

Europe After the Fall of Rome

Ch 9 lesson 1



Standards

7.6 Students analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the civilizations of Medieval Europe.

1. Study the geography of the Europe and the Eurasian land mass, including its location, topography, waterways, vegetation, and climate and their relationship to ways of life in Medieval Europe.
2. Describe the spread of Christianity north of the Alps and the roles played by the early church and by monasteries in its diffusion after the fall of the western half of the Roman Empire.
3. Understand the development of feudalism, its role in the medieval European economy, the way in which it was influenced by physical geography (the role of the manor and the growth of towns), and how feudal relationships provided the foundation of political order.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the conflict and cooperation between the Papacy and European monarchs (e.g., Charlemagne, Gregory VII, Emperor Henry IV).

Learning Objectives

1. Students will understand the chronological events in Europe after the fall of the Western Roman Empire.
2. Students will explain several causes for the events following the fall of the Western Roman Empire.
3. Students will explore the possible reasons for the establishment of feudalism, its structure, and how society existed under feudalism.

Essential Question

Please write this question down on your timeline worksheet. The Essential Question, or EQ, is a thematic question that will consider the entire narrative and content of the chapter. The answer to it will most likely not be apparent until the end of the chapter.

You will be writing a short response essay answering the question, so make sure you pay attention to information that may be useful in answering it!!

EQ: What are the systems and codes that made up Medieval Society?

<https://www.thinglink.com/scene/616359633728045058>

Thinglink brief review on the Fall of Rome



- **In 476 Odoacer**, a german general, **deposes** of the last Western Roman Emperor, **Romulus Augustulus**.
- He is crowned the first king of Italy.
- Later supplanted by Theodoric the Great of the Ostrogoths (another Germanic group).

Setting the Stage

see page 292-293 in your books

This period in time (500-1000 C.E.) is referred to as the Middle Ages (sometimes called the Dark Ages).

- Romans no longer ruled, and instead, numerous Germanic Kingdoms ruled all around Europe.
- Germanic Peoples:
 - The Romans had a highly developed government. The Germanic tribes did not.
 - Had little notion of a “state”
 - Lived in small communities.
 - Had unwritten rules and traditions and did not emphasize learning (Romans did)
 - They were Pagans when much of Europe started to become Christian.
- Decline in Trade and Learning.
 - Cities began to disappear.

Think about it- Knowing this, why do you think this period of time was called the *Dark Ages*?

Clovis and the Franks

- The Franks were a group of Germanic peoples who established power in Gaul (modern day France).
- **In 486 Clovis**, a strong military and political leader, lead Frankish forces on a campaign that **removed the last remnants of Roman authority** in Gaul.
- Clovis **converted to Christianity**, which **garnered allegiance** from the former Christian population in Rome **and support from the pope**.

Europe during 526 C.E.



The Carolingians and Charlemagne

- The death of Clovis caused the Frankish kings to lose authority. Clovis's successors ruled the Frankish Kingdom until the early seventh century (700-800), when the Carolingian clan displaced Clovis's descendents.
- The Carolingians are named after its founder Charles Martel.
- **Charles (the Hammer) Martel, won a decisive battle against Muslim invaders in 732 C.E.** Charles' victory proved an important event in **cementing Christian influence in Europe.**

The Battle of Tours:

Charles Martel (mounted on horse), fights back invading Muslim forces (732 C.E.)



Charlemagne

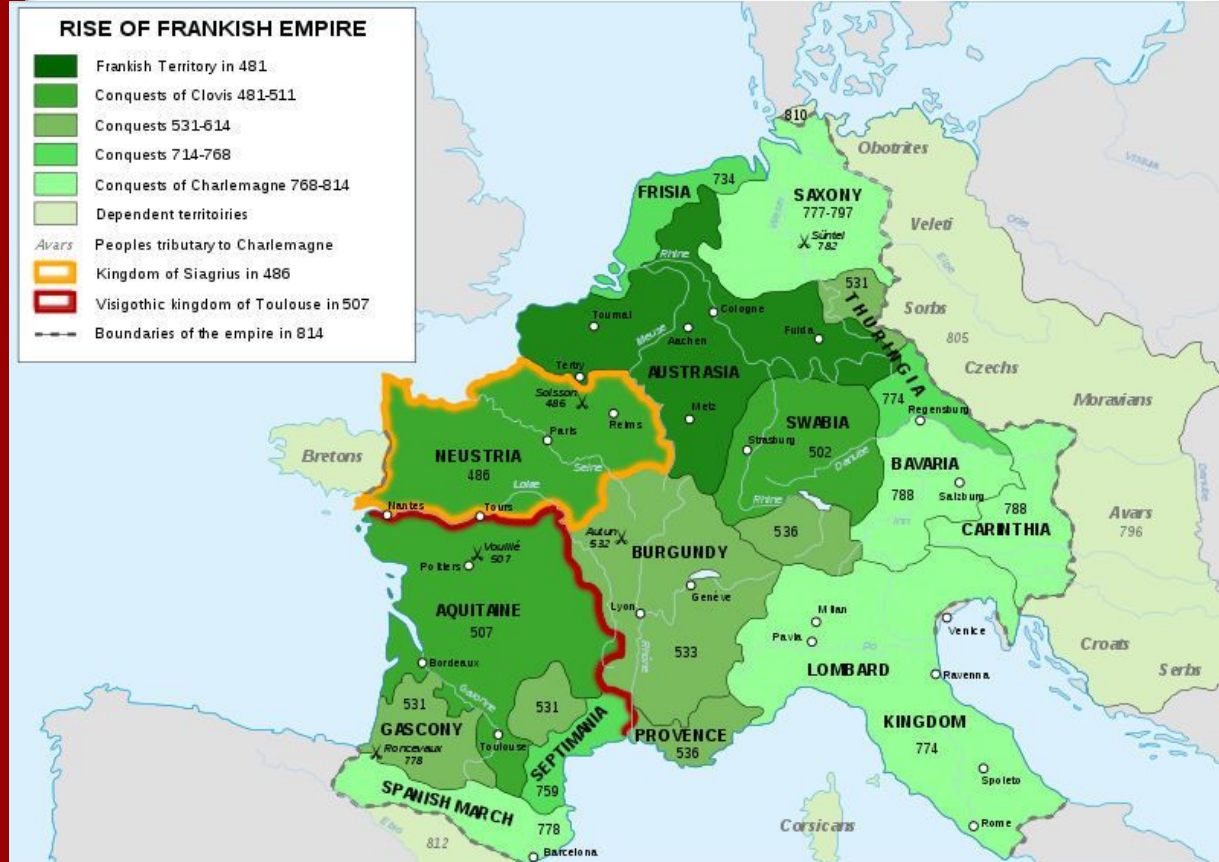
- The grandson of Charles Martel, Charlemagne was named King of the Franks in 751.
- Led marches around Europe and reestablished centralized imperial rule.
- In 800 C.E. the Pope crowned him Emperor.



Carolingian Empire

At the height of the Empire:

- **Charlemagne reestablished diplomatic relations** with the Byzantine Empire & the Abbasid Caliphate.
- **Appointed Counts (Germanic nobles) to run local regions.**
 - Kept them in check with envoys.
- Promoted and **supported educational pursuits through latin learning.**



In 814, Charlemagne Passed
away and his son, **Louis the
Pious**, took the throne.

But the empire fragmented and
collapsed...



y tho

The Collapse of the Carolingian Empire



Louis the Pious was a weak ruler who lacked Charlemagne's will and military skills.

- He lost control of the counts (wealthy leaders).
- His three sons disputed fought over the kingdom and waged a civil war during the 830s.
- By the 9th century, invaders began to raid the Frankish kingdom.

The kingdom was first invaded by Muslims from the south....



From the east came the Magyars....



...And from the north came the Vikings.



Viking youtube clip



Think About it-

1. With all the chaos in the Carolingian Empire, who do you think took advantage of the lack of leadership?
 - a. The Carolingian Empire lacked a strong government like the one the Roman Empire had. Knowing this how do you think those in power will organize themselves to handle the growing amount of invasions in Europe?

