
  - Allowed the east and west  
    unity of worship (each in  
    their own way)
  - Didn't push worship so as to  
    not alienate local worship



# Caesar Augustus

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- Succession
  - No male heir
  - Adopted nephew, Tiberius
  - Smooth transition of leadership
  - Stable leadership despite inept emperors
- Tiberius took the title "emperor" and all successors did the same
- Succession was a problem for the entire time of the empire

# Principal Roman Emperors

Augustus	27 B.C. – A.D. 14	} Julio-Claudians
Tiberius	14 – 37	
Gaius (Caligula)	37 – 41	
Claudius	41 – 54	
Nero	54 – 68	
Year of the Four Emperors	69	
Vespasian	69 – 79	} Flavians
Titus	79 – 81	
Domitian	81 – 96	
Nerva	96 – 98	} Adoptive Emperors
Trajan	98 – 117	
Hadrian	117 – 138	
Antoninus Pius	138 – 161	
Marcus Aurelius	161 – 180	
Commodus	180 – 193	
Septimius Severus	193 – 211	
Alexander Severus	222 – 235	
Decius	249 – 251	
Diocletian	284 – 305	
Constantine	306 – 337	



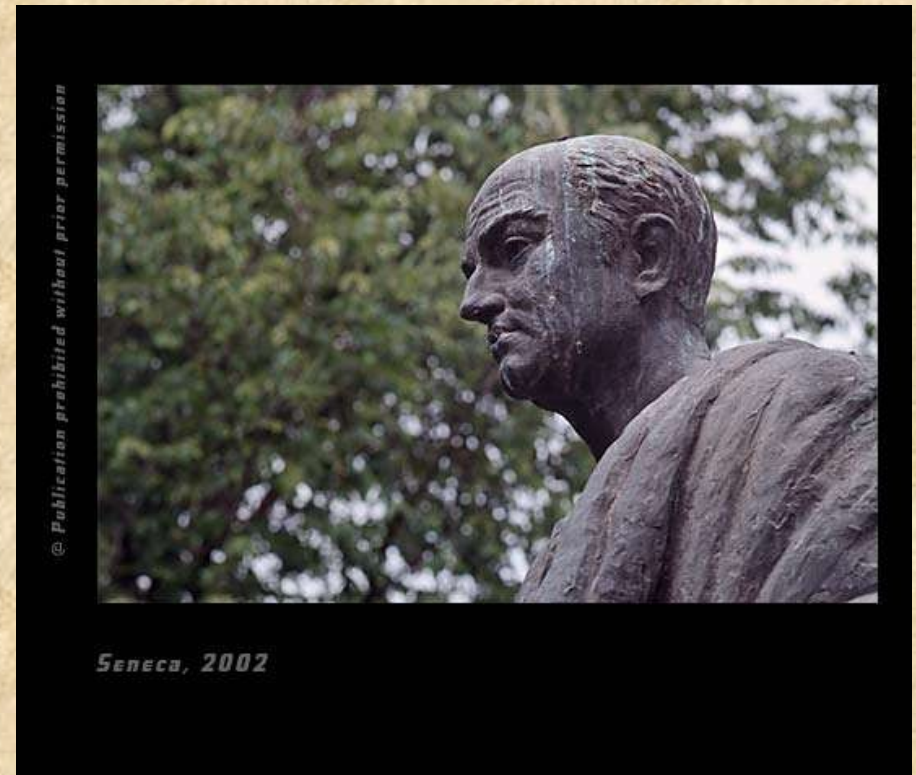
# Julio-Claudians

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- Emperors who succeeded Caesar for 50 years
- Tiberius
  - Ruled well if somewhat ineffective
  - Retired due to opposition
- Caligula
  - Insane
  - Killed by troops
- Claudius
  - Good administrator
  - Uncomfortable around people (lame and stuttered)
- Nero
  - Mother killed Claudius for Nero
  - Nero killed his mother
  - Seneca and Burrus (advisors, died from Nero pressure)
  - Revolt and burning of the city
  - Committed suicide

# Seneca — Roman Stoic philosopher and statesman

“Avoid shabby attire, long hair, an unkempt beard, an outspoken dislike for comfortable furnishings, and all other misguided and childish means of self-advertisement.”



“It is not the man who has too little who is poor. It is the one who relentlessly hankers after more. What difference does it make how much is laid away in a man’s safe or in his barns, or how much capital he puts out at interest, if he is only after what he doesn’t have and only counts what he has yet to acquire, never what he already has.”

– Seneca



# The Golden Age (100-180AD)

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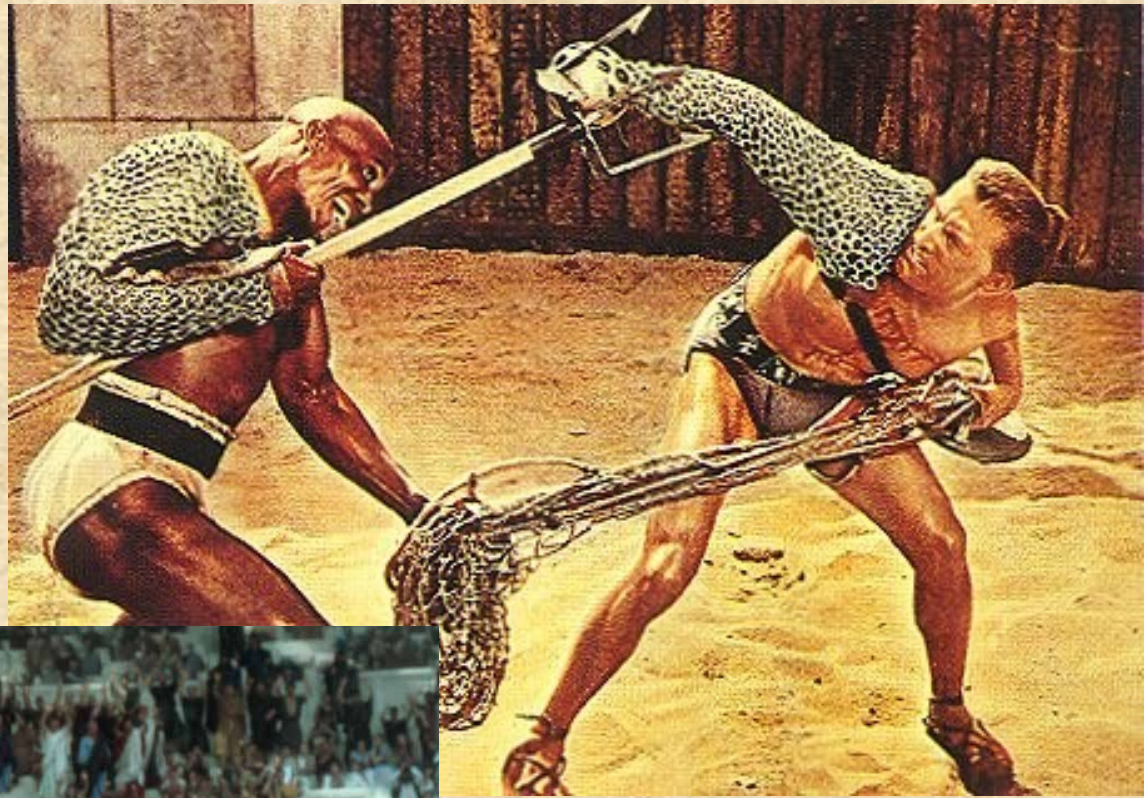
- Life in the Golden Age (Pax Romana)
  - Rome was largest city in the ancient world
  - Extravagant entertainment
  - Prosperity through trade and population expansion
- After the Golden Age
  - Good and bad emperors
    - Unsited for governance
    - Many boy emperors



*Gladiator*



Spartacus  
(Kirk Douglas)



Gladiator  
(Russell Crowe)

# Third Century Disaster

- Near collapse of the empire
  - Military-oriented emperors
  - Threat from consolidated Germans
  - 24 emperors and 24 claimants/usurpers
    - 45 killed by assassination (usually by their own troops)
    - 1 died in battle
    - 1 died in captivity
    - 1 died of plague
  - Name of a Caesar reflects self-importance



“Emperor Caesar Galerius Valerius Maximianus Invictus Augustus, Pontifex Maximum, Germanicus Maximus, Egyptiacus Maximus, Thebaicus Maximus, Sarmaticus Maximus five times, Persicus Maximus twice, Carpicus Maximus, Holder of Tribunician Authority for the twentieth time, Imperator for the nineteenth, Consul for the eighth, Pater Patriae, Proconsul.”

# Diocletian

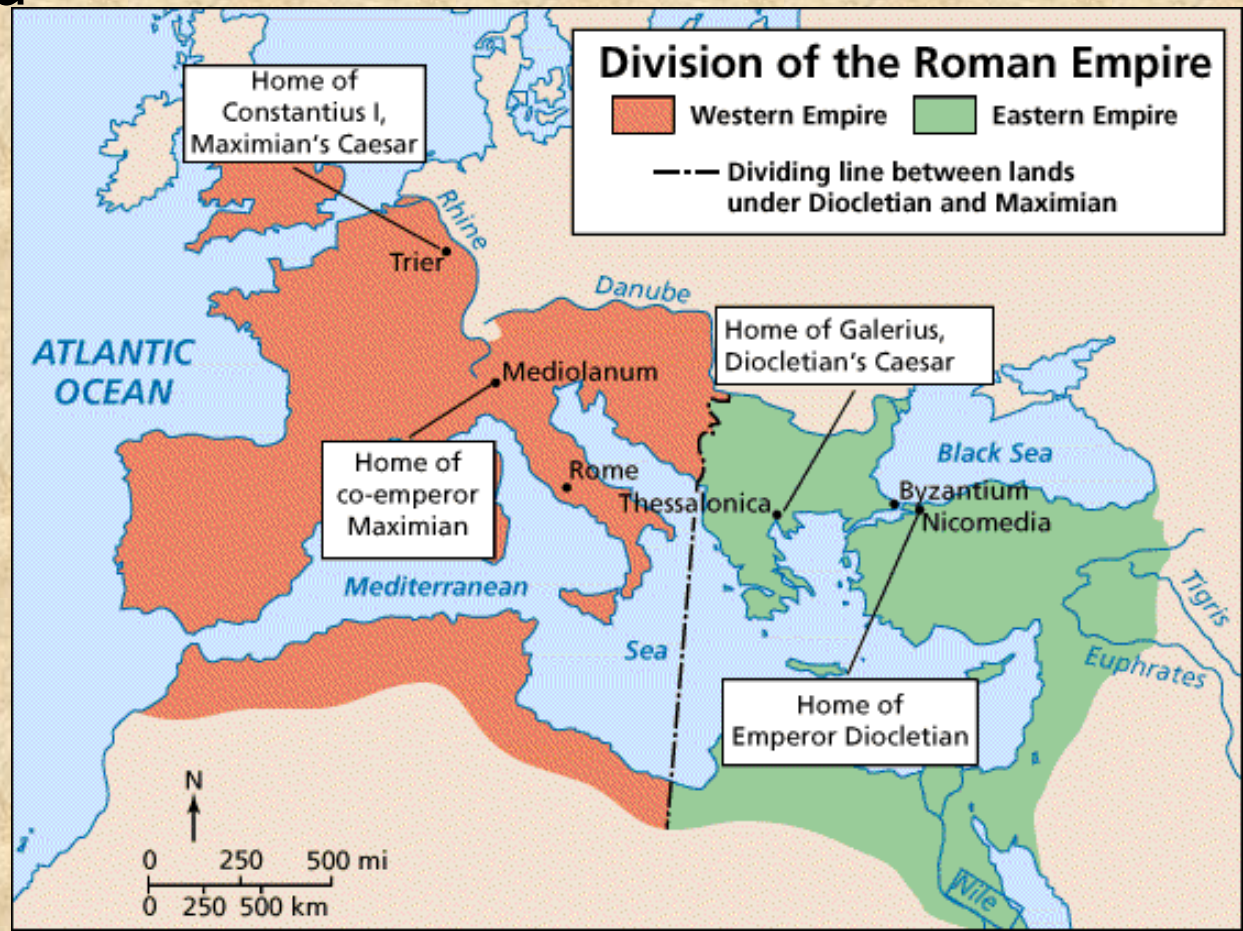
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- 284-305 AD
- Ruled by decree
  - Stabilized the empire
  - Strong general with army support
  - Imposed will on governmental agencies
  - Unity
    - Worship of emperor as a mark of loyalty
    - Persecution of the Christians
      - About non-participation and separateness
      - Not about beliefs



# Diocletian

- Divided the empire for better administration
  - Tetrarchy (2 Augusti, 2 Caesars)
  - Diocletian retired, forced Maximian to retire
  - Chaos followed

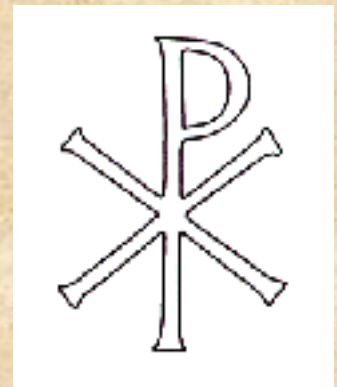
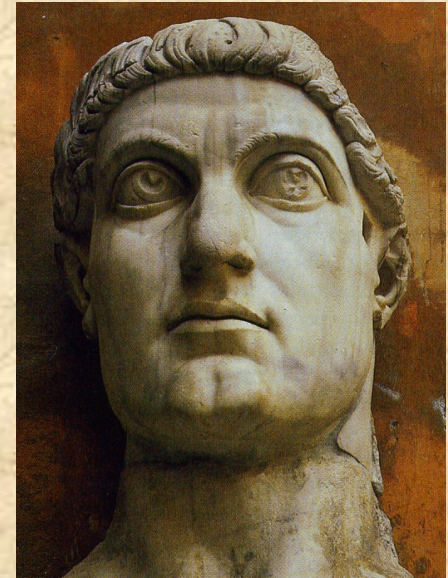




# Constantine

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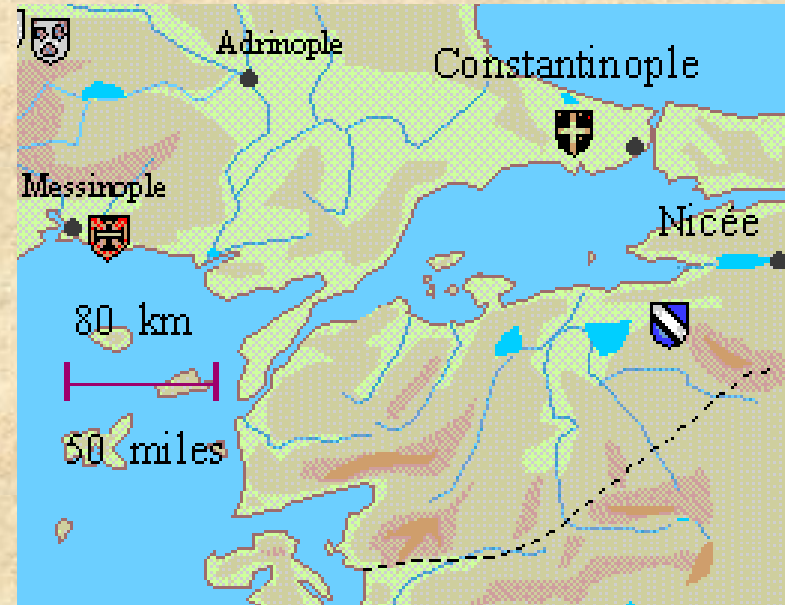
- 306-337 AD
- Constantine's father succeeded Maximian as Augustus
- Succeeded his father as Caesar
- Became 1 of 7 claimants for control
- Fought wars to decide emperor
  - Vision of a burning Christian symbol (chi-rho)
  - United the troops and gave them courage that "a god" wanted them to win (most were pagans and accepted the protection of any god)



# Constantine

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- Constantinople
  - Built on Byzantium site
- Acceptance of Christianity
  - **Edict of Milan**
    - Eliminated religious contention
    - Supported Christian religions
      - St. Helena, churches
    - Supported pagan religions
      - Coins, inscriptions, built temples
  - Nicaean council (325 AD)
    - Sought to unify doctrine
    - Used imperial troops to suppress dissent among Christians (Donatists)
- Split empire into east/west



# Post-Constantine Period

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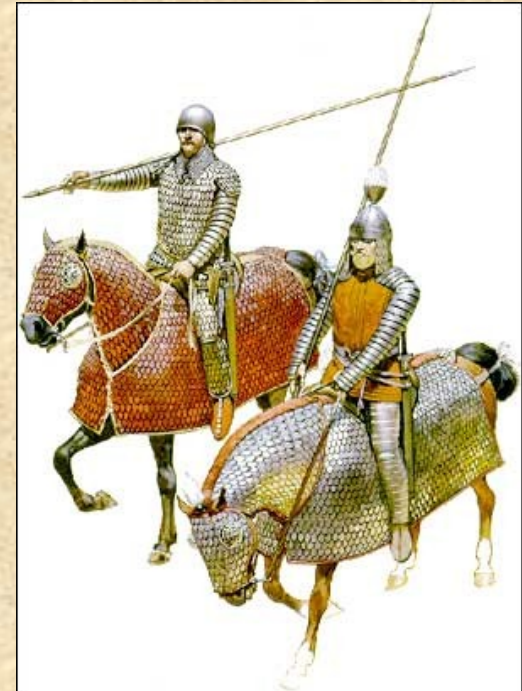
- Theodocius I
  - Strongest post-Constantine emperor
  - Instituted Christianity as state religion
  - Goths joined army to fight against Huns
  - Revolt in Thessalonica (7000 killed)
    - This was the first confrontation between the church and the state
    - Theodocius I forced to beg forgiveness (St. Ambrose)



# Post-Constantine Period

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- Ravenna
  - Rome full of crime, decayed morals
  - Capital moved to Ravenna
- Persians (Parthians)
  - Attacked eastern providence
  - Overran the local Roman army
  - Reinforcement moved to defend the east which weakened the west



# Post-Constantine Period

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- Huns
  - Central base in Hungary
  - Warriors feared by Romans and Germans
  - Attila—last leader
    - Invaded Gaul
  - Defeated in 451 AD by a combined army
  - Moved into Italy and defeated again
  - Withdrew to Hungary



# Post-Constantine Period

---

- Barbarians (illiterate and non-urban)
  - Settled in Roman territory after pressure from the Huns
  - Goths split into two groups
    - Ostrogoths—eastern Europe
    - Visigoths—moved to Dacia (Romania)
  - Allowed to live on Roman land
    - Barbarians compatible with Romans
    - Visigoths revolted after unfair taxing
    - Theodosius the Great bought off the Visigoths



# Fall of the Roman Empire

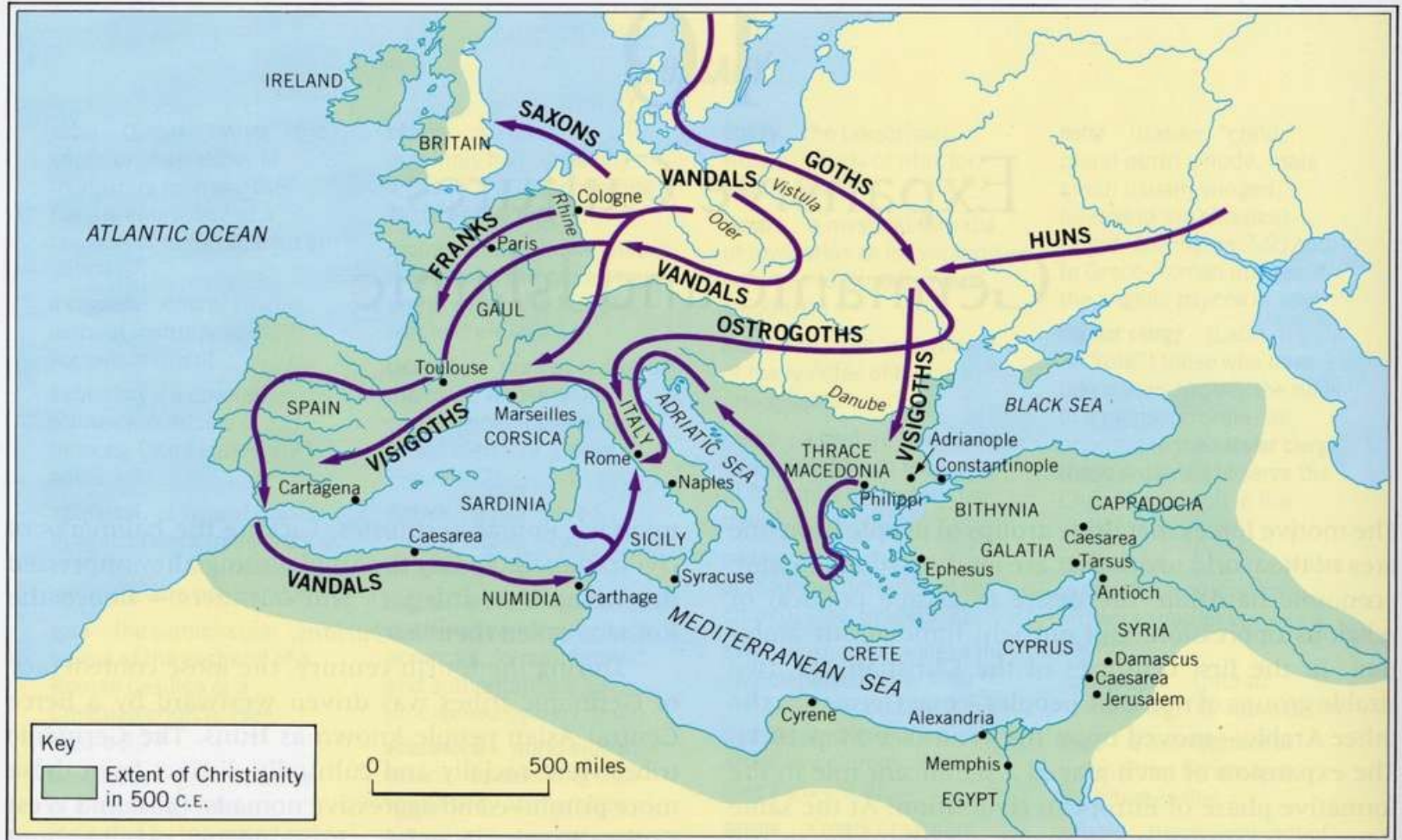
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- West had longer barbarian frontier
- Persians civilized and signed treaties
- East had money to pay off invaders
- Eastern boundaries easier to defend
- Constantinople a fortress city





# Barbarian Invasions



Map 10.1 The Early Christian World and the Barbarian Invasions, ca. 500 C.E.

# The End of Antiquity

- The fall of the Roman empire traditionally marks the end of the period of Antiquity
- Upcoming time periods
  - Middle Ages/Renaissance
  - Byzantine empire
  - Moslem empire



**Thank You**