Name	
Global 9	
Mrs. Belikov	
Middle Ages DBQ	

Historical Context:

The Middle Ages in Europe, a period of time from approximately A.D. 500 to 1400, have been referred to by a variety of terms-the Age of Faith, the Dark Ages, the Age of Feudalism, and even a Golden Age. The medieval era began with the destruction of the Roman Empire and the disorder that followed, which led to the rise of feudalism. During this period of darkness, the Roman Catholic Church provided spiritual direction as well as many nonreligious functions for the people of the times.

Directions: Complete the DBQ (document based questions) first. Check the boxes as appropriate. Then, come back to this first page and make an argument: which label best fits this time period? Choose one (Age of Faith, Dark Ages, Age of Feudalism or Golden Age). Support your argument with details from the documents (at least two)

In *The Middle Ages*, historian Frantz Funck-Brentano made use of previously published texts to describe Europe in the ninth and tenth centuries (Heinemann, 1922, pp.1-3).

The barbarians have broken through the ramparts. The Saracen (Muslim) invasions have spread in successive waves over the South. The Hungarians swarm over the Eastern provinces...they sacked town and village, and laid waste the fields. They burned down the churches and then departed with a crowd of captives...There is no longer any trade, only unceasing terror...The peasant has abandoned his ravaged fields to avoid the violence of anarchy. The people have gone to cower in the depths of the forests or in inaccessible regions, or have taken refuge in the high mountains...Society has no longer any government.

Question: According to the author, what were conditions like in Europe during the 800's?		

Choose which of these labels best fits this document (make a check):

Doc	The Dark Ages	Age of Feudalism	Age of Faith	Golden Age
1				

Document 2

This excerpt is from the Homage Oath taken by John of Toul.

I, John of Toul, make known that I am the liege man (vassal) of the (count and countless of Champagne)...I will aid the count of Champagne in my own person, and will send to the count and countess of Champagne the knights whose service I owe to them for the fief which they have given me."

Question: What are the obligations John is	promising to uphola:	

Doc	The Dark Ages	Age of Feudalism	Age of Faith	Golden Age
2				

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle tells of invasion of England.

842	In this year there was a great slaughter in London and Quentavic and in
	Rochester
846	According to their custom the Northmen plunderedand burned the town
	of Dordrechtthe Northmen, with their boats filled with immense booty,
	including both men and goods, returned to their own country

Question: According to this Chronicle, what is happening in England at this time (842-846)?

Choose which of these labels best fits this document (make a check):

Doc	The Dark Ages	Age of Feudalism	Age of Faith	Golden Age
3				

Document 4

Vassal to lord: Lord to vassal

v assar to for u.	Lord to vassar.		
Obligation	Obligation		
Loyalty	Protection		
Military Service	Land (fief)		
Ransom (if needed)			





Question: Explain the mutual obligations illustrated in the diagram and the images.

Doc	The Dark Ages Age of Feudalism		Age of Faith	Golden Age
4				

A Church council calls for the observance of the Truce of God, 1083.

...That from the first day of the Advent of our Lord through Epiphany...and throughout the year on every Sunday, Friday, and Saturday, and on the fast days of the four seasons...this decree of peace shall be observed...so that no one may commit murder, arson, robbery, or assaults, no one may injure another with a sword, club, or any kind of weapon...On...every day set aside, or to be set aside, for fasts or feasts, arms may be carried, but on this condition, that no injury shall be done in any way to any one...If it shall happen that any castle is besieged during the days which are included within the peace, the besiegers shall cease from attack unless they are set upon by the besieged and compelled to beat the latter back...

Question: According to this document, what is the Church asking for? Why?					
Choose wh	ich of these labels best fi	ts this document (make a	check):		
Doc	The Dark Ages	Age of Feudalism	Age of Faith	Golden Age	
5					

Document 6

This excerpt describes the Middle Ages. (From Gray C. Boyce, "The Medieval Period" in *The 34th Yearbook of the National Council for the Social Studies*, 1964, pp. 69-70).

...we learn that an age once traditionally described as "dark" had remarkable vitality and exuberance. Even at its worst it performed the function of guarding, frequently by accident and chance, the knowledge and treasures of what had come before, but even more it was creative and inventive, and transmitted to later ages great riches of its own.

Question: What was life like during the Middle Ages according to the document?

Doc	The Dark Ages	Age of Feudalism	Age of Faith	Golden Age
6				

This description of the positive aspects of the Middle Ages was taken from *Medieval Europe* by H.C. Davis, Oxford University Press, 1946, p. 79.

...Medieval culture was imperfect, was restricted to a narrow circle of superior minds...Measure it, by the memories and the achievements that it has bequeathed to the modern world, and it will be found not unworthy to rank with those of earlier and later Golden Ages. It flourished in the midst of rude surroundings, fierce passions, and material ambitions...we must judge of them by their philosophy and law, by their poetry and architecture...

Question: How does this author describe the Middle Ages?	
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Choose which of these labels best fits this document (make a check):

Doc	The Dark Ages	Age of Feudalism	Age of Faith	Golden Age
7				

Document 8

This excerpt is from the monastic vows of Brother Gerald.

I hereby renounce my parents, my brothers and relatives, my friends, my possessions...and the vain and empty glory and pleasure of this world. I also renounce my own will, for the will of God. I accept all the hardships of the monastic life, and take the vows of purity, chastity, and poverty, in the hope of heaven; and I promise to remain a monk in this monastery all the days of my life.

Question: What is Gerald	promising to do wh	en he becomes a monk?
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	Doc	The Dark Ages	Age of Feudalism	Age of Faith	Golden Age	
	8					

In 1095, Pope Urban II issued a call for a holy crusade—a war to recapture the Holy Land.

...Your brethren who live in the (Middle) East are in urgent need of your help...For, as most of you have heard, the Turks and the Arabs have attacked them and have conquered the territory of Romania (the Byzantine Empire)...They have occupied more and more of the lands of those Christians...They have killed and captured many, and have destroyed the churches and devastated the Empire...all who dies by the way, whether by land or sea, or in battle against the pagans, shall have immediate remission of sins.

Question: How does this call for a Crusade demonstrate the power of the Pope and the Roman Catholic Church?

Choose which of these labels best fits this document (make a check):

Doc	The Dark Ages	Age of Feudalism	Age of Faith	Golden Age
9				

Document 10





Question: Examine these pictures of Gothic Cathedrals. How do they illustrate the power of the Roman Catholic Church?

Doc	The Dark Ages	Age of Feudalism	Age of Faith	Golden Age
10				