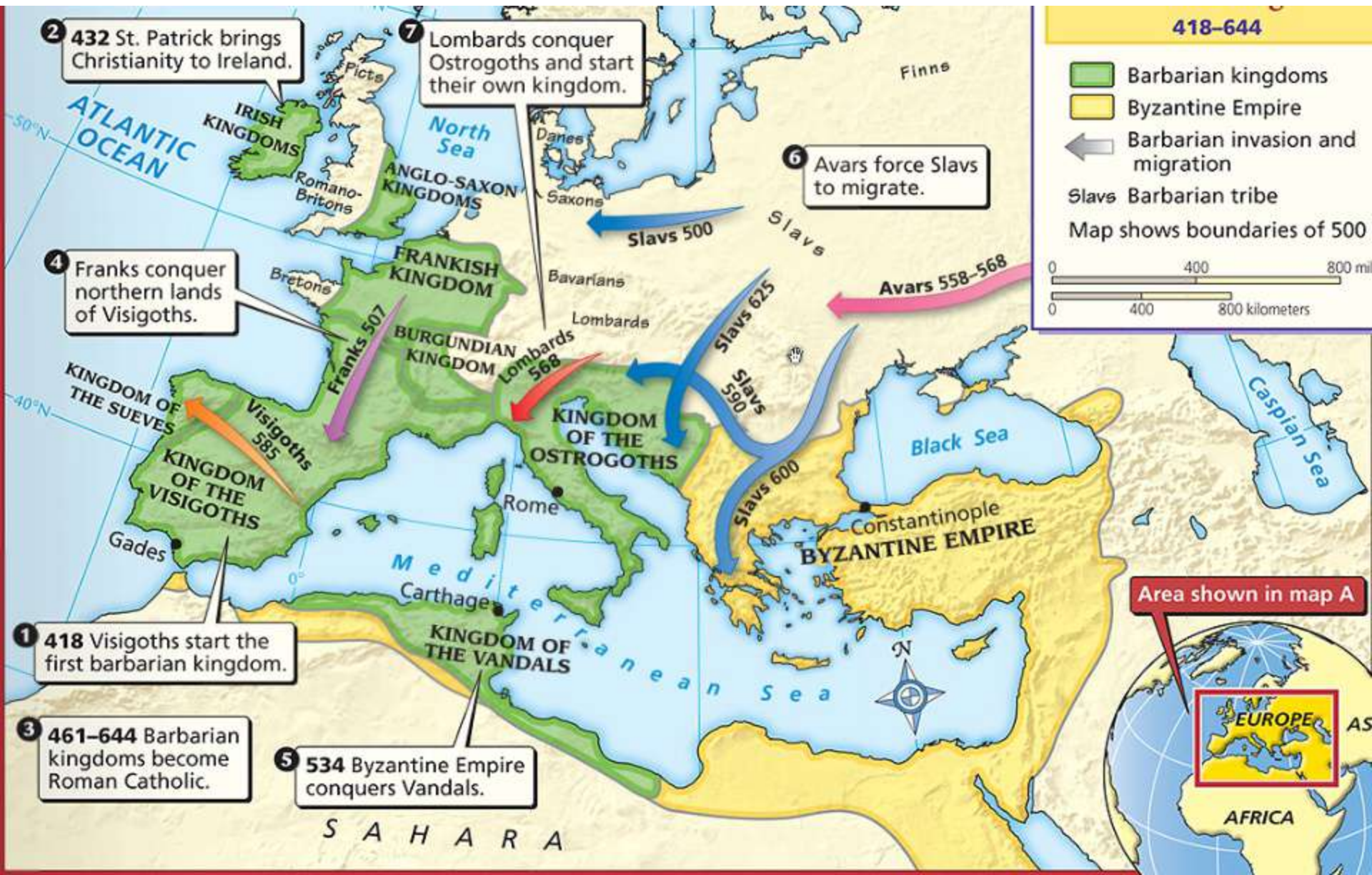




■ Essential Question:

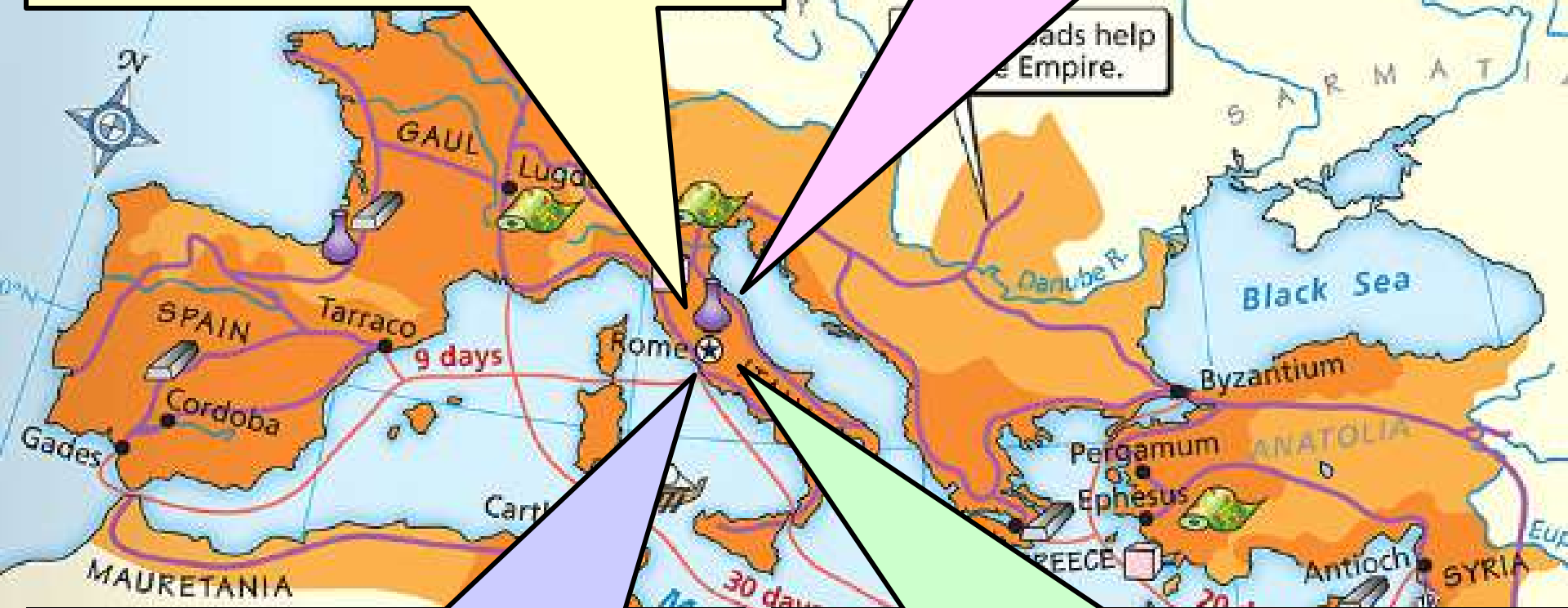
- What is the significance of the Byzantine Empire?
- 

What happened to the Roman Empire by 500 A.D.?



After the Pax Romana, the Roman Empire entered an era of decline

The Roman Empire had a series of weak emperors

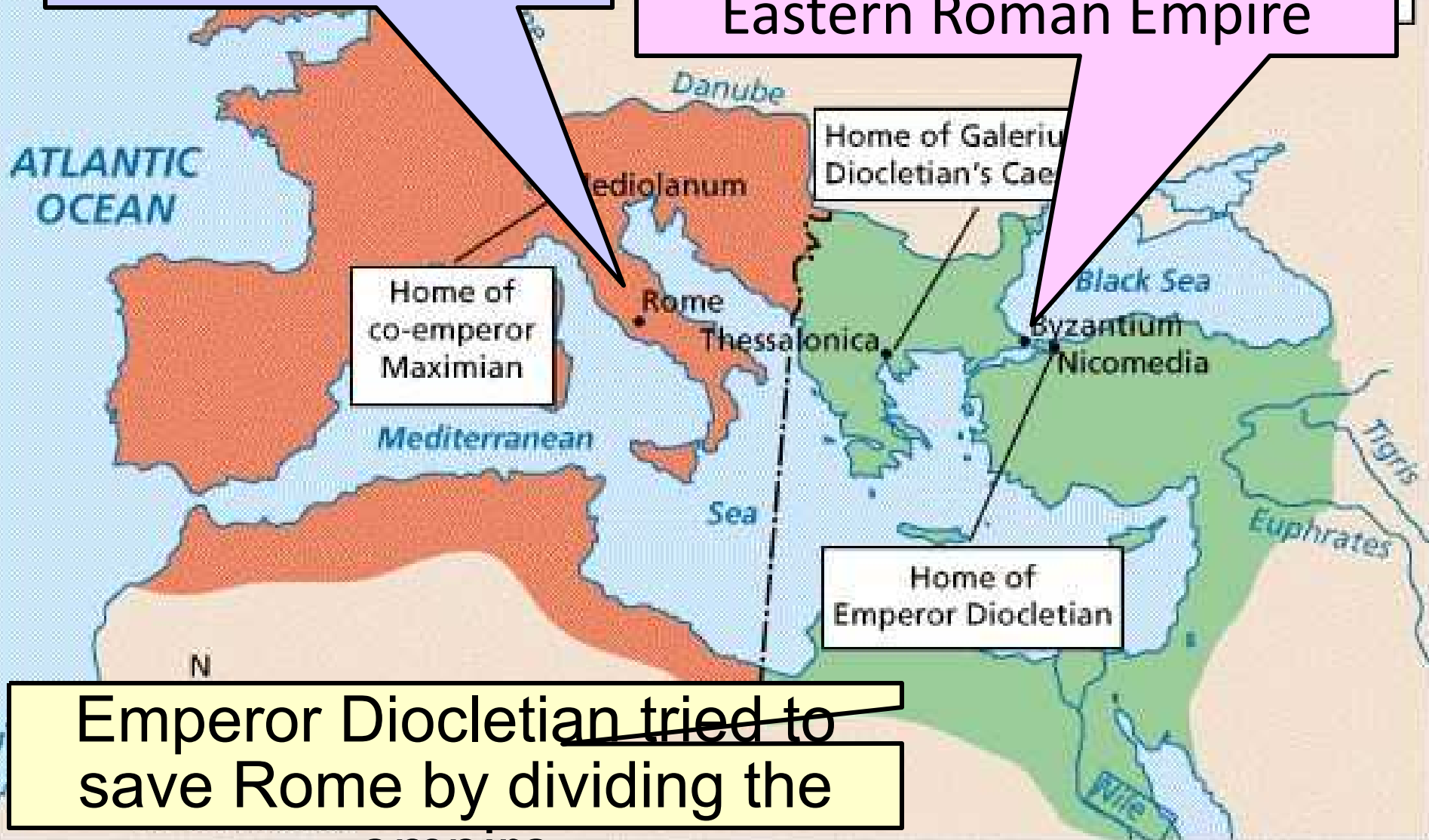


Romans had a large trade imbalance (they bought more than they produced)

As Rome grew more in debt, the military became weak & began using foreign mercenary soldiers

The Western Roman Empire continued to grow weak

Emperor Constantine moved the Roman capital to Constantinople in the Eastern Roman Empire



Home of co-emperor Maximian

Home of Galerius Diocletian's Caesars

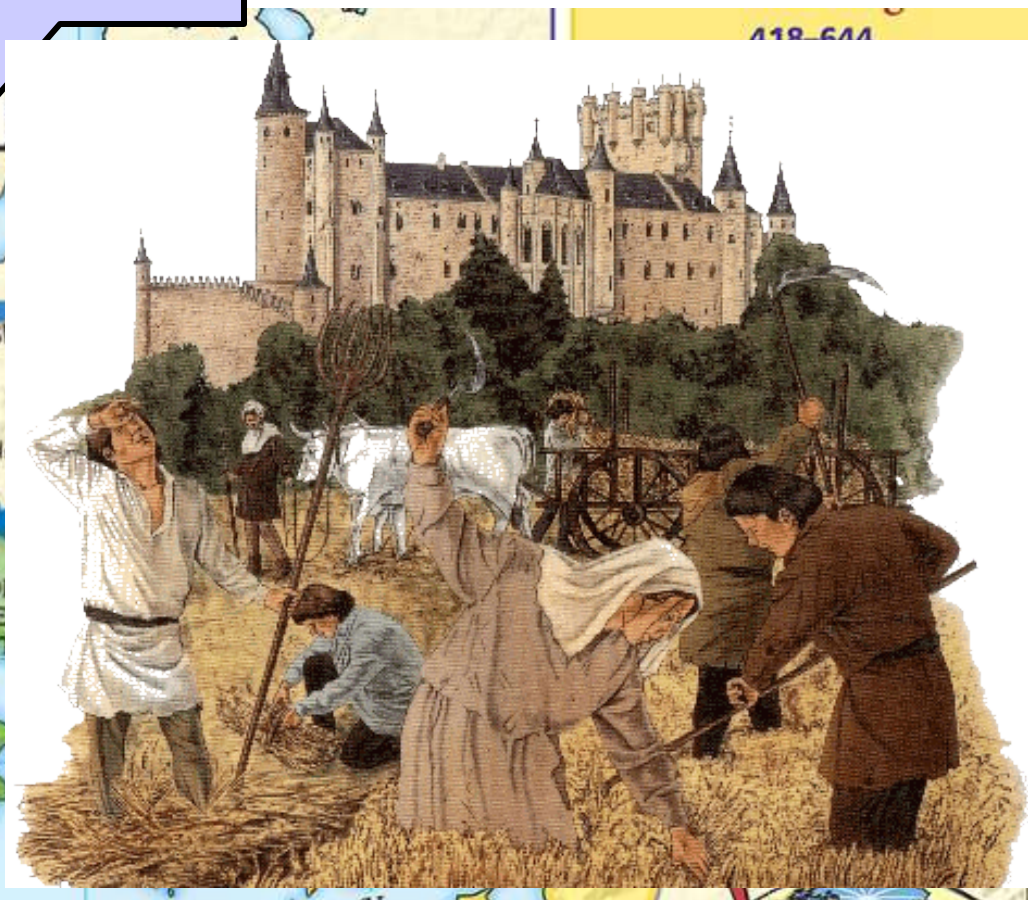
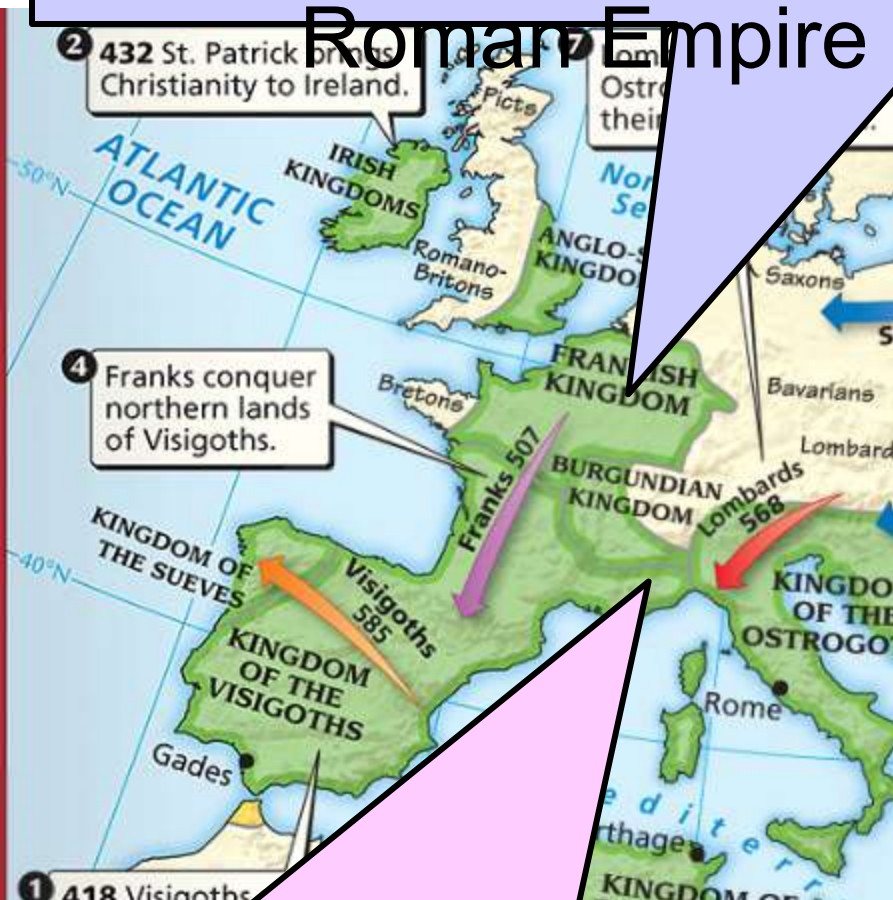
Home of Emperor Diocletian

Emperor Diocletian tried to save Rome by dividing the

By 476, barbarians conquered the Western Roman Empire

man Empire

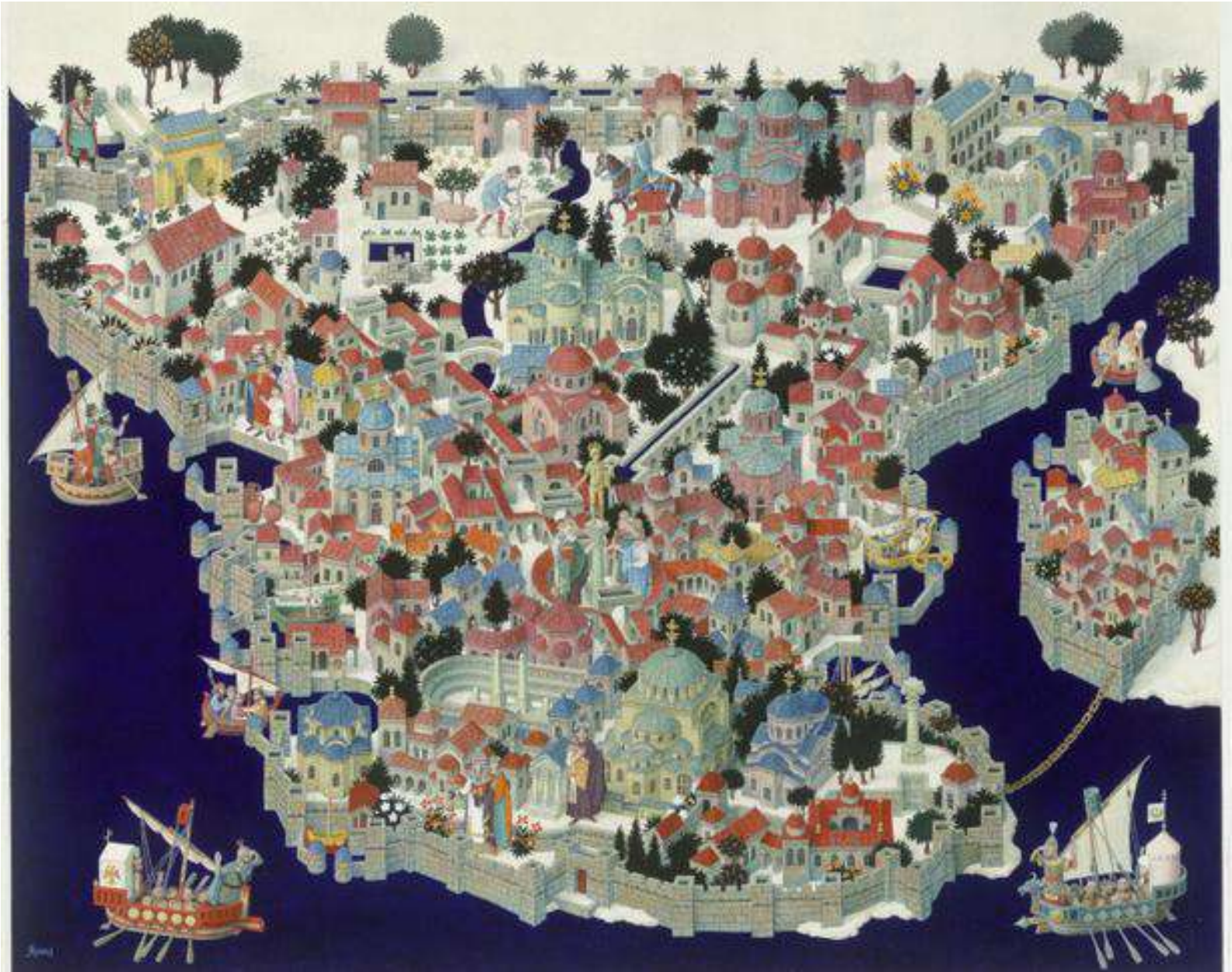
Roman Empire



The Western Roman Empire fell into the Middle Ages ("Dark Ages") from 500 to 1300



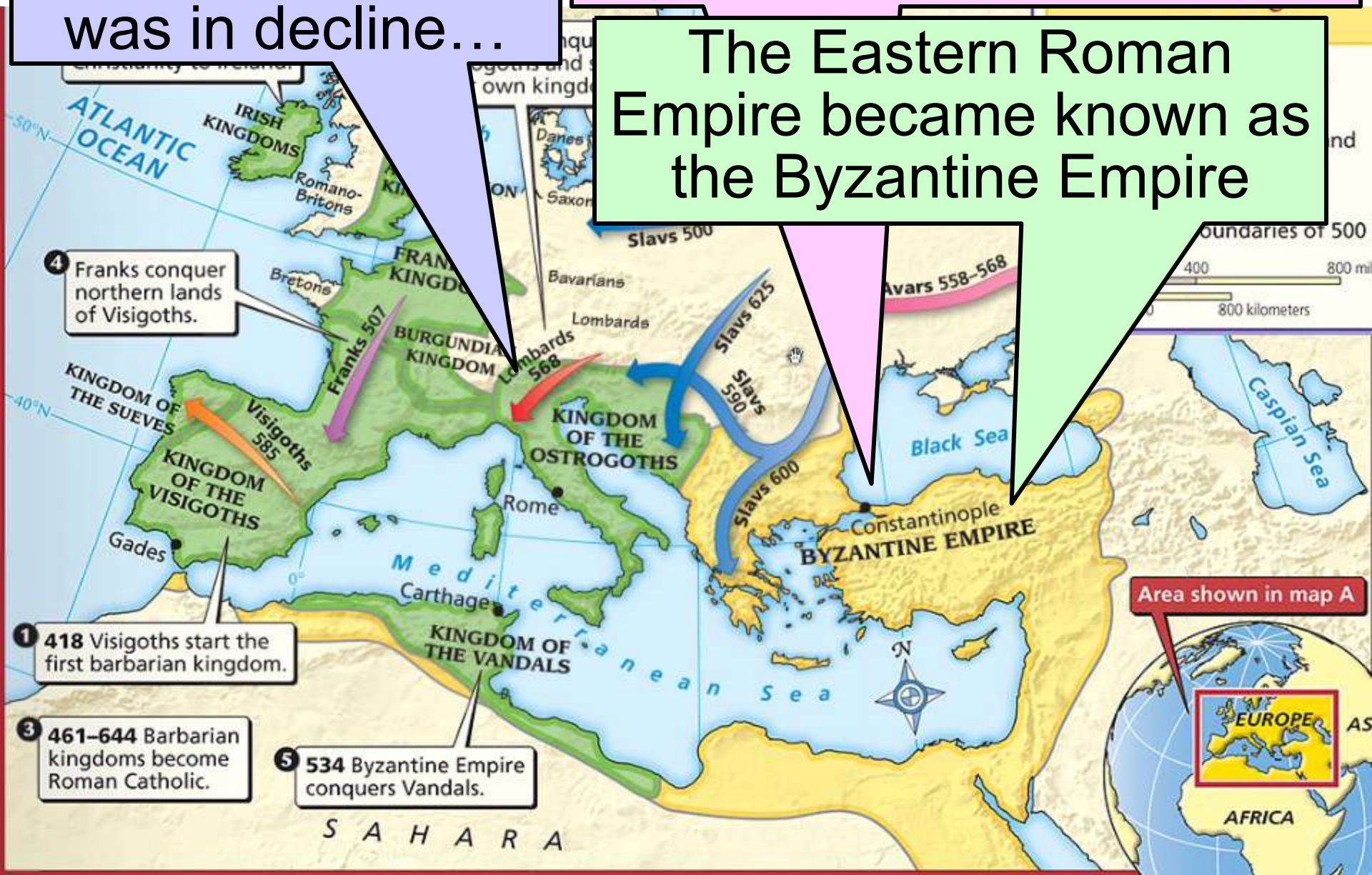
What happened in the Eastern Roman Empire?



While the Western Roman Empire was in decline...

...the Eastern Roman Empire remained strong

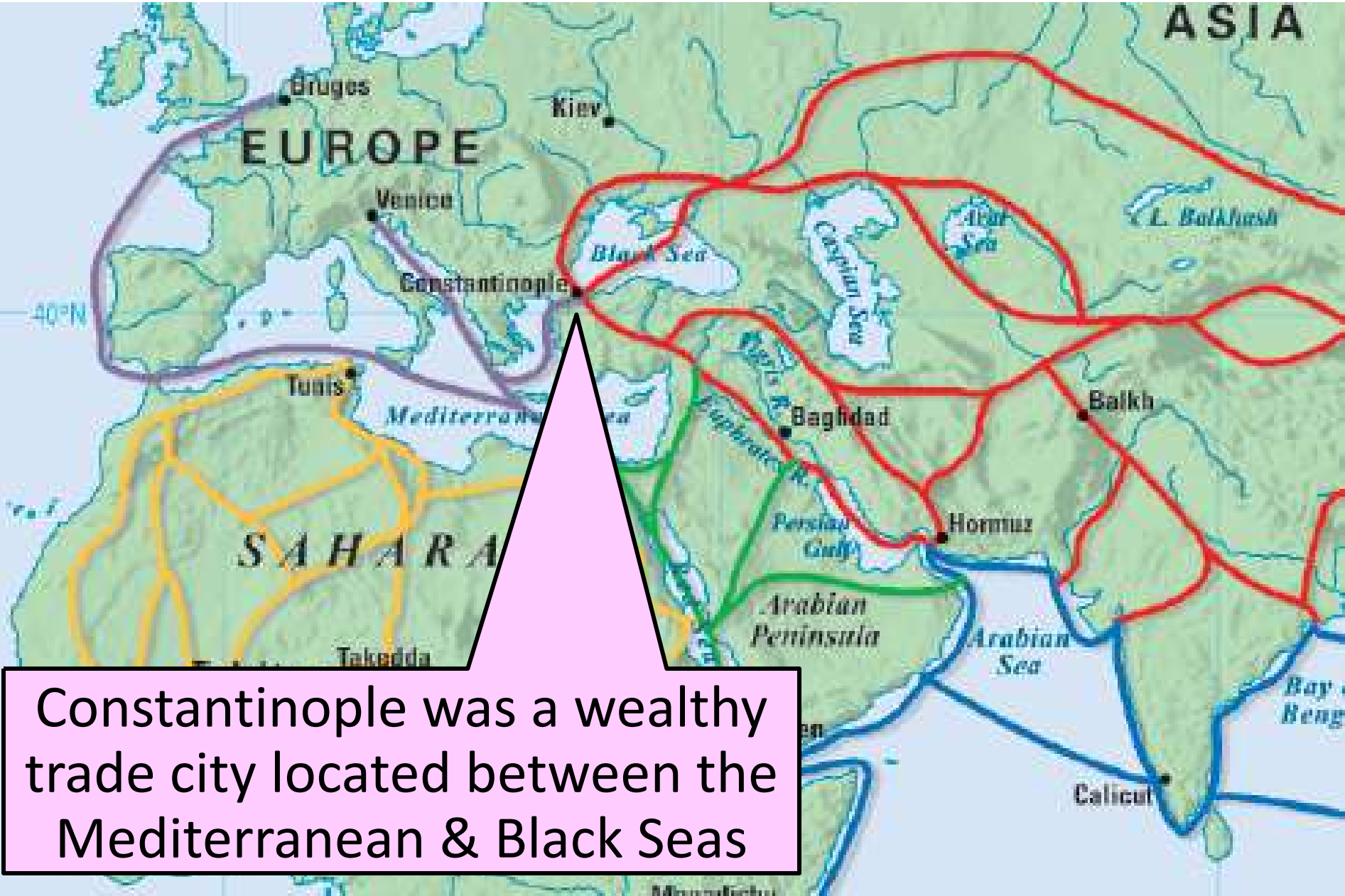
The Eastern Roman Empire became known as the Byzantine Empire



How did physical geography impact the Byzantine capital of Constantinople?



The Byzantine capital was Constantinople



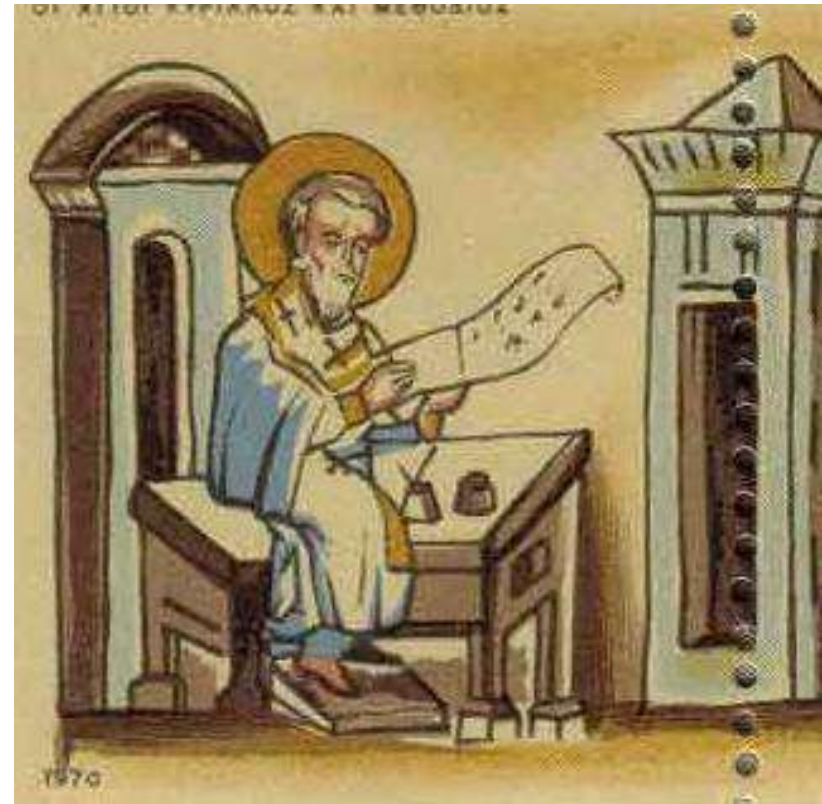
Constantinople was a wealthy trade city located between the Mediterranean & Black Seas

Byzantine Capital of Constantinople



The Byzantine Empire

- Citizens in the Byzantine Empire thought of themselves as Romans & they shared some similarities with the Roman Empire:
 - The Byzantine Empire kept alive Greco-Roman culture
 - Constantinople was a center for learning where schools taught philosophy, medicine, Greek and Latin grammar, geometry



The Byzantine Empire

- Citizens in the Byzantine Empire thought of themselves as Romans & they shared some similarities with the Roman Empire:

Byzantine Hagia

Roman
Pantheon



How was architecture similar?

The Byzantine Empire

- Citizens in the Byzantine Empire thought of themselves as Romans & they shared some similarities with the Roman Empire:
 - Constantinople used Roman-style architecture such as arches & domes
 - Byzantine cities had forums for trade & arenas to entertain citizens



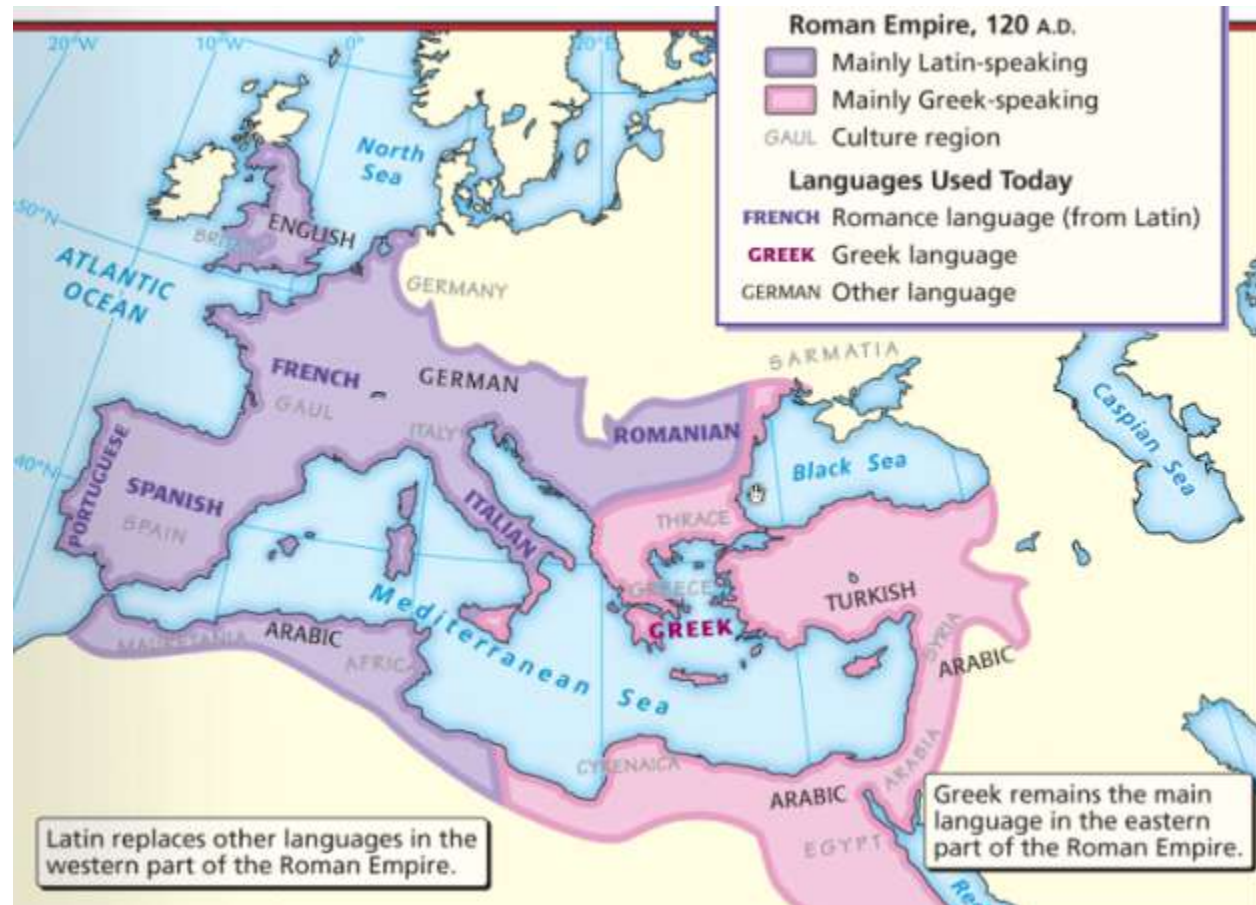
One of the most impressive architectural buildings in the Byzantine Empire was a Christian cathedral called the Hagia Sophia



The Byzantine Empire

■ Citizens in the Byzantine Empire thought of themselves as Romans & they shared some similarities with the Roman Empire:

– The official language was Latin, but most Byzantines spoke Greek



The Byzantine Empire

- Citizens in the Byzantine Empire thought of themselves as Romans & they shared some similarities with the Roman Empire:

Religion in the late Roman Empire

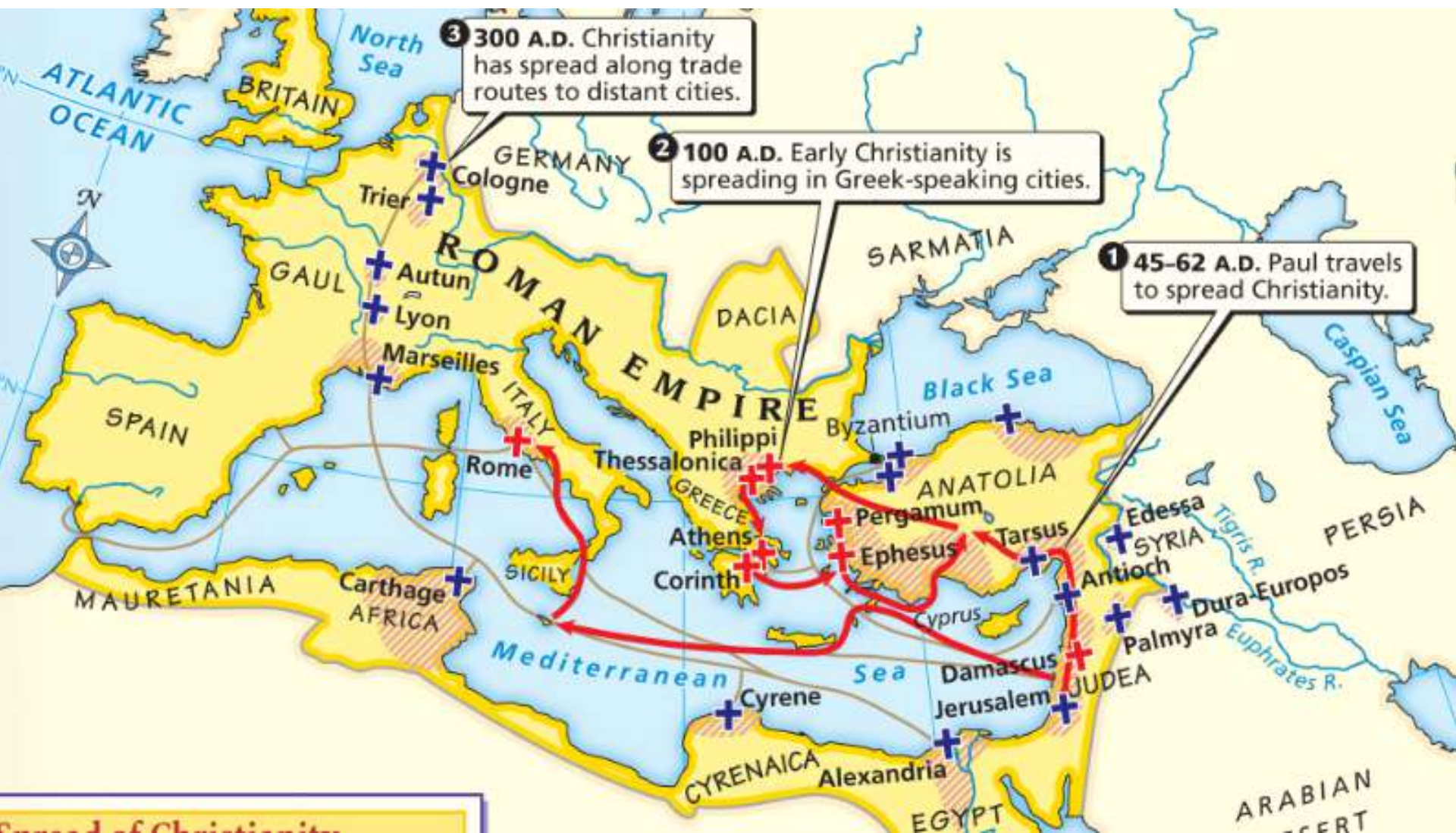


Religion in the Byzantine Empire



How was religion similar?

Because of its location close to Judea, most Byzantines had converted to Christianity before those in the Western Roman Empire



The Byzantine Empire

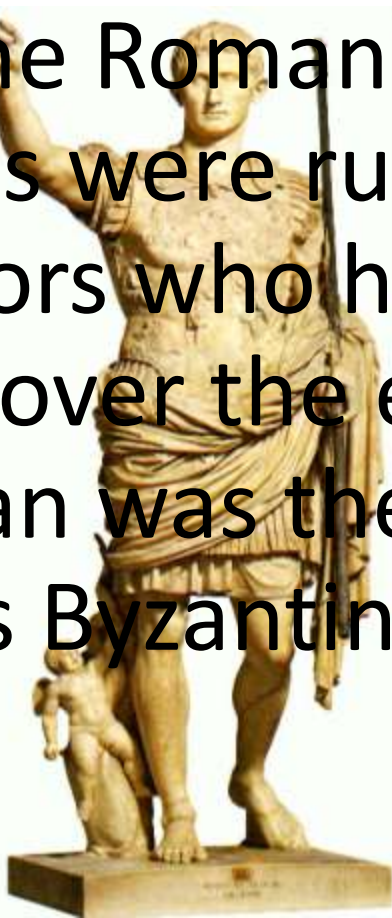
■ Citizens in the Byzantine Empire thought of themselves as Romans & they shared some similarities with the Roman Empire:

– Both the Roman & Byzantine Empires were ruled by emperors who had absolute power over the empire

– Justinian was the most famous Byzantine Emperor

Roman
government

Byzantine
government



How was
government
similar?

About 50 years after the fall of Rome, Byzantine Emperor Justinian came to power & began reconquering Roman territories



In addition to empire building,
what else did Emperor Justinian value?



The Justinian Code

- To oversee his new empire, Justinian ordered legal experts to consolidate old Roman laws into a single law code
 - The Justinian Code served as the legal basis for criminal justice, marriage, property, slavery, & women's rights
 - The law code became one of the most important legacies of the Byzantine Empire & served as the basis for laws for the next 900 years

Justinian

- In addition to expanding the empire & creating a uniform set of laws, Emperor Justinian also began large building projects
 - He ordered the construction of the Hagia Sophia to show the importance of the church
 - He built hospitals, aqueducts, public baths, schools, & courts



Empress Theodora

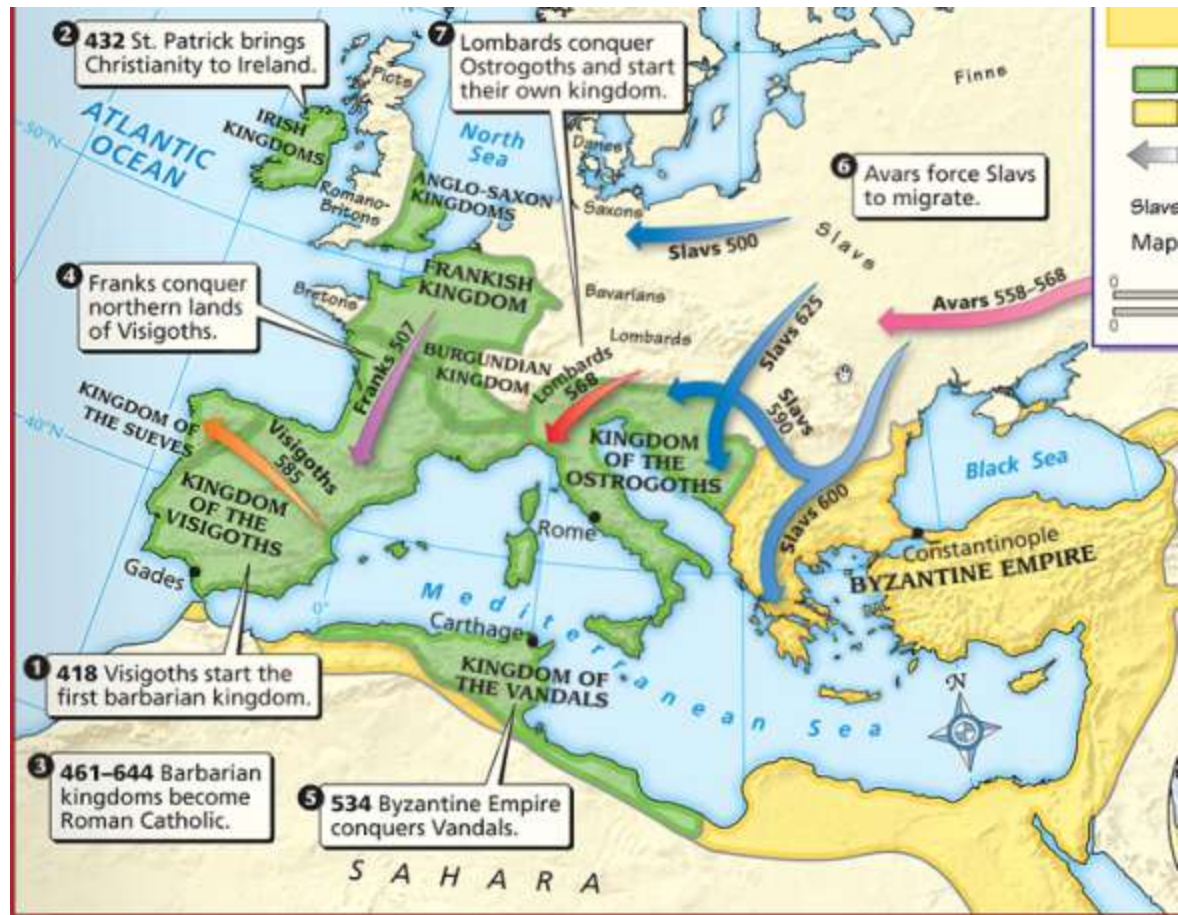
- Justinian's wife Theodora had a lot of power & influence in the Byzantine Empire:
- She met with & wrote to foreign leaders
 - She advised Justinian & helped him pass laws
 - She encouraged building of Christian cathedrals



The Division of Christianity

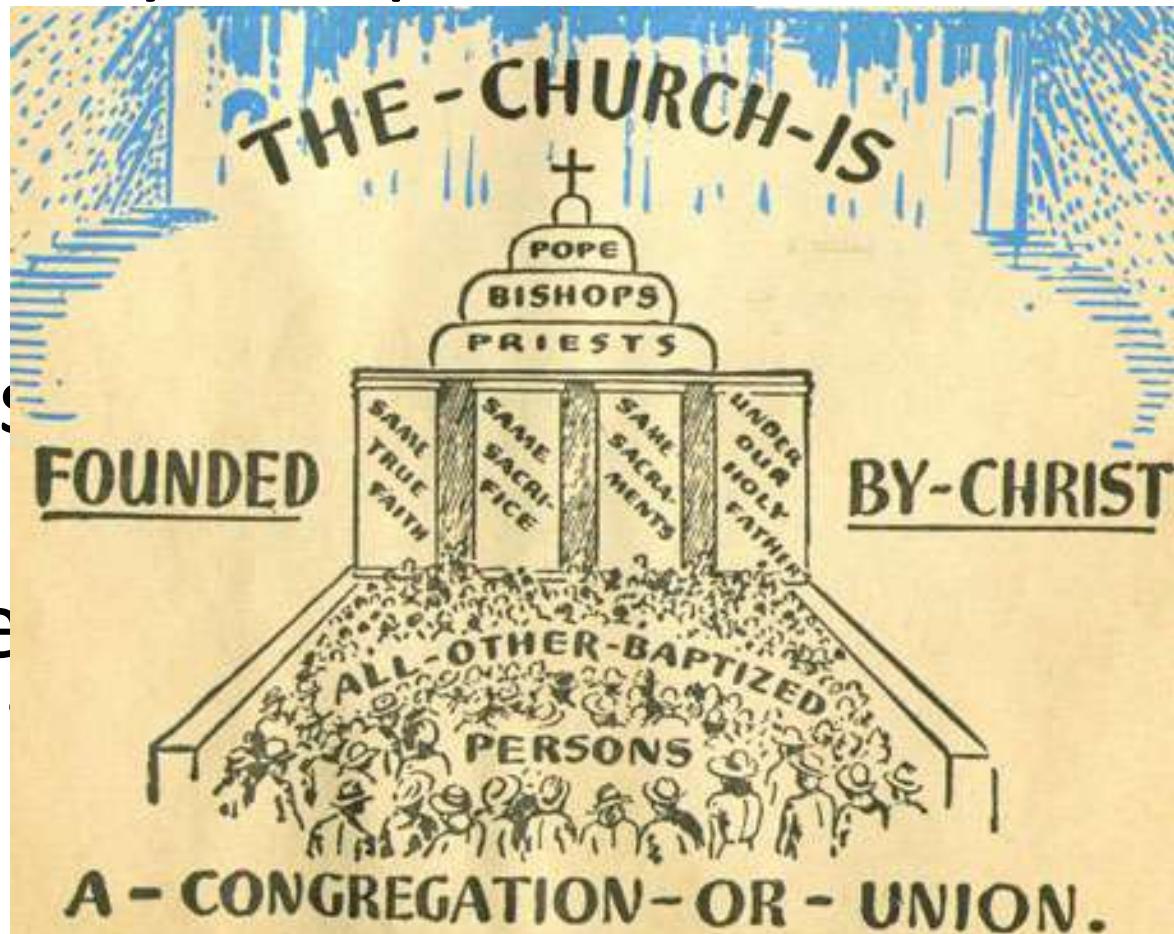
■ Because of the distance & lack of contact between Byzantine Empire & Western Europe, Christianity developed differently

- All Christians based their faith on Jesus & the Bible
- But they had different practices to show their faith



The Division of Christianity

- Christians were organized the same way:
 - Archbishops & bishops oversaw regions where Christianity was practiced
 - Priests led individual churches
 - But, Christians in the East & West disagreed over leadership of the Church



The Division of Christianity

- Christians in Western Europe:
- Believed that there should be a Pope to oversee bishops & give authority to all Christians
 - Christians in Western Europe accepted the authority of the Pope



The Division of Christianity

- Christians in Eastern Europe:
 - Believed that the Byzantine Emperor had authority over issues involving Christianity
 - Byzantine emperors relied on a Patriarch to oversee the church, but the emperor had final authority
 - Christians in the Byzantine Empire did not accept the authority of the Pope



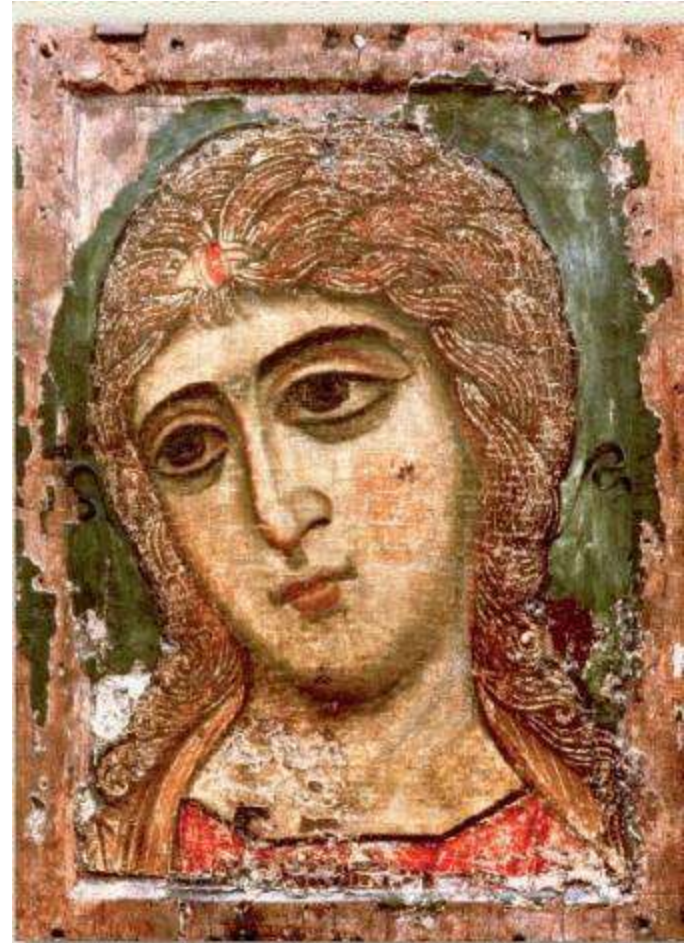
Leaders of the Two Churches



Pope John Paul II (right) is the supreme head of the Roman Catholic Church. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew (left) holds a slightly different position in the Orthodox Church. Eastern Orthodox churches pay him their highest honors because he heads the ancient Church of Constantinople, but they do not consider him their supreme authority.

The Division of Christianity

- One of the biggest controversies among Christians was the use of icons:
 - Icons were religious images to help Christians in their prayers & worship
 - Some Christians thought this was “idol worship”
 - In 730, the Byzantine Emperor banned icons & many Christians rioted



Emperor Leo III
ordered the destruction
of icons in the
Byzantine Empire

Riots broke out
between people who
wanted icons &
iconoclasts (those who
wanted to ban icons)



The Pope in Western Europe
supported the use of icons &
called the Byzantine Emperor
a heretic (a believer of false
ideas)

The Pope
excommunicate
d the emperor
(kicked him out
of the church)

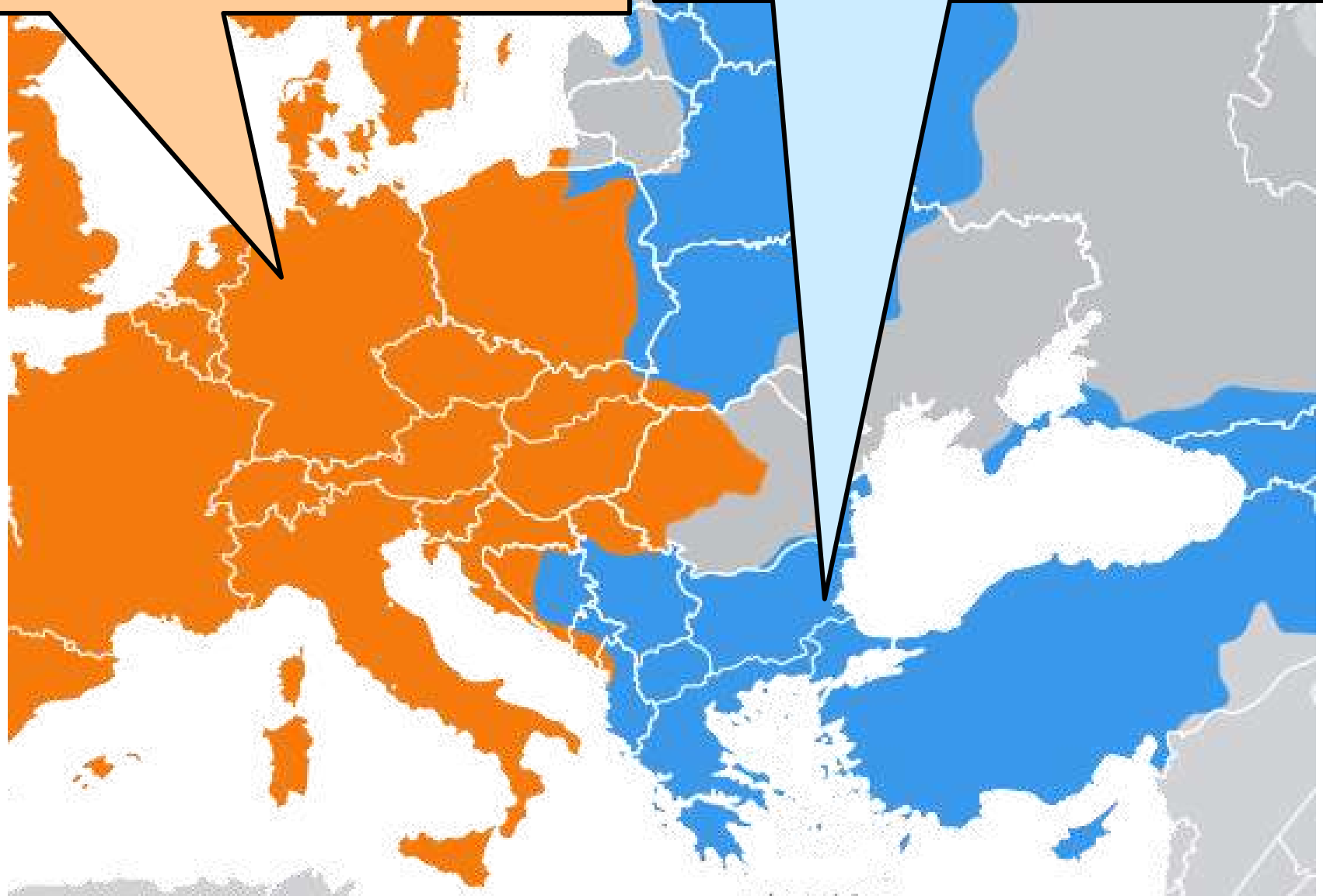
The Division of Christianity

- These disagreements led to deep divisions among Christians & the Great Schism (split) occurred in 1054:



Christians in Western Europe became the Roman Catholic Church

Christians in Eastern Europe became the Eastern Orthodox Church



The Division of Christianity

Roman Catholics & Eastern Orthodox Christians practice their regions differently:

Roman Catholic

Services are conducted in Latin.

The pope has authority over all other bishops.

The pope claims authority over all kings and emperors.

Priests may not marry.

Divorce is not permitted.

Similarities

They base their faith on the gospel of Jesus and the Bible.

They use sacraments such as baptism.

Their religious leaders are priests and bishops.

They seek to convert people.

Eastern Orthodox

Services are conducted in Greek or local languages.

The patriarch and other bishops head the Church as a group.

The emperor claims authority over the patriarch and other bishops of the empire.

Priests may be married.

Divorce is allowed under certain conditions.

Religion in Europe Today



Closure Activity

- You are a Roman citizen who was caught in an avalanche and frozen during the Pax Romana. You were found 250 years later during Justinian's reign & defrosted in the city of Constantinople. You awoke to find yourself in a new city that you have never seen before. Some things are different, some are familiar.
 - Write a paragraph journal entry from the perspective of a frozen Roman that compares your home in Rome with this new city of Constantinople. (Think about gov't, location, entertainment, religion, language)
 - Include at least 4 facts in your journal entry