

The Crisis of the Later Middle Ages, 1300–1450

CHAPTER 12



Miniature of the Battle of Crécy (1346)
Manuscript of Jean Froissart's
Chronicles.
The Hundred Years' War was the
scene of many military innovations.

I. Prelude to Disaster

A. Climate Change and Famine

1. The Little Ice Age (1300–1450)
2. Great Famine (1315–1322)

B. Social Consequences

1. Abandonment of Villages and Declining Population
2. Scapegoats
3. Governmental Responses

II. The Black Death

A. Pathology

1. *Yersinia Pestis*
2. Pneumonic Transmission
3. Effects on the Body

B. Spread of the Disease

1. From China to Europe
2. Spread Within Cities
3. Mortality Rates

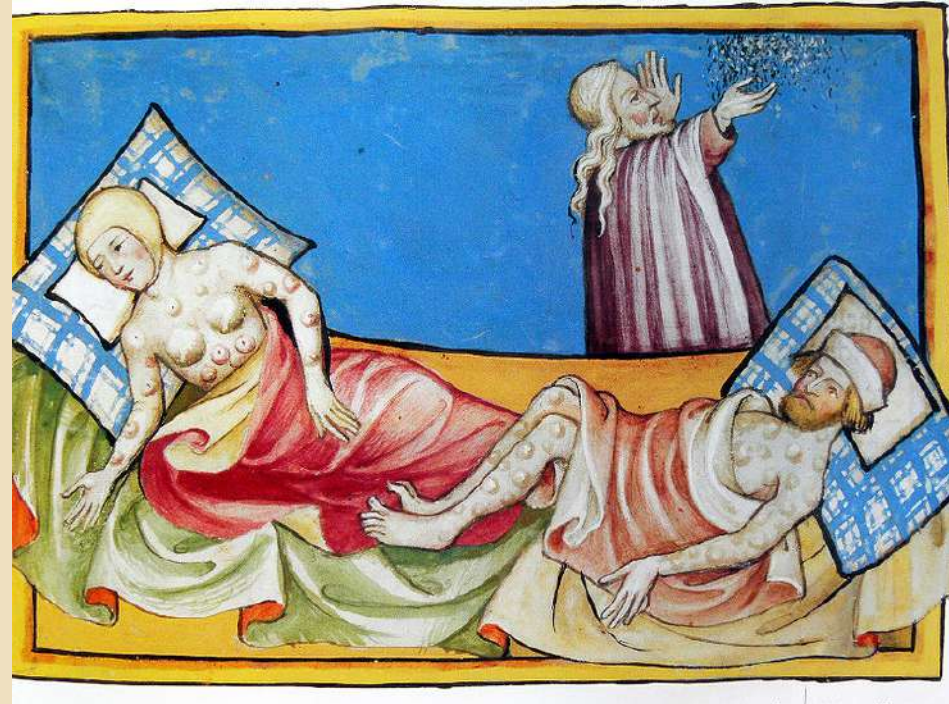


Illustration of the Black Death from the [Toggenburg Bible](#) (1411)



Map 12.1 The Course of the Black Death in Fourteenth-Century Europe
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II. The Black Death

C. Care of the Sick

1. Remedies
2. Care by the Clergy
3. Escape



Inspired by the Black Death, [*The Dance of Death*](#), an allegory on the universality of death, is a common painting motif in the late medieval period.



Patients in a Hospital
Giraudon/The Bridgeman Art Library
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II. The Black Death

D. Economic, Religious, and Cultural Effects

1. Increased Productivity
2. Upward Mobility in the Guilds
3. Inflation
4. Religious Responses
5. New Universities

III. The Hundred Years' War

A. Causes

1. Disagreements over Royal Land Rights
2. Succession Dispute
3. French Nobility Divided
4. Economic Reasons

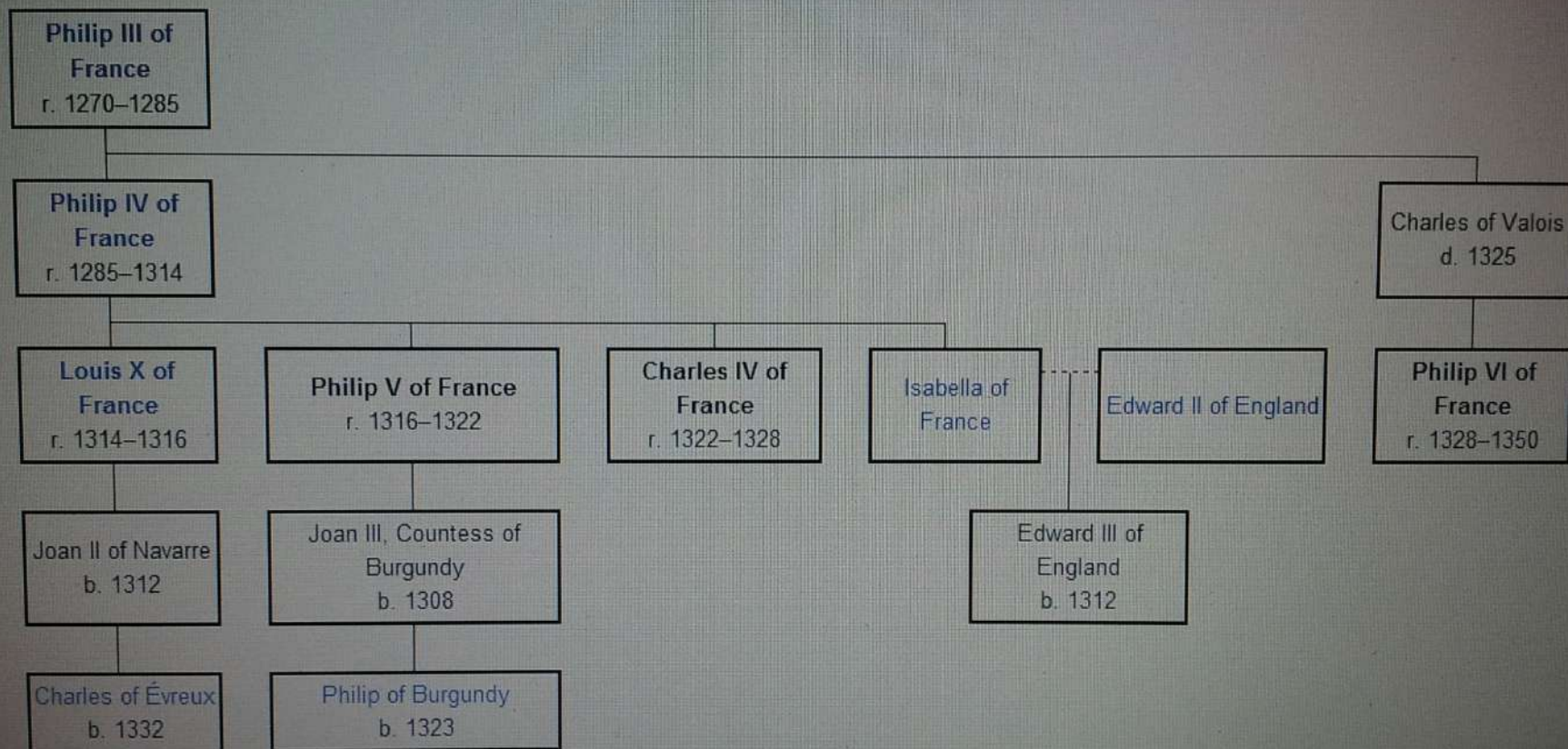
B. English Successes

1. Initial English Successes
2. Further English Successes (1415–1419)

Dynastic turmoil in France: 1314–1328 [edit source | edit beta]

See also: *Absolute cognatic primogeniture and British claims to the French throne*

The principle that the kingdom of France did not descend by female line was founded on custom only. The right of women to succeed was raised after the death of Louis X in 1316, Philip V in 1322 and Charles IV in 1328. However in each case only male heirs were considered.^[4]



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When France's Charles IV died in 1328 leaving only daughters, the nearest male relative was Edward III of England. Edward had inherited his right through his mother Isabella, a dead French king, but the question arose whether she should be able to transmit a right that she did not herself possess because of her gender. The French nobility, more concerned with the prospect of being ruled by the English king. The assemblies of the French barons and prelates and the University of Paris decided that males who derive their right to inherit from their mother should be excluded. Thus the nearest heir through male ancestry was Charles IV's first cousin, Philip, Count of Valois, and it was decided that he should be crowned.



Map 12.2 The Hundred Years' War, 1337–1453
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Map 12.2a The Hundred Years' War, 1337–1453
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Map 12.2b The Hundred Years' War, 1337–1453
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Map 12.2c The Hundred Years' War, 1337–1453
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Map 12.2d The Hundred Years' War, 1337–1453
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III. The Hundred Years' War

C. Joan of Arc and France's Victory

1. Joan of Arc
2. Capture and Trial
3. Ultimate French Victory

D. Aftermath

1. Havoc in England and France
2. Technology and the Nation State
3. Representative Assemblies
4. Nationalism



Painting, c. 1485. An artist's interpretation, since the only known direct portrait has not survived. (Centre Historique des Archives Nationales, Paris, AE II 2490)

IV. Challenges to the Church

A. The Babylonian Captivity and the Great Schism

1. Babylonian Captivity
2. Atmosphere of Luxury
3. The Great Schism (1377–1417)

B. Critiques, Divisions, and Councils

1. William of Occam (1289–1347)
2. Marsiglio of Padua (1275–1342)
3. Conciliarists
 4. John Wycliffe (1330–1384) and the Lollards
 5. Jan Hus (1372–1415)
 6. Resolution of the Schism



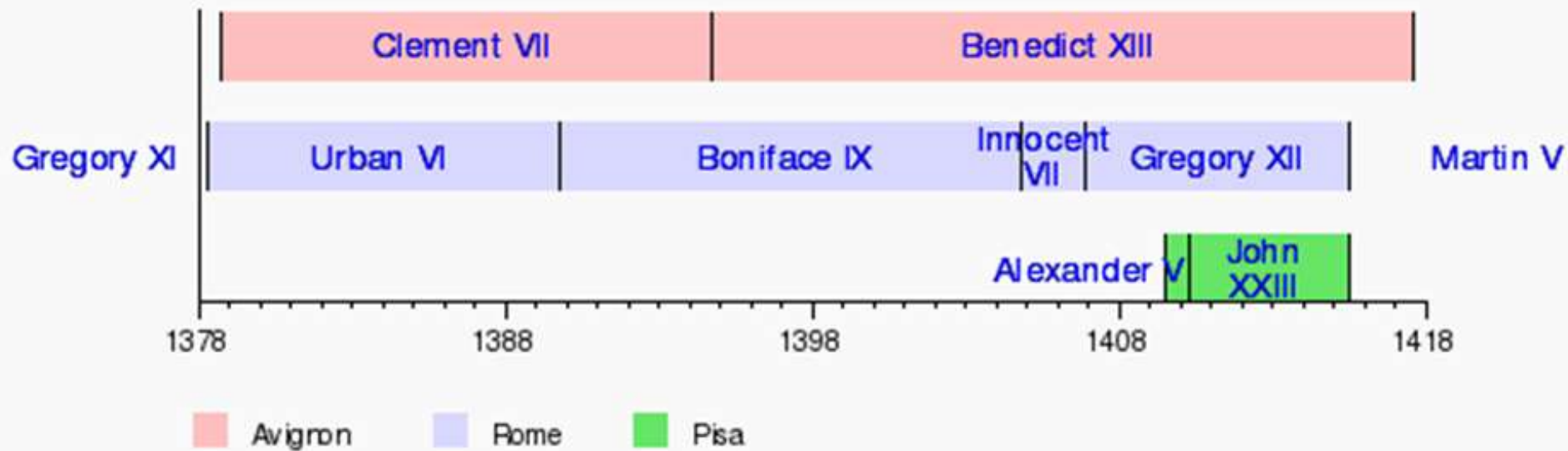
The Great Schism



- **The Great Schism**



Great Schism: Three Popes



IV. Challenges to the Church

C. Lay Piety and Mysticism

1. Lay Piety
2. Confraternities
3. Brethren and Sisters of the Common Life
4. Mystical Experiences



The Imitation of Christ
By The Dutch Monk
Thomas a Kempis
Publication Date 1418-1427

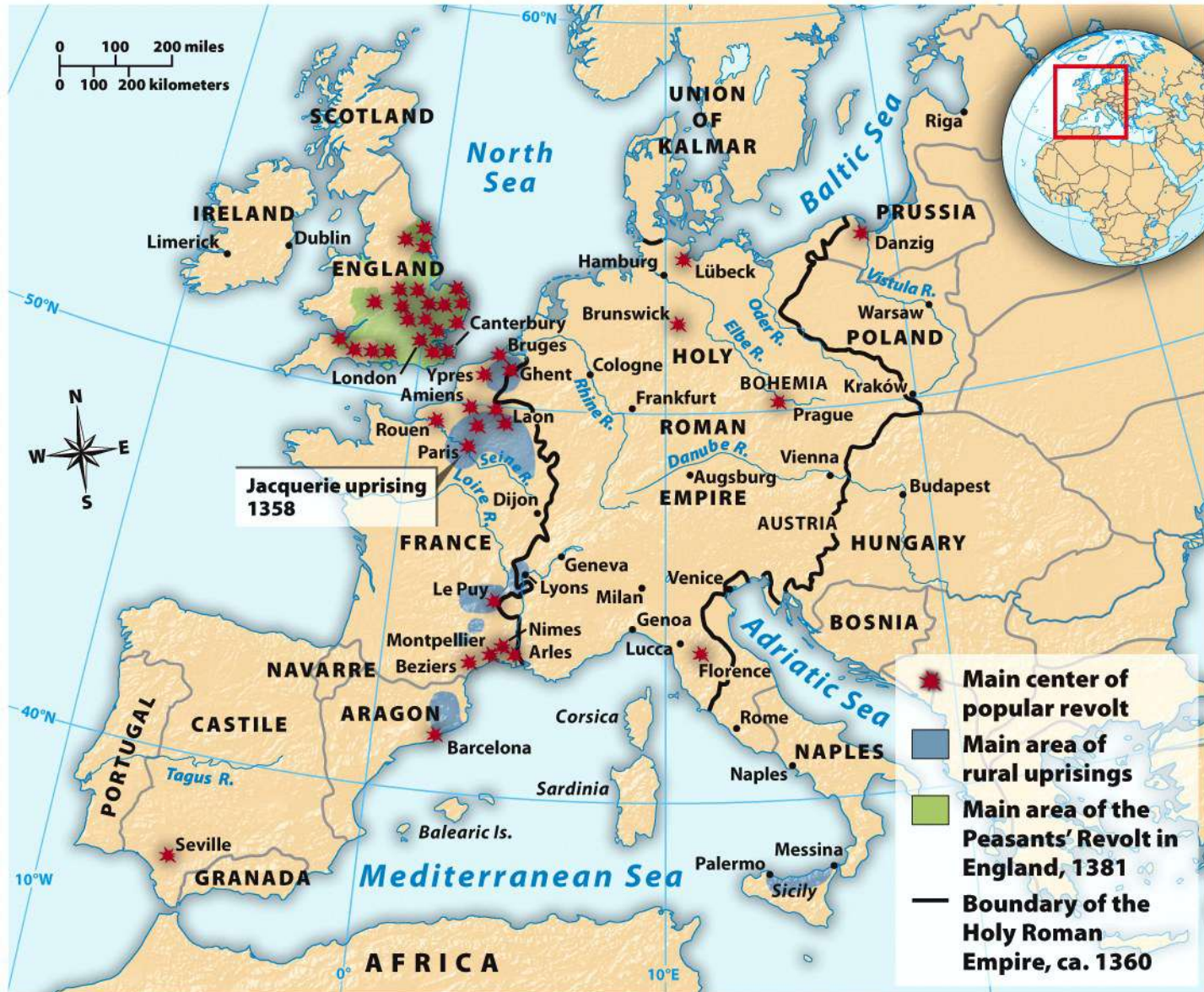
V. Social Unrest in a Changing Society

A. Peasant Revolts

1. Flanders (1320s)
2. Jacquerie (1358)
3. English Peasants' Revolt (1381)



Defeat of the Jacquerie
English School 18th cent.



Map 12.3 Fourteenth-Century Peasant Revolts
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V. Social Unrest in a Changing Society

B. Urban Conflicts

1. Roots of Revolt
2. “Honor” Uprisings

Traditional wrought-iron guild sign of a glazier - in Germany. These signs can be found in many old European towns where guild members marked their places of business. Many survived through time or staged a comeback in industrial times. Today they are newly created or even restored, esp. in old town areas.



V. Social Unrest in a Changing Society

C. Sex in the City

1. Late Age of First Marriage
2. Prostitution
3. Rape
4. Homosexuality



D. Fur-Collar Crime

1. Noble Bandits
2. Robin Hood



V. Social Unrest in a Changing Society

E. Ethnic Tensions and Restrictions

1. Ethnic Diversity and Colonization
2. Legal Dualism
3. “Purity of the Blood”

F. Literacy and Vernacular Literature

1. Dante’s *Divine Comedy* (1310–1320)
2. Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales* (1387–1400)
3. Spread of Lay Literacy

Summary

- Separate page from notes, but staple together with notes once completed
- 3 to 4 paragraph summary/analysis of content (should be at least one page)
- Practice your essay writing skills while reviewing information