

A dramatic painting depicting the fall of an empire. The scene is filled with fire and smoke, with a large crowd of people in the foreground. A prominent white statue of a figure holding a globe stands on a pedestal to the right. The background shows a city with classical architecture, including a large archway and a building with columns. The overall atmosphere is one of chaos and destruction.

**THE END OF AN
EMPIRE...**

(1)

TOO LARGE?

- Under Augustus, the Empire grew huge, he created a peace that lasted for over 200 years, called the **PAX ROMANA**
- Rome made lasting contributions in art, architecture, engineering, philosophy, and the spreading of Christianity
- By A.D. 117, the empire stretched from England to lands that today are part of **IRAQ**
- Rome controlled all the lands of the **MEDITERRANEAN**

(2)

- The great **SIZE** of Rome was one of the reasons that led to its downfall, it was too big to defend
- The empire was being attacked from outside, and inside the borders there was **POLITICAL** chaos, dishonesty, and civil wars
- The empire was beginning to **CRUMBLE**
- Social and economic problems faced the Roman citizens





*“Our history now
descends from a
kingdom of gold to
one of iron and
rust”*

-Dio Cassius-



**HOW DID THE SIZE OF THE
EMPIRE AFFECT IT?**

(3)



DIFFERENT PROBLEMS

- All Romans, of whatever culture, were required to pay **TAXES** and obey roman law
- People found this harder and harder to do, new leaders rose to power and fought each other in **CIVIL WARS**
- Many leaders claimed the throne only to be removed shortly after
- There were more than **60** leaders who called themselves emperor between A.D. 235 to A.D. 284, only 50 years!

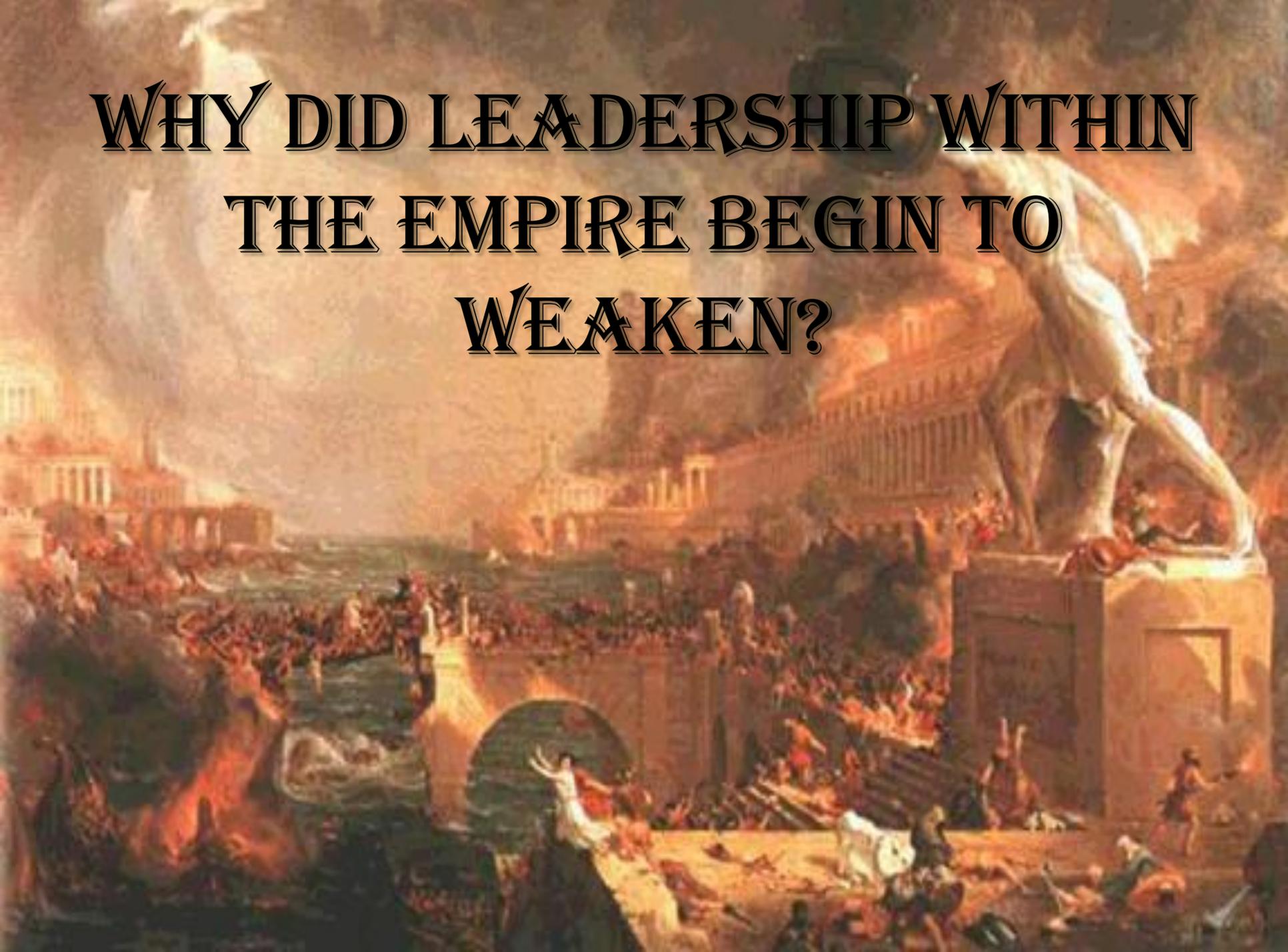


(4)

- Soldiers began to lose **LOYALTY** for their empire and have greater respect for their generals
- The generals did not always do what the emperors wanted
- The turmoil caused the empire to suffer, **TRADE** almost stopped, money lost **VALUE**



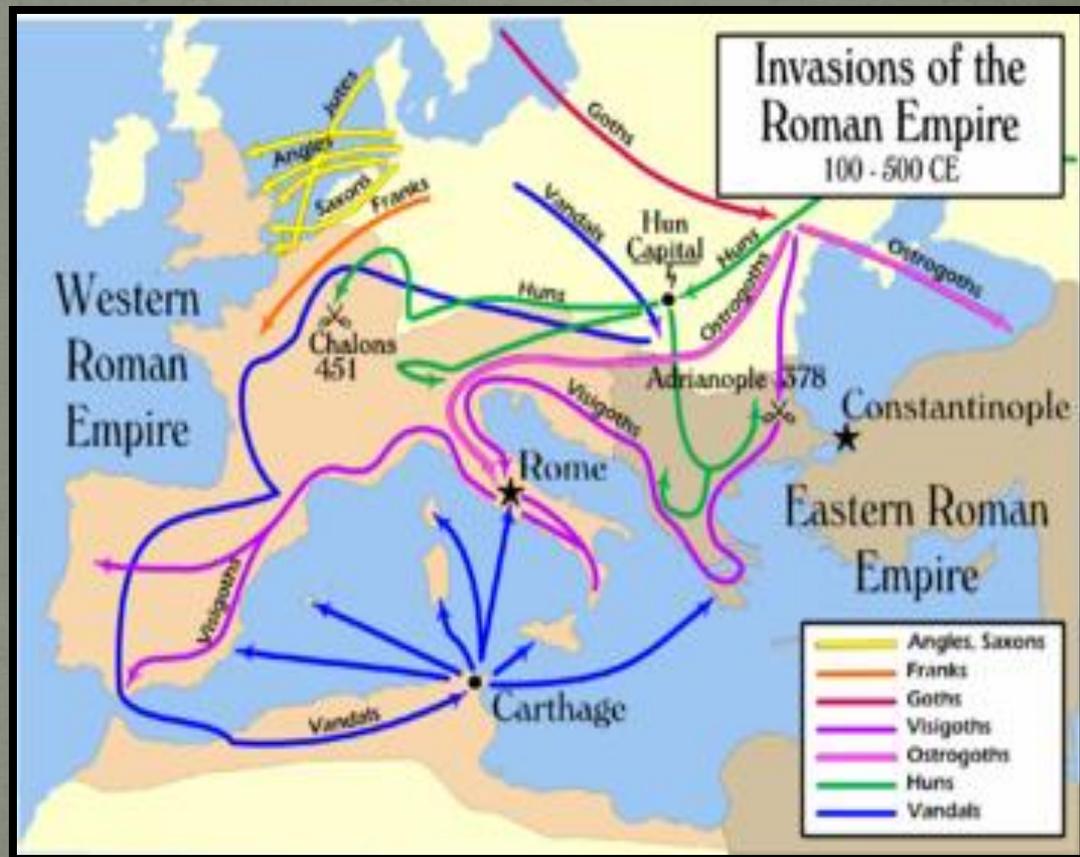
**WHY DID LEADERSHIP WITHIN
THE EMPIRE BEGIN TO
WEAKEN?**



(5)

ATTACKS...

- During the A.D. 200s, Rome was **THREATENED** from all sides
- Persians from the east, Africans from the south, and Germanic tribes from the north
- In A.D. 253, the emperor decided the empire was too large, he **DIVIDED** the kingdom into the Eastern half and the Western half, he and his son ruled the two empires
- The divided empire was even weaker than before, the **BERBERS** attacked from Africa, and Germanic tribes called the **GOTHS** attacked from the north



WHY WAS THE EMPIRE DIVIDED?



(6)

CHANGES IN LIFE

- The Roman border was 3,000 miles long, defending the land from invaders fell to the **PEOPLE** themselves
- The government collected taxes to pay the soldiers, many citizens could not pay, they left or sold their farms and began to **ROB** others, or joined the attacking **ENEMY** armies
- Rome gave citizenship to all the free people in the empire so they could collect more taxes
- This did not work and dishonest leaders started putting **WEALTHY** people in control

(7)

- Rome was not conquering any new **LANDS**, so they were not receiving any new money
- They started to make **CHEAPER** money, so the merchants raised their prices, causing inflation
- The rise of food prices caused even more problems for the poor
- Schools no longer had money to support them, so the public schools **CLOSED** down
- Once again, only the wealthy were able to attend school



(8)

- The wealthiest people fled the **CITIES**, poor people were leaving too
- The city life in Rome was now one of poverty, hunger, disease, and **CRIME**
- The glory of Rome was coming to an **END**



WHAT CAUSED THE ROMAN EMPIRE TO BECOME WEAK?



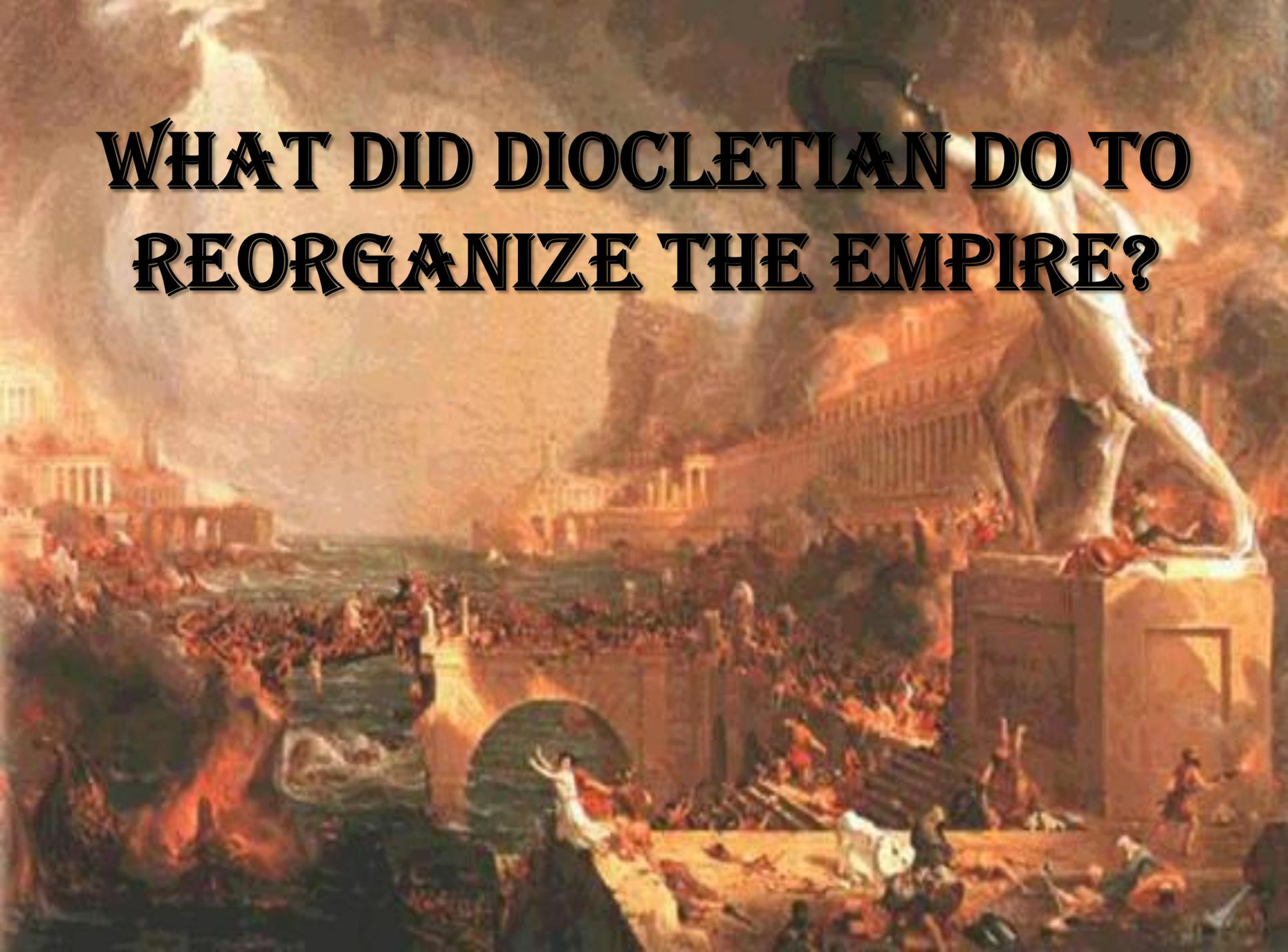
(9)

ROME DIVIDED

- Good times once again came to Rome when Emperor **DIOCLETIAN** took power
- He kept the empire divided, but appointed two generals for each half of the empire
- These four leaders were called the **RULE OF FOUR**
- The armies were now **STRONGER** and able to defend Rome
- Diocletian stopped the **INFLATION** by making money out of better metals and setting a price limit on food
- Constantine the Great would later reunite the whole empire



WHAT DID DIOCLETIAN DO TO REORGANIZE THE EMPIRE?



(10)

THE END OF THE WEST

- Constantine changed the capital from Rome to a city called **BYZANTIUM**
- The city was surrounded by water and well protected
- The city was renamed as **CONSTANTINOPLE**, today, this city is called **ISTANBUL**
- The empire again split in A.D. 395, the Eastern Empire continued to thrive, but the Western declined rapidly



(11)



Germanic tribes began to invade both empires, they were being driven out of their own lands by another group of people called the **HUNS**, from Asia

- Rome was captured by the Visigoths in A.D. 410, they were attacked again in A.D. 455 by a group called the Vandals
- In A.D. 476 Rome finally fell a Germanic chief named **ODOACER**
- This was the end of the Western Roman Empire

WHY WERE THE GERMANIC TRIBES INVADING ROME?



(12)

GERMANIC INFLUENCE

- Germanic tribes continued to take control of the **WESTERN** Roman Empire
- As more tribes took over, the Christian **CHURCH** thrived
- The church took care of the people and sent missionaries all over to spread the religion
- Many nations had **KINGS** that converted to Christianity, and their people converted as well

(13)



- As the old Roman empire began to crumble, the Christian church was the only **ORGANIZED** institution controlling Europe
- The bishops' power grew and the **POPE** had both political and religious power
- Because of the church, Roman culture was able to **SURVIVE**, even though their empire did not

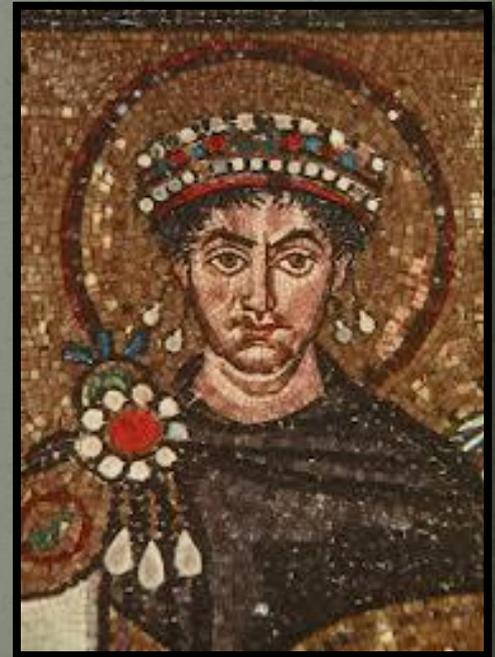
**WHY WAS THE POWER OF THE
CHURCH ABLE TO GROW IN
EUROPE?**



(14)

THE EASTERN EMPIRE

- The Eastern Roman Empire became known as the **BYZANTIUM** empire, this empire would last for another 1,000 years
- In A.D. 527, Justinian I took control of the Byzantium Empire, he and his wife, Theodora, made many changes to the Empire
- He gathered all the laws into one book
- He used money from trade to make the capital, Constantinople, a “**NEW ROME**”
- He built roads, aqueducts, and buildings





MARE
CANTABRICUM

FRANCI

LANGOBARDI

IMPERIUM ROMANUM

CHAZARI

ARABICI

PICTI

PONTUS EUXINUS

INDIA

20N

20

INDIANUM

The Byzantine Empire
JUSTINIAN THE GREAT
(527-566)

0 100 200 Miles

0

10E

20E

30E

40E

(15)

- Christianity was important in this new empire, but it was different than Christianity in the West
- The people in the Byzantium empire did not believe the church leaders should have the ultimate power, but that political power should remain with the **STATE**
- These differing ideas led to conflicts between the Christians in the Byzantium Empire, and Christians in the Germanic kingdoms

- (16)
- The Christian church eventually split in A.D. 1054
 - The church in the Byzantium Empire was called the **EASTERN ORTHODOX** church, based in Constantinople, the church in the Western Empire was called the **ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**, based in Rome.



WHAT CAUSED THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH TO SPLIT?



THE END

A dramatic painting depicting a city in flames. The scene is filled with a large crowd of people, some running and some standing. In the foreground, a large statue of a man on a horse stands on a pedestal. The background shows a city with many buildings, some of which are on fire. The sky is filled with smoke and fire. The overall color palette is dominated by warm, fiery tones of orange, red, and yellow.

- Power Point created by James Reese, 2013
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