

12/02 Monday

**Overview of the Geography, Religion,
Achievements, Political, Economics, and
Social characteristics of Rome**

HW: Finish AR-2 GRAPES for ROME

+

Quiz on Friday AR-1-4/5



What do you observe in this painting? What does this scene tell us about the Roman Empire?

Geography



The city of Rome was protected by seven hills surrounding it. The Tyber River allowed for access to the Mediterranean Sea and trade. Apennine Mountains that ran through the center of the Italian peninsula. Rich farmland lay to the south and the Alps mountains to the north.



Geography and History

The Etruscans ruled over the Romans from the 650s to 509 BCE. They built up Rome from a village to a major city. In 509 BCE the Romans rebelled and governed

Religion: Legend of the Founding of Rome



Legend has it that twin brothers, Romulus and Remus founded the city -According to the tale, the twins' mother was a Latin woman and their father was the war god Mars. They were abandoned and raised by wolves.

-This led Romans to believe that they had a divine origin

Latins: group that founded Rome in 753 BCE

Roman Religion

- Polytheistic: belief in more than one god
- Absorbed gods of others...including the **Greeks**.

Most important Roman gods/goddesses were:

- Jupiter (father of gods) from the Greek Zeus,
- Juno (watched over women) from Hera, &
- Minerva (goddess of wisdom +arts) from Athena

Over time, they worshiped their **emperors**, which became part of the official religion of Rome. Christians and Jews refused to worship the emperor and were persecuted for this.

RELIGION

Augustus Caesar was elevated to a god after his death. This sculpture shows the 'crowning' of Augustus as Jupiter – King of the Gods. His adopted son, Tiberius, holds a lance and steps out of the chariot on the left, ready to be the next Emperor.



AN

**The heroic theme and action of
Classical Greek Art + the Roman
realistic depiction of historical events**



Temple of Athena Nike
Classical Greek



Temple of Portunus
Rome, Italy - 75 BCE

ACHIEVEMENTS:

Legion: 6,000 man Roman army division made of citizens committed to their republic (representative democracy)



ACHIEVEMENTS: The Romans fought Carthage (North African Empire) in the western Mediterranean to control the Mediterranean Sea in the Punic Wars (264-146 BCE). Rome finally won.



ACHIEVEMENTS:

Hannibal: Carthage's Commander

crossing the Alps in
the **Second Punic
War 218-203 BCE.**

He occupied the
Italian Peninsula for
15 years was finally
forced to leave.

Later, he was
crushed by the
Romans defending
the city of Carthage

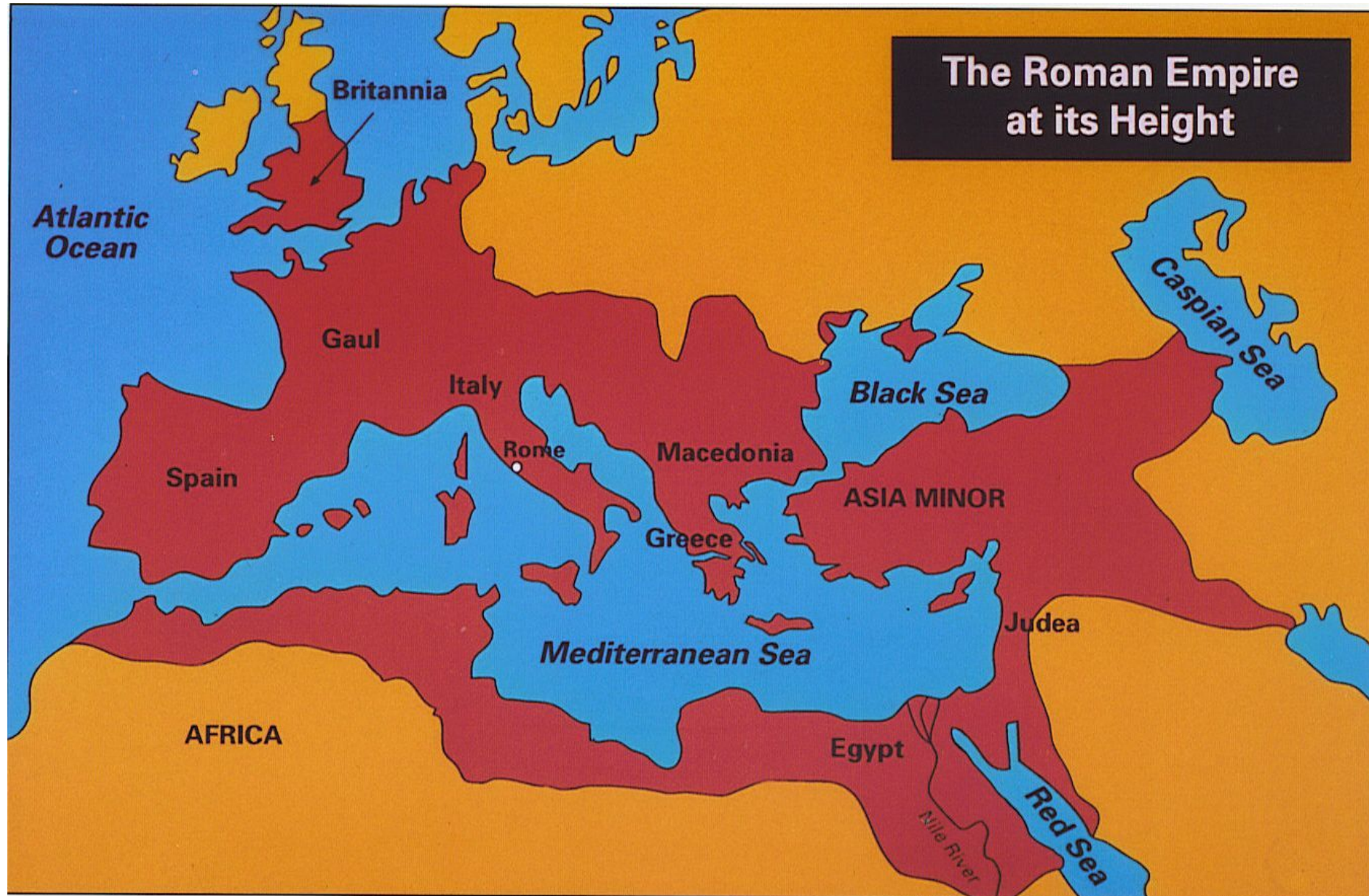




See Rome Expand!



The Roman Empire at its Height



ACHIEVEMENTS: ROMAN CONQUESTS

Rome conquered territories then treated the people as future Romans. They allowed the conquered people to keep their **culture, customs, and government** - as long as they supplied soldiers, paid taxes, and followed Roman leadership. The conquered could get different levels of citizenship if they followed Roman laws and contributed to the empire. They could vote and marry a Roman citizen.

Rome's Forum: the marketplace, hear speeches, watch gladiators + trials, hold elections, and more



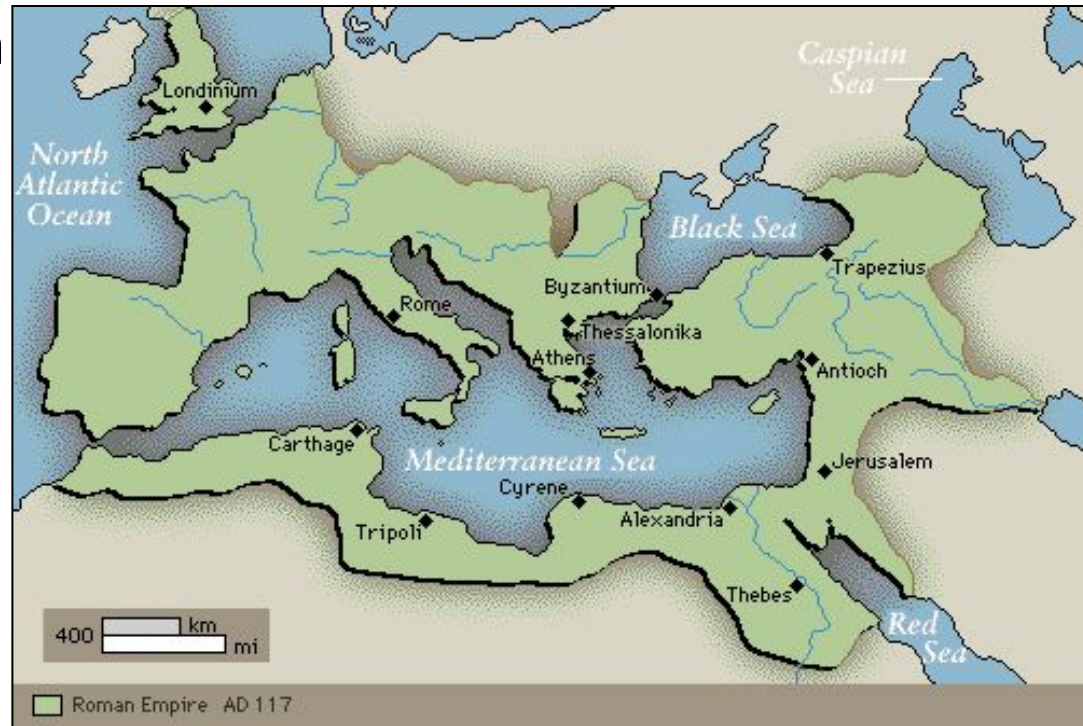
Empire: different peoples and lands under one ruler
Pax Romana – 200 years of no major wars under Roman rule (27 BCE to 180 AD/CE).



ACHIEVEMENTS:

Mare Nostrum: “Our Sea”

- After Augustus, the Roman Empire continued to grow to the point that it surrounded the Mediterranean
 - Romans called the Mediterranean *mare nostrum* (“our sea”)
- Expansion brought Roman soldiers, diplomats, governors, and merchants throughout the region
- Trade flourished

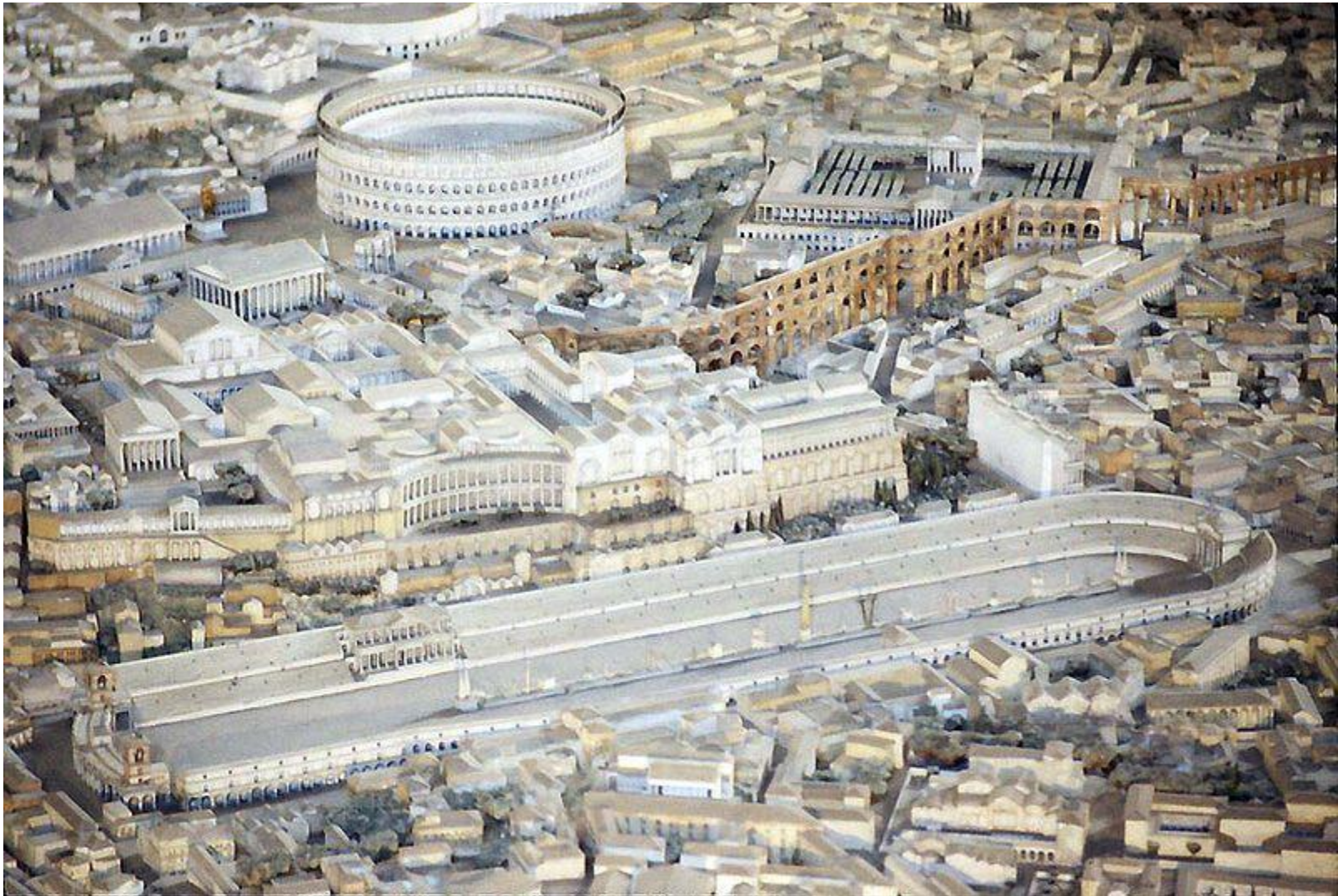


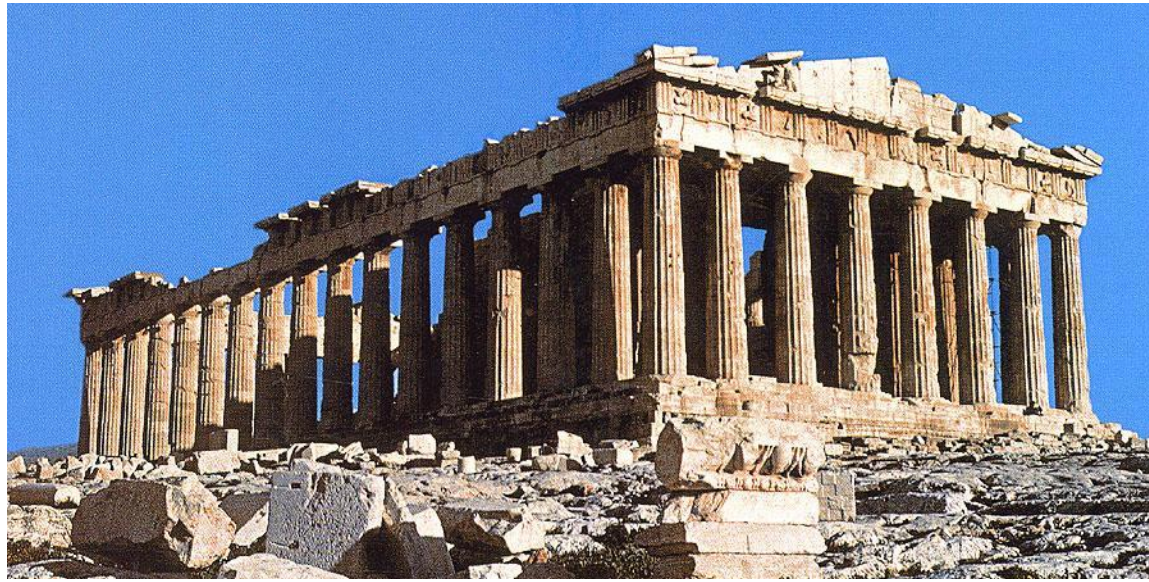
Roman Empire, 117 A.D.

ACHIEVEMENTS: During this period:

- o Romans thought they were the entire civilized world**
- o Rome enjoyed military dominance**
- o The population of the city of Rome reached 1 million**
- o Trade increased, bringing a wealth of resources into Rome**
- o The arts flourished**

ACHIEVEMENTS: Rome was a city of over 1 million people as the center of the empire. The Colosseum and Circus Maximus entertained the people.





**The PARTHENON
in Athens**



**Rome's PANTHEON:
temple dedicated to
all of the Roman
Gods (polytheistic)**





High Classical Greek



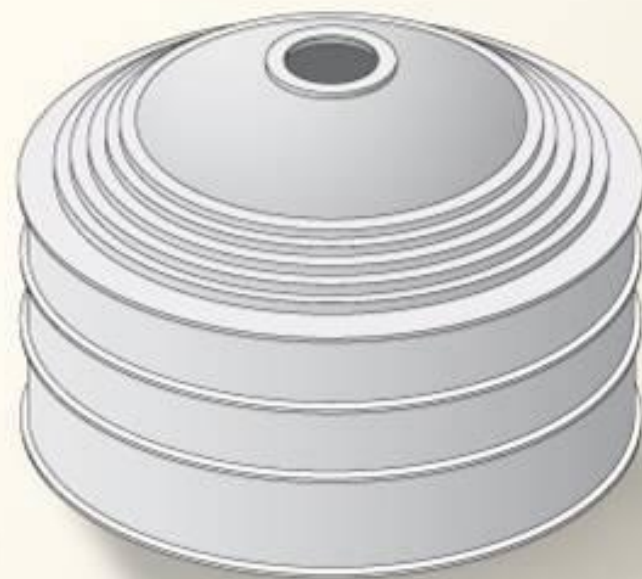
*Augustus Prima porta,
Pax Romana (Roman)*

ACHIEVEMENTS:

**The Roman Architectural Revolution:
the arch and the use of concrete.**

Buildings could be much taller and larger due to

Chapter 10: The Roman Architectural Revolution
Concrete Construction



Barrel vault

Groin vault

Fenestrated sequence of groin vaults

Hemispherical dome with oculus



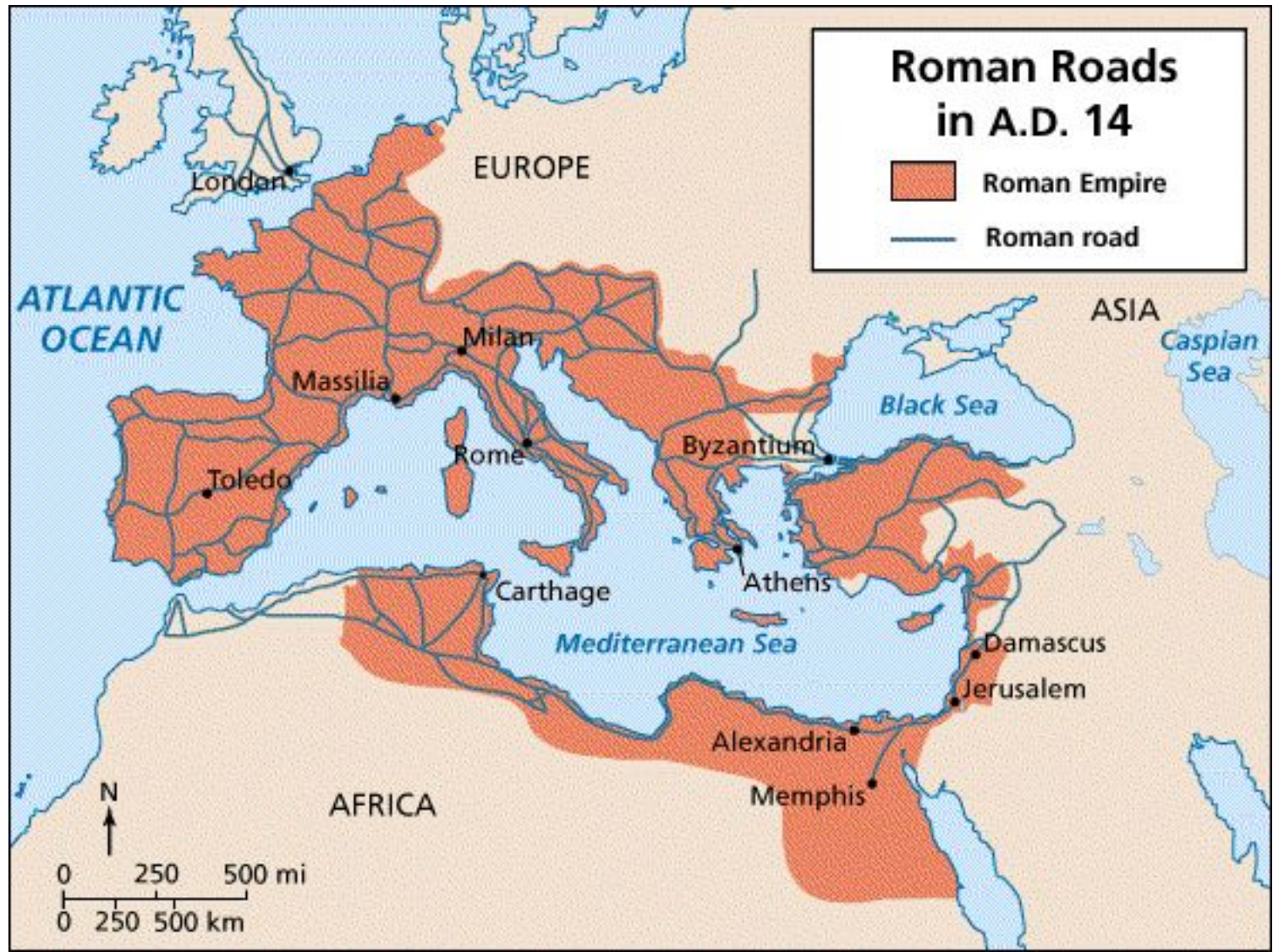
ACHIEVEMENTS:

As they expanded their control...

...the Romans built an excellent network of roads. These roads were still being used over 1,000 years later.



“All roads lead to Rome” Their road system is one of the Romans’ greatest achievements. Built to send legions quickly to battle they also made for safe travel boosting trade and economic growth





ACHIEVEMENTS:

Aqueducts: man made channels to carry water from higher to lower elevation. Roman engineers designed and built them to drop only 1 foot for every 2,000 feet.



This enabled Roman cities to provide water and sanitation to large cities.

ACHIEVEMENTS: Circus Maximus: chariot racing stadium,
holds 50,000 spectators

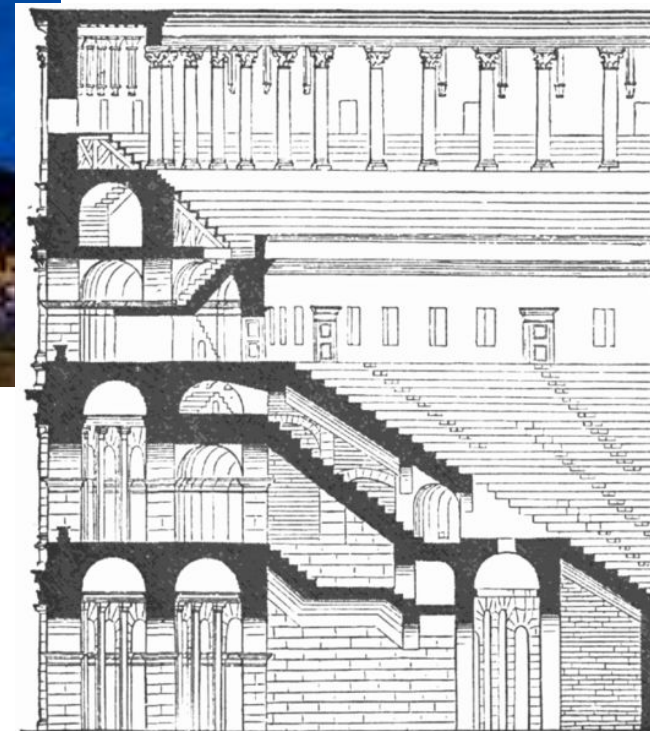




**Chariots: light
2 wheeled
vehicle,
usually 1
driver and 2
horses.
They raced in
Circus
Maximus or
fought in the
Colosseum.**



ACHIEVEMENTS: Roman Colosseum: Built in 80 AD, seats 70,000 (invention of concrete!)



At the colosseum **gladiators: usually slaves/prisoners of war who fought to the death to entertain Rome's population**



At the colosseum, animals fought each other or were used to execute numerous types of victims, like these Christians.



POLITICAL

1. In 509 BCE the Romans overthrow their Etruscan King and form a Republic. (Just as the Greeks were entering their Golden Age)
2. Athens had a Direct Democracy where all citizens voted on all of the laws but the Romans developed Representative Democracy where men of wealth and land elected their senators.

POLITICAL: Roman Social Structure in the Republic

- ▣ **Patricians**: wealthy landowners and office-holders, aristocrats (1-5% of the population)
- ▣ **Plebeians**: farmers, artisans, traders...could vote but not hold political office (90-95% of the population)
- ▣ **Slaves**: mostly prisoners of war...not citizens...no rights

POLITICAL: Rome – the world's 1st Republic

- **Citizens – people who can take part in the government.**

Roman citizens felt a strong sense of citizenship.
Believed in defending Rome and participating in society to make it better

- **Republic – type of government where people elect leaders to make laws for them**
- **Senate – Counsel of rich and powerful Romans called Patricians who advised their leaders**
- **2 Consuls make the decisions for a year then become senators thereafter**

POLITICAL Structure of the Republic

Plebian Council: assembly for commoners they elected a Tribune who protected the rights of the plebeians - could veto (stop) a law passed by the Senate



Patricians

Plebeians

Consuls = two patricians that controlled foreign affairs and the military. The people had direct access to the consul.

- In times of civil or military crisis, the Roman constitution allowed for the appointment of a dictator who wielded absolute power for a term of six months.
- **George Washington** gave up power and returned to farming after the American Revolution, inspired by Cincinnatus

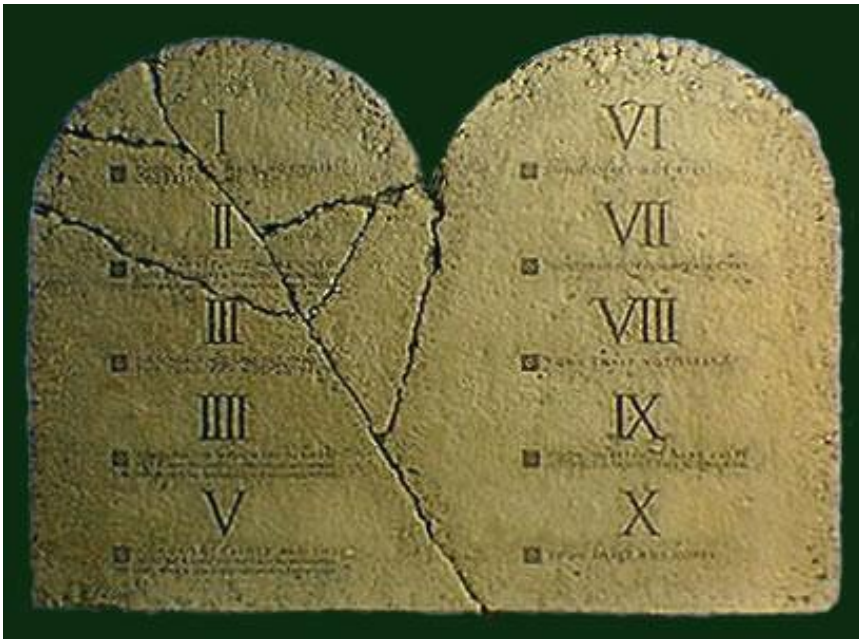
POLITICAL: Dictators



Cincinnatus, shown here handing the rods of power back to the city fathers, served as dictator of Rome twice

POLITICAL: THE TWELVE TABLES

451 BCE: **First Roman Law Code — basic rights for all citizens**



TWELVE carved stone tablets

Originals lost when Rome burned in 390 CE so what we know of them comes from quotes in surviving records

POLITICAL: Government

Comparisons with US government

- Balance of power/no one group can dominate
 - Senate and
House of Representatives (Plebian Council)
 - 2 Consuls = president
 - Tribune (veto power)
 - Courts (independent)



Review: Unlike the Athenians, who had a *direct* or *participatory* democracy, the Romans established a *representative* democracy, which is called a ...



...like we have today

Economics in the Republic

- Conquests brought much wealth to Rome
- Wealthy families bought huge estates
- Romans forced the people they conquered to work as slaves on these farms.
- Slave labor hurt the small farmers because it cost them more to produce food, and the price was driven down by the immense quantities coming into Rome
- Farmers fell into debt, sold their land, and moved to the city looking for work
- gap between rich and poor widens=riots and chaos

Social: Roman legend of seizing the neighboring Sabine women for wives



Roman **Social** Structure in the Republic

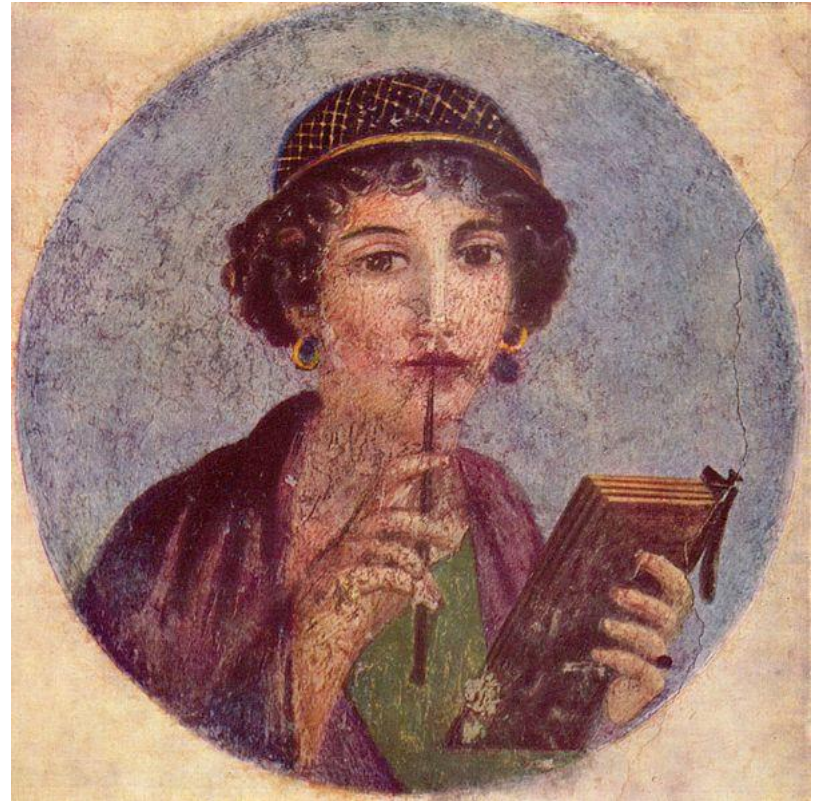
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SOCIAL: The person seated is a ___ in the Roman Senate while the farmer on his knees and asking for debt forgiveness is a ___



SOCIAL: Roman Women

- Educated just like boys
- Could NOT vote, but could testify in court
- Gained property rights
- More influence in family than the Greek women of Athens



SOCIAL: Slavery in the Roman World



- Important to building projects and their way of life. 40% of the population were slaves
- Conquests supplied slaves so they came from all over the empire.
- Not related to ethnicity or skin color
- Greek slaves were educated and prized
- Rebellions like Spartacus 73BCE
Crassius: put down, crucified slaves and held a 10 day party for Rome
 - Slaves gradually won freedom and numbers decreased



A-B

C D

E-F

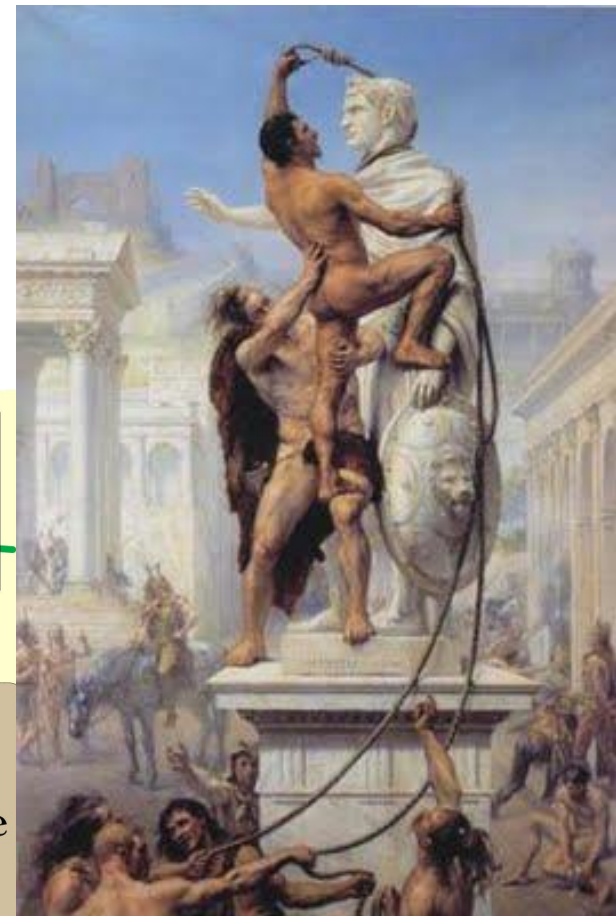
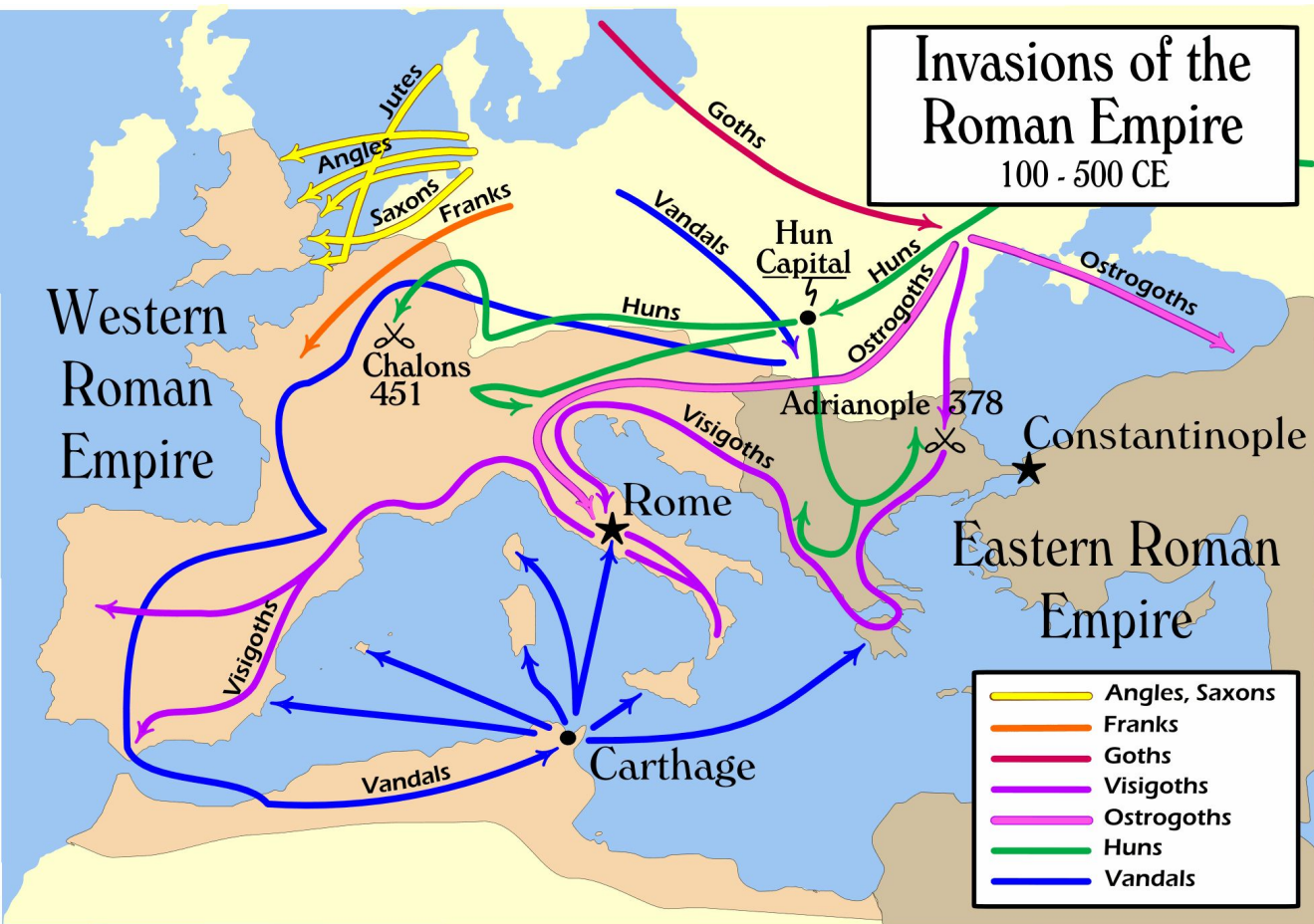
**Which type of people are depicted in this painting?
What rights do each type have?**



Baths: part of daily life – socializing

"We quickly undressed, went into the hot baths and after working up a sweat, passed on to the cold bath. There we found Trimalchio again. His skin was glistening all over with perfumed oil. He was being rubbed down, not with ordinary linen, but with clothes of the purest and softest wool. he was then wrapped in a blazing scarlet robe, hoisted into a litter, and trundled off." Petronius.

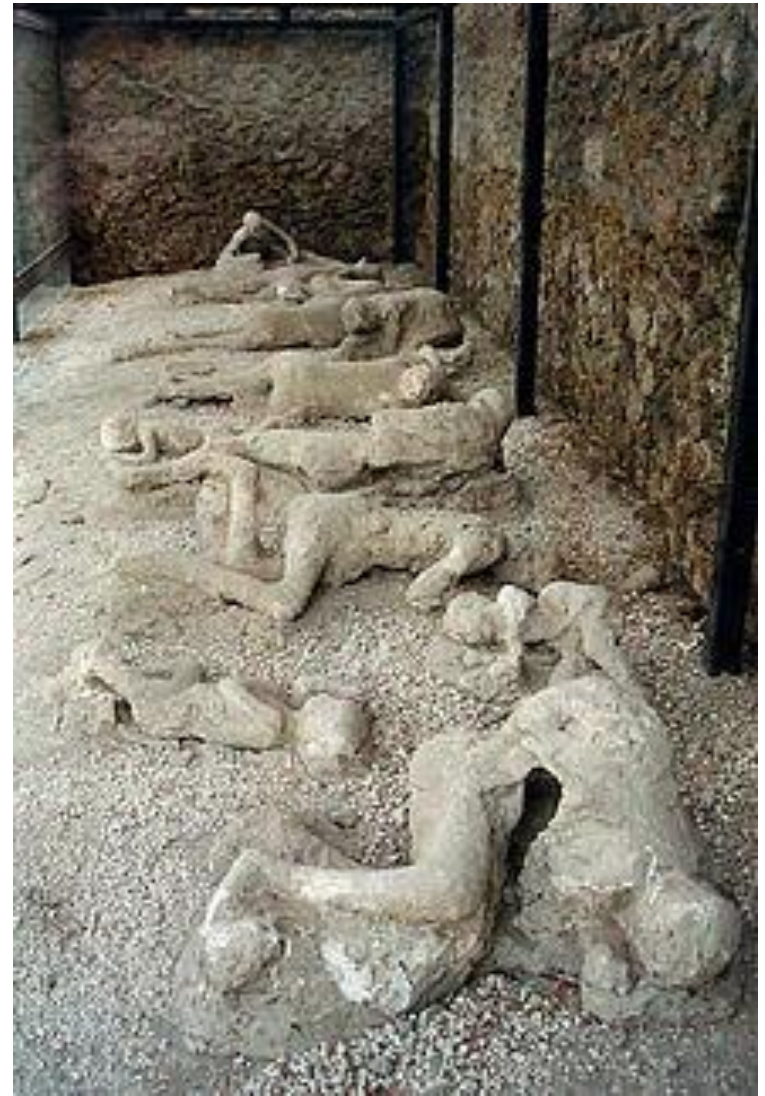
**SOCIAL: Barbarians: do not share
the same culture, savage,
inferior**



A Roman villa – home to a plebeian or a patrician?



Mt. Vesuvius – destroyed the Roman city of Pompeii in 79 CE/AD. The city was literally frozen in place under the volcanic ash.





Quick, Name these legendary founders of Rome



POLITICAL: Republic to Empire

- Civil wars break out to decide who should hold power. Military leaders want to be the Consul for more than 1 year. The senate wanted to keep the status quo (the same); political leaders wanted to weaken the senate and enact reforms (no land requirement to join the legions)
- Slave uprisings throughout the republic
- Armies became loyal to their commanders and not Rome itself. Military leaders gave the legions benefits such as captured land and slaves.

- **Caesar** was a nephew of **Marius**, who was Consul for 7 times! He allowed landless men to serve in legions and then gain conquered land. Called the third founder of Rome for defeating the Germanic tribes, who reached Rome in 104 BCE. Fought a civil war over Rome with General Sulla and brutally killed opponents when he became Consul again.
- **In the 50s B.C., Caesar led an army that conquered Gaul (modern day France) and this made him very popular.**

Julius Caesar



Gaul (now mostly France)

Julius Caesar

- In 49 Caesar marched his army to Rome and by early 46 he had named himself dictator
- But instead of the constitutional six month term, Caesar claimed to be dictator for life
- Hugely popular with Rome's poorer citizens
- “veni, vidi, vici” meaning I came, I saw, I conquered



Julius Caesar's Reforms

- Caesar centralized military and political functions and brought them under his control
- He confiscated property from **patricians** and distributed it among veterans of his army and other supporters
- He launched large scale building projects to provide employment for the poor
- He extended Roman citizenship to people in the imperial provinces

Julius Caesar

- But Caesar's reforms alienated many of Rome's elite who considered him a tyrant
- In 44 B.C. they assassinated him (stabbed 27 times)
- Who will replace Caesar?
The Senators who killed him?
Will there be a Republic with Senate rule or another dictator?
- There follows 13 years of uneasy power sharing and civil war



The Assassination of Julius Caesar

Octavian

- Octavian was a nephew, protégé, and adopted son of Julius Caesar
- He defeated his principal rival, Mark Anthony, and Anthony's ally Cleopatra of Egypt at Actium, Greece in 31 B.C.



Anthony and Cleopatra by Sir
Lawrence Alma-Tadema

Augustus

- Octavian consolidated his rule and in 27 B.C., the Senate bestowed upon him the title Augustus
 - “Augustus” has religious connotations suggesting a divine or semi-divine nature
- Augustus ruled virtually unopposed for 45 years in “a monarchy disguised as a republic.”
- Title Emperor comes from Imperator: Supreme Military Commander



Augustus 1st Emperor

- Augustus centralized political and military power like Julius Caesar did, but he was careful to preserve traditional republican offices and forms of government. He included members of the Roman elite in his government
- Succeeded by the **5 Good Emperors** from 96-180 CE/AD who gained the support and cooperation of the **Senate**



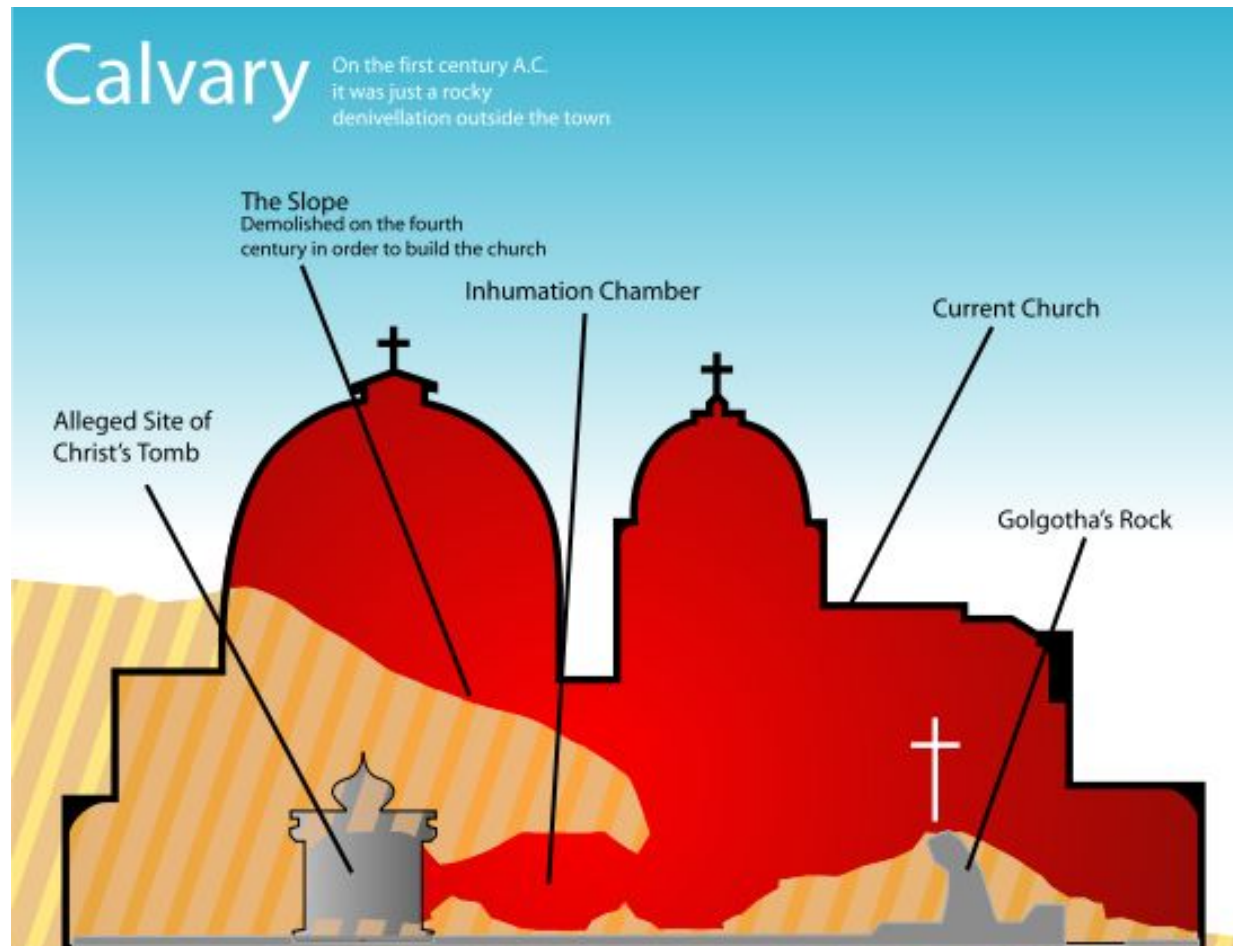
Roman Empire is too large to govern, Emperor splits into Eastern and Western portions in 285 CE/AD



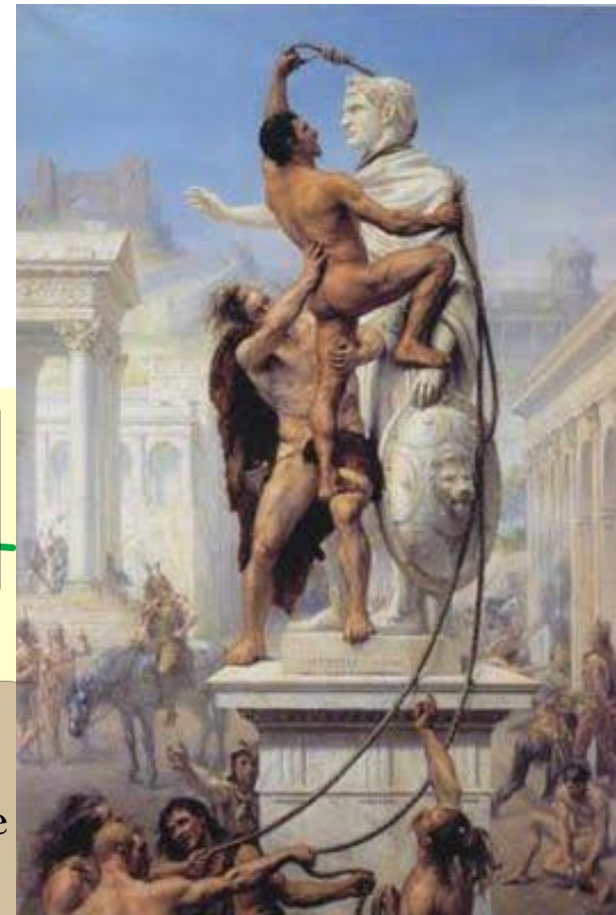
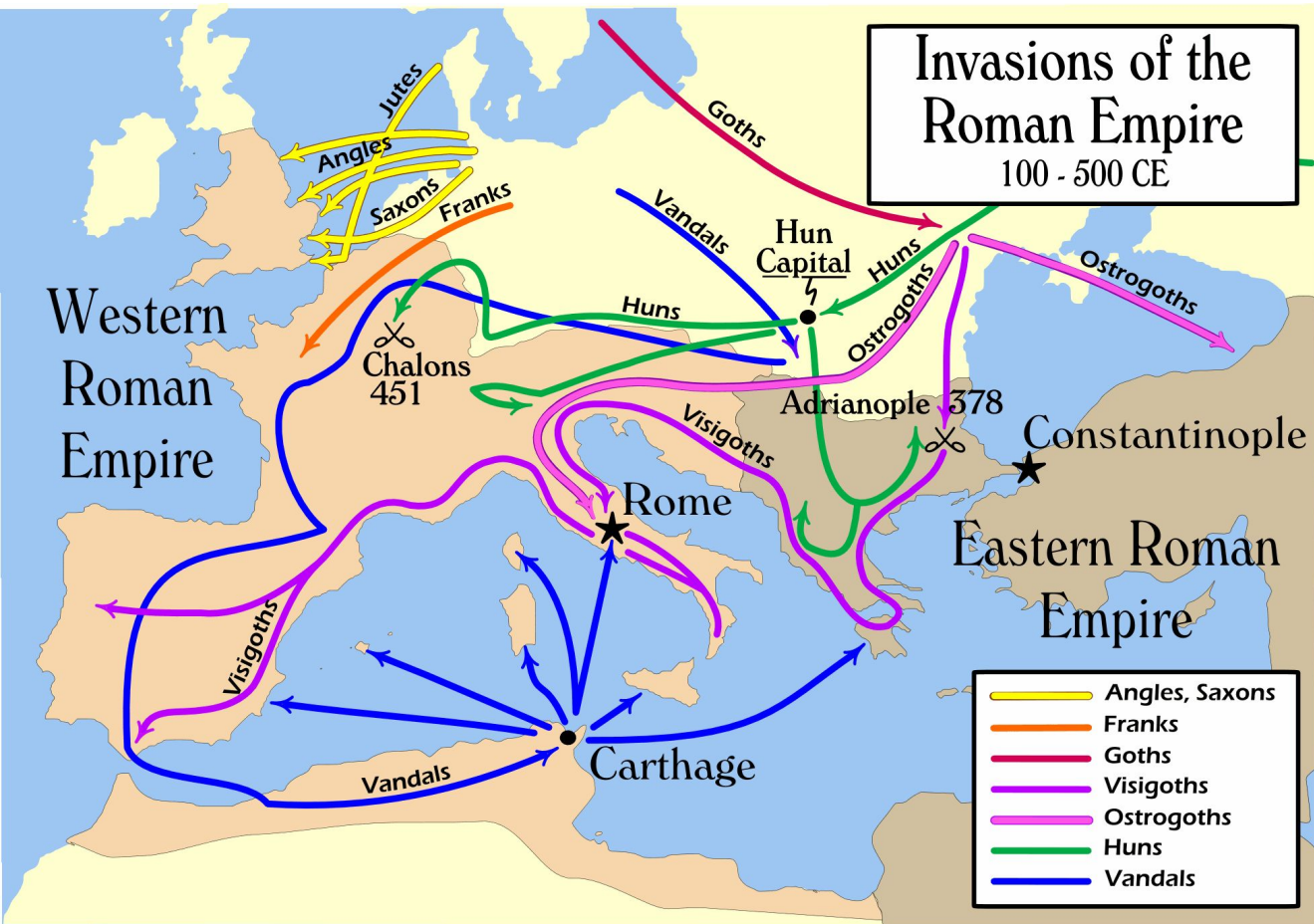
**Constantine 57th Emperor of Roman Empire –
converts to Christianity and makes it the empire's
official religion**



Constantine builds the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem in 326 AD. Builders believe that they find the True Cross and Jesus's tomb



Barbarians: do not share the same culture, savage, inferior



The FALL of the ROMAN EMPIRE (in the west) was a Long slow decline ending in 476 CE/AD:

- **Too large to defend or govern**
- **Taxes were too high**
- **Loss of loyalty to the government through corruption and civil wars**
- **Slavery**
- **Christianity (How can Christians be loyal to and obey the Emperor who claims to be a god?)**
- **Military weakness (fewer and weaker Legions)**
- **BARBARIANS were paid to protect the frontiers of Rome until they decided they wanted Rome's wealth and invaded.**

A Bit of Perspective

