



# Empires in the Middle Ages

Lesson 8: Positive Aspects of Life in the Middle Ages



# Chapter 5: The Power of the Church

## Review

Which Church was powerful in Europe during the Middle Ages?



# Chapter 5: The Power of the Church

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Which Church was powerful in Europe during the Middle Ages?

- The Christian Church



# Chapter 5: The Power of the Church

## Review

The religion of Christianity is based on whose teachings?



# Chapter 5: The Power of the Church

## Review

The religion of Christianity is based on whose teachings?

- Jesus



# Chapter 5: The Power of the Church

## Review

Who is the leader of the Christian Church based in Rome?



# Chapter 5: The Power of the Church

## Review

Who is the leader of the Christian Church based in Rome?

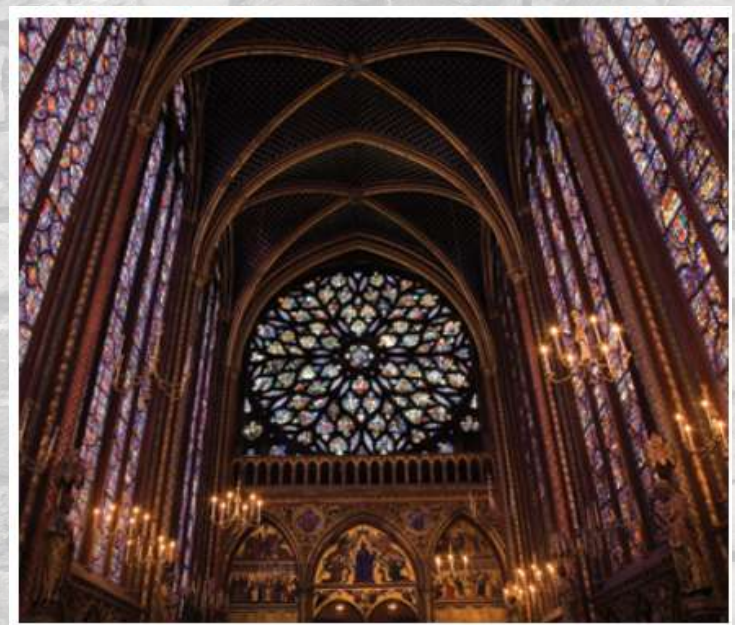
- The pope



# Chapter 5: The Power of the Church

## Review

Looking at these images of cathedrals, what can you guess about the power, wealth, and importance of the Church in the Middle Ages?



Stained-glass windows in La Sainte-Chapelle in Paris, France, built in the 1200s



Chartres Cathedral



Interior of the Duomo, or Cathedral, of Pisa, Italy, begun in the 1000s

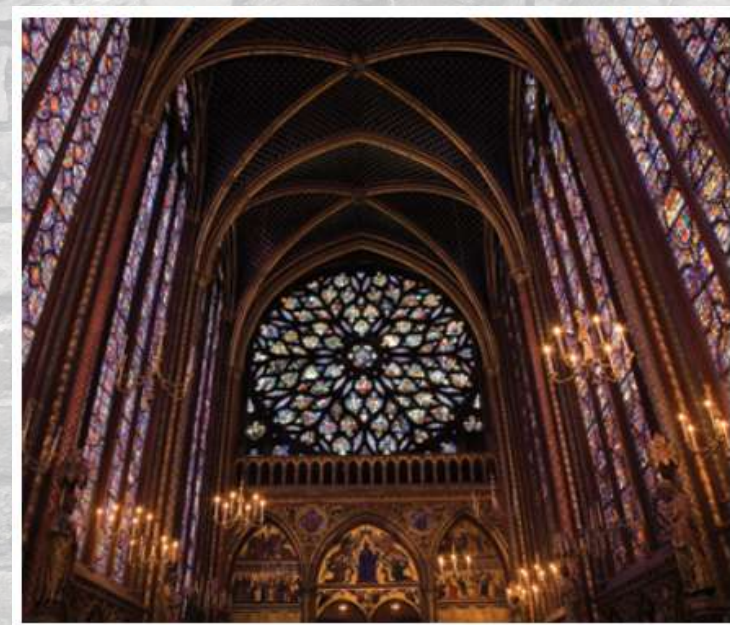


# Chapter 5: The Power of the Church

## Review

Looking at these images of cathedrals, what can you guess about the power, wealth, and importance of the Church in the Middle Ages?

- The Church was very wealthy and important to people's lives.
- The buildings were very elaborate and took a lot of time and money to build.



Stained-glass windows in La Sainte-Chapelle in Paris, France, built in the 1200s



Chartres Cathedral



Interior of the Duomo, or Cathedral, of Pisa, Italy, begun in the 1000s



# Chapter 5: The Power of the Church

## Vocabulary 7.1

### Vocabulary for “The Power of the Church”

1. **summon**, *v.* to call or send for someone (38)
2. **anchored**, *adj.* strongly connected (38)
3. **fast**, *v.* to eat little or no food (**fasting**) (40)
4. **rose window**, *n.* a circular stained-glass window in a church that contains a pattern near the center (**rose windows**) (40)
5. **spire**, *n.* a tall, cone-shaped structure at the top of a building (**spires**) (40)
6. **devote**, *v.* to give time or attention to something (**devoted**) (41)
7. **exquisite**, *adj.* extremely beautiful (43)
8. **destined**, *adj.* certain to become something or do something (44)
9. **humble**, *adj.* not thinking you are better than others (44)
10. **sacred**, *adj.* holy; deserving special respect (45)



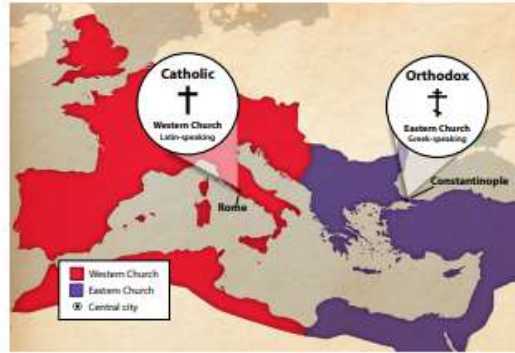
# Chapter 5 “The Power of the Church”

## The BIG Question

What practices in the Middle Ages show the influence and power of the Church?



# Chapter 5: “The Power of the Church”



The Christian Church split apart

during the Middle Ages still exist today.

In western Europe, almost every village and town had a church. Most people attended church on Sunday. In addition, certain days were considered holy days to mark important events in the life of Jesus and his followers. People did not work on these days, but instead went to church. Some holy days were feast days and other holy days were days of **fasting**. Christmas, an important Christian holiday, was a time of feasting, or celebration. The 40 days before Easter, another Christian holiday, were a time of fasting called Lent.

Architects and craftsmen in the Middle Ages built beautiful churches to express their love for God. New engineering skills enabled stonemasons to create a style of architecture that later became known as Gothic. They built tall towers, arches, **rose windows**, and **spires**. Sometimes it took hundreds of years to complete a great medieval cathedral.



Chartres Cathedral

What does the word **orthodox** mean?

Why do you think the eastern part of the Church chose this word as part of its name?

What does the word **catholic** mean?

Why do you think the western part of the Church chose this word as part of its



# Chapter 5: “The Power of the Church”

Holy shrines dedicated to people who played an important role in the history of Christianity were scattered across western Europe. These shrines were usually places where religious figures had been killed

or buried, or where miracles were believed

to have happened. Most Christians

hoped to go on at least one journey,

or pilgrimage, to visit one of these

shrines in their lifetime. For many,

going on a pilgrimage meant

walking or riding long distances,

and eating and sleeping in roadside

taverns or religious houses. Many

men and women made the journey

to fulfill a vow to God, to seek a

cure for a disease, or just to

travel abroad.



Medieval pilgrims

Monks were men who chose to live apart from society and to **devote** their lives to the Church. They spent their lives in monasteries, working on the land, studying, and praying. Monks were often the most educated people in Europe, especially in the early part of the Middle Ages. A monastery was a building, or collection of buildings, that housed monks.

Monasteries were usually contained within high walls that provided a certain amount of protection.



Sénanque Abbey in Provence, France, was founded in 1148 CE.

What does the word ***pilgrimage*** mean?

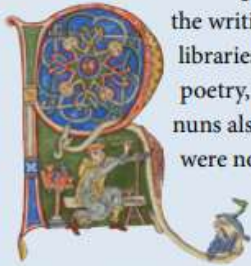
What clues from the text help you to determine the meaning of the word ***pilgrimage***?

Why would most Christians hope to go on at least one pilgrimage in their lifetimes?



# Chapter 5: “The Power of the Church”

## Precious Books



Illuminated manuscripts were works of art.

During the Middle Ages, monks and nuns studied the writings of ancient Greeks and Romans. Their libraries contained books about religion, science, poetry, mathematics, and history. Monks and nuns also copied ancient writings by hand. There were no machines or printers that made books.

By copying these texts, monks and nuns helped to preserve, or save, ancient knowledge that would otherwise have been lost.

In the late Middle Ages, the higher social classes who could read, and even write, owned their own prayer books, such as the *Book of Hours*. These prayer books were read at different times of the day. In addition to prayers, the books included biblical texts, calendars, hymns, and painted pictures.

Many of the books produced by monks and nuns contained **exquisite art and design features**. After the Middle Ages, as a result of Johannes Gutenberg's invention of the printing press around 1450 CE, more affordable books were produced. These printed books began to replace the beautiful handmade books and made these original manuscripts even more rare.



Page from *Book of Hours* created in the early 1400s for John, Duke of Berry (France)

What role did monks and nuns play during the Middle Ages in preserving writings from ancient Greece and Rome?

Why might it be important to preserve this ancient knowledge?

Why did monks and nuns spend so much time carefully writing and illustrating prayer books such as the *Books of Hours* by hand?



# Chapter 5: “The Power of the Church”

## If You Were a Monk

Young boys like you are often given to a monastery. Even a serf can become a monk.

[REDACTED]

Life within a monastery certainly is hard. However, you are assured of a place to sleep, clothing, food, medical care, and an education.



Novice working in the monastery garden

Your training will take many years. When you start your training, you are called a novice, another word for *beginner*. You begin by learning to read and write. You study texts from the Bible, pray, and learn to farm or to acquire a certain skill. If, at the end of your training, you are certain you want to join the Church, you

take part in a special ceremony. In this ceremony, you vow, or promise, to dedicate your life to God. You also vow not to marry, and to live a **humble** and obedient life. Then, the top of your head is shaved, identifying you as a monk.



Novice



Novice taking his vows

Whom is the author talking to in this sentence?

This is written in the second-person point of view. Why would author use third-person point of view throughout most of the text, and then change to second-person in some parts?



# Chapter 5: “The Power of the Church”

## If You Were a Monk

Young boys like you are often given to a monastery. Even a serf can become a monk. Therefore, if you are not **destined** to become a craftsman or a merchant, then becoming a monk is a good option.

Life within a monastery certainly is hard.        you are assured of a place to sleep, clothing, food, medical care, and an education.



Novice working in the monastery garden

Your training will take many years. When you start your training, you are called a novice, another word for *beginner*. You begin by learning to read and write. You study texts from the Bible, pray, and learn to farm or to acquire a certain skill. If, at the end of your training, you are certain you want to join the Church, you

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Novice



Novice taking his vows

The word **however** signals a change from the previous sentence or paragraph. What is the change that occurs from the first sentence?

What words, phrases, or images provide clues to the meaning of **humble** in this paragraph?



# Chapter 5: “The Power of the Church”



Monks chanting hymns

As a monk, you spend a large part of your day in worship and prayer. **However**, you also spend time working on the land or in the monastery itself. You might wash clothes, cook, or tend to the vegetable garden. You might learn to make honey, wine, or beer. Or, you might learn how to make shoes or furniture. If you have a beautiful singing voice, you might participate in the performance of Gregorian

chants. Gregorian chants are a form of sacred vocal music, or musical speech, based on hymns or passages from the Bible. Monks perform these chants on certain holy days. As a gifted artist, you might work in the scriptorium copying the work of classical writers or producing new books. For many like you, the life of a monk provides a degree of security and protection from some of the challenges of medieval life.



Monk working in the scriptorium



What does the word **however** signal here?

What were some of the jobs monks did in the monastery?

What words or phrases provide clues to the meaning of the word **scared** in this paragraph?



# Chapter 5: “The Power of the Church”



Monks chanting hymns

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Monk working in the scriptorium

## A Monk's Daily Prayer Schedule



Look at the image on the bottom of the page.

What information is contained in this image? How do you know?

Do you think the monks' daily prayer schedule would have been easy or difficult to follow?



# Chapter 5: “The Power of the Church”

## Discuss the Chapter

Summarize the practices in the Middle Ages that show the influence and power of the Church.



# Chapter 5: “The Power of the Church”

## Discuss the Chapter

*Summarize what it was like to be a monk during the Middle Ages.*



# Word Work - *Destined*

## From the Text

“Therefore, if you are not *destined* to become a craftsman or a merchant, then becoming a monk is a good option.

## Definition

Certain to become something or do something

## Part of Speech

adjective

## Sentence

Antonella is such a good artist that she is *destined* to become famous.



# Word Work - ***Destined***

Mozart, who began playing and writing music from a very young age, and spent many hours practicing, became a world-famous musician.

Was Mozart ***destined*** to become a musician?



# Word Work - ***Destined***

Mia, who is very smart and works very hard in school, wants to get good grades.

Is Mia ***destined*** to get better grades?



# Word Work - ***Destined***

Pablo is hungry and wants to have apples as a snack.

Is Pablo ***destined*** to have apples as a snack?



# Word Work - ***Destined***

Christopher Columbus was not destined to reach the Indies in the East.

Was Christopher Columbus ***destined*** to reach the Indies in the East?



# Writing – Persuasive Paragraph

- ❖ Today you will get a chance to express your opinions about the different people who lived during the Middle Ages.
- ❖ You will list 2 pros about each group of people – a positive reason in favor of that group.
- ❖ We will use Graphic Organizer 2.6 to complete the Pro Chart for Lords and Serfs together.
- ❖ You will use the Graphic Organizer 7.2 to complete the Pro Chart for Knights, Craftsmen, and Monks/Nuns.



# Writing – Persuasive Paragraph

## Activity page 8.1

Graphic Organizer: Pros of Knights, Craftsmen, Monks, and Nuns

	+
Lord	1. 2.
Serf	1. 2.
Knight	1. 2.
Craftsman	1. 2.
Monk or Nun	1. 2.