

Subject Matter Expert

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CHAPTER 1: Changing Times



In 452 CE, Attila and the Huns threatened the city of Rome.

Big Question: What changes led to the decline of the Western Roman Empire?

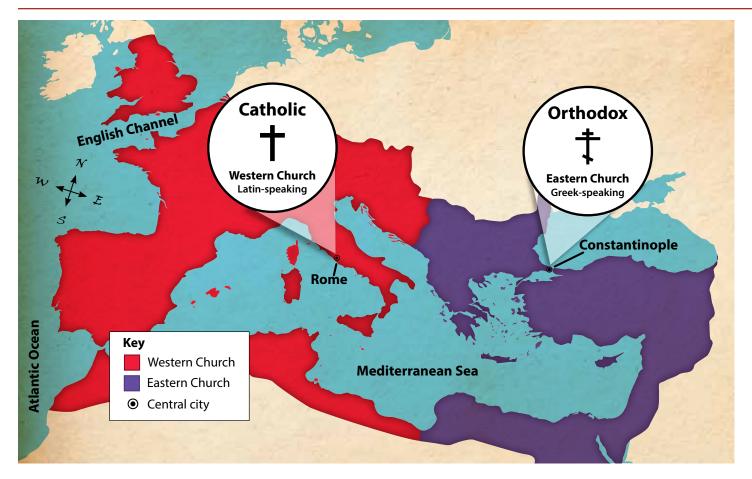
CHAPTER 3: Two Churches



In 590 CE, Pope Gregory, who became known as Pope Gregory the Great, was appointed. His writings influenced many people.

Big Question: Why did the collapse of the Western Roman Empire make it possible for the bishop of Rome to become more powerful?

CHAPTER 3: Two Churches



In 1054 CE, the Christian Church split apart, and the Western Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches were established.

Big Question:

Why did the collapse of the Western Roman Empire make it possible for the bishop of Rome to become more powerful?

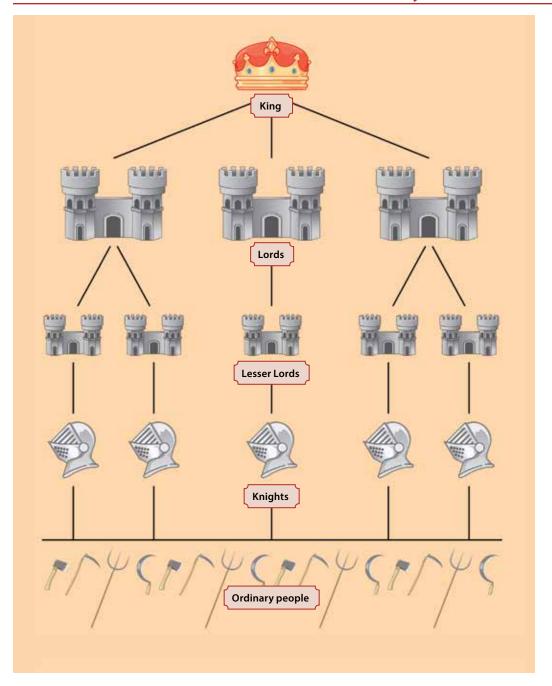
CHAPTER 5: Charlemagne



In 800 CE, Pope Leo III crowned Charlemagne emperor of the Romans.

Big Question: Why did King Charles earn the title Charles the Great, or *Charlemagne*?

CHAPTER 6: A Feudal Society

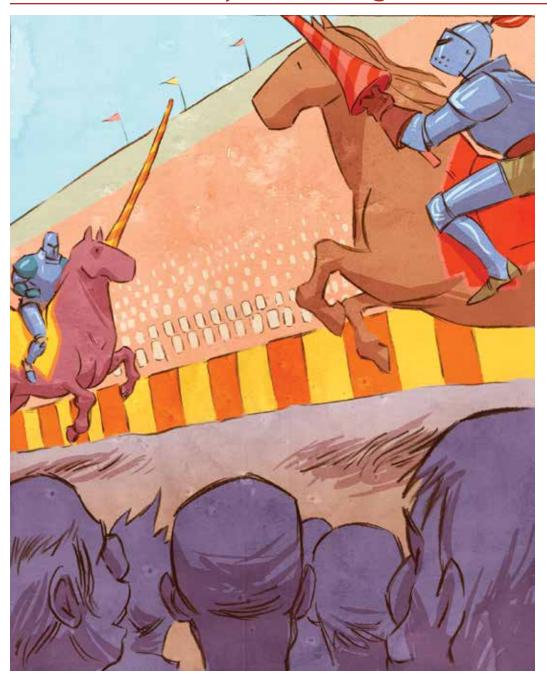


From the 800s and 900s onward, the feudal system created relationships between people based on loyalty and service.

Big Question:

How did the feudal system hold people, communities, and kingdoms together?

CHAPTER 9: Days of a Knight

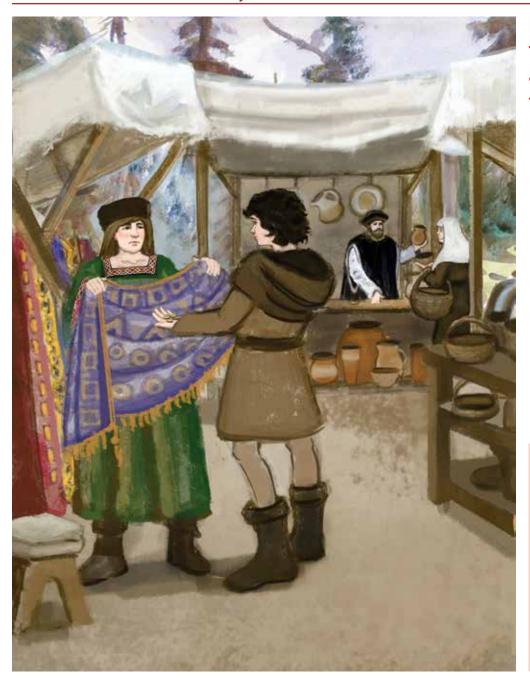


In the 1100s, a set of rules called the Code of Chivalry was created. Knights had to promise to be loyal and honorable.

Big Question:

What was the life of a knight like?

CHAPTER 11: City Life

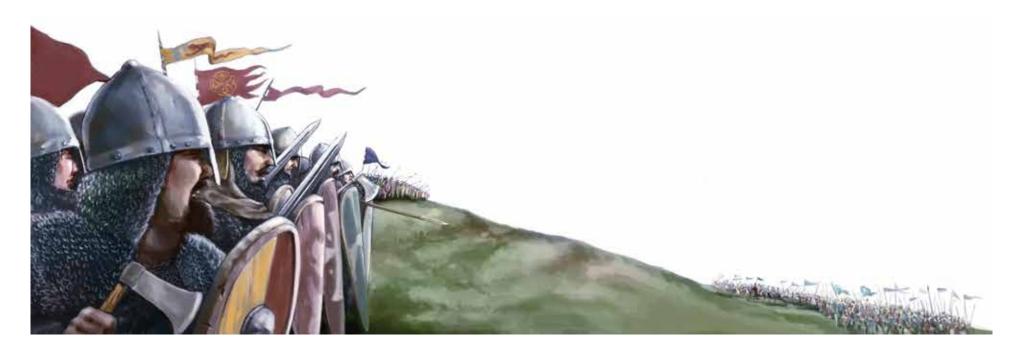


In the 1200s, trade and towns grew along with the guilds, which controlled craftsmen and apprentices. People moved from the countryside to start new lives in the towns.

Big Question: How was life in a medieval city different from life on a manor estate?

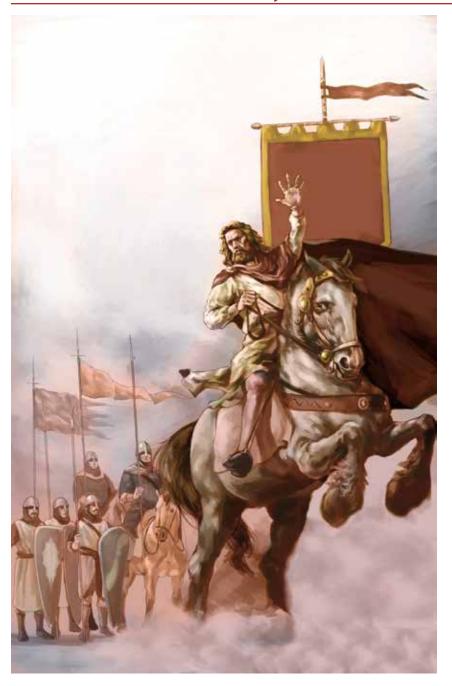
CHAPTER 13: William the Conqueror

In 1066 CE, the Normans, led by William the Conqueror, defeated the English in the Battle of Hastings. This conquest transformed English society and culture.



Big Question: How did William's successful invasion of England affect the English language?

CHAPTER 14: Henry II

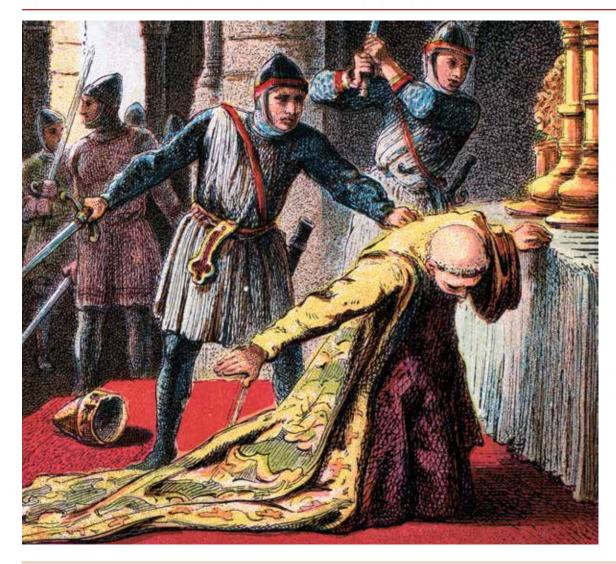


In 1154, Henry II became the king of England. During his reign, he challenged opposing lords and raised taxes.

Big Question:

How did the shield tax benefit King Henry II and future kings?

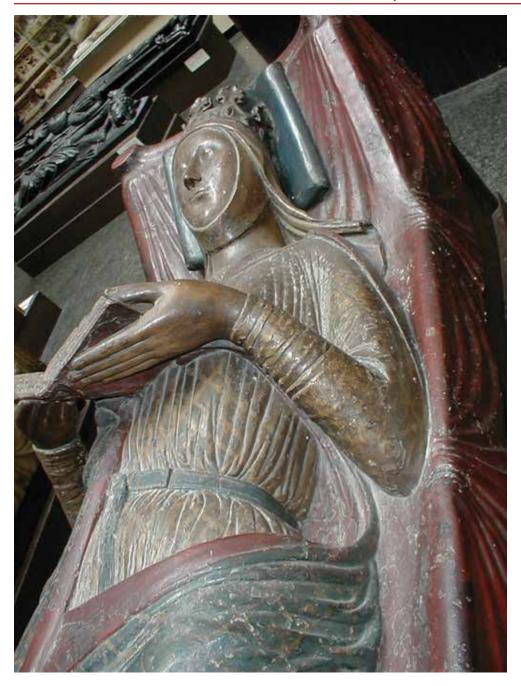
CHAPTER 15: Thomas Becket



In 1170, Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, was murdered.

Big Question: Why did Henry II regret the words he spoke about Thomas Becket?

CHAPTER 16: Eleanor of Aquitaine



In 1154, Eleanor of Aquitaine became the queen of England. She ruled with her husband, Henry II. Eleanor was thought to be the most influential woman in Europe.

Big Question:

Why do you think the author describes Eleanor as extraordinary?

CHAPTER 17: Magna Carta



In 1215, King John was forced to sign a list of demands known as Magna Carta.

Big Question: Why is Magna Carta so important?

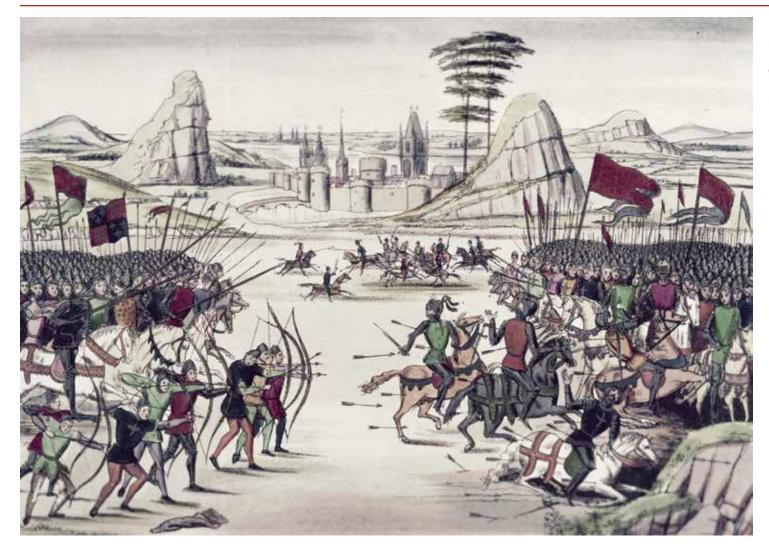
CHAPTER 18: A New Kind of Government



In 1295, King Edward I of England created the Model Parliament. Church leaders and representatives of nobles and townspeople were part of the Parliament.

Big Question: What is the difference between a system of government with representatives and one with a monarch?

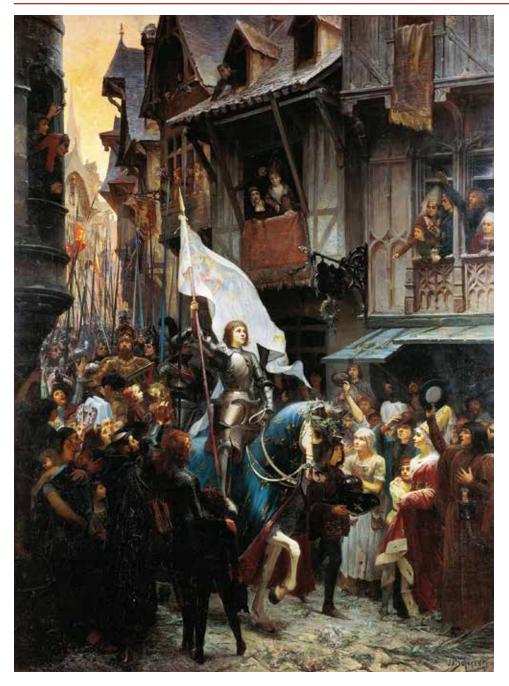
CHAPTER 19: The Hundred Years' War



In 1453, the Hundred Years' War ended. This long, costly war weakened the feudal system.

Big Question: How did the decline of the feudal system change people's loyalties?

CHAPTER 20: Joan of Arc

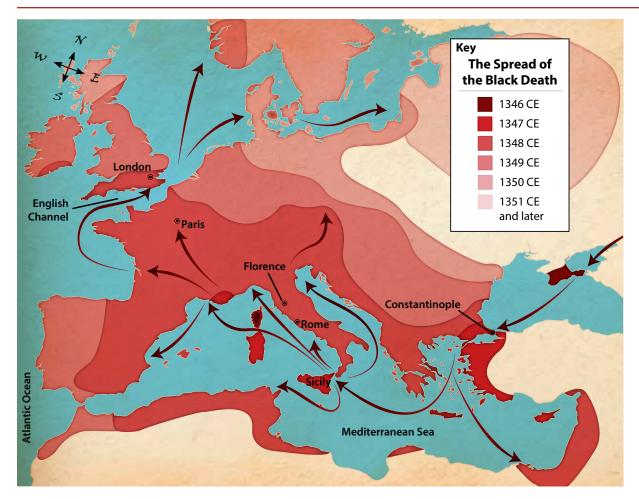


In 1429, Joan of Arc and her soldiers defeated the English in the French city of Orléans.

Big Question:

Why do you think the story of Joan of Arc is still remembered today?

CHAPTER 21: The Black Death



Between 1347 and 1351, the plague, or Black Death, may have killed half the population of Europe.

Big Question: Why do you think having a smaller population in Europe helped improve working conditions for serfs, as well as weaken the feudal system?