Ancient Rome: The End of the Roman Empire Notes**

- The Romans ruled the entire Mediterranean region
  - The Mediterranean Sea was a Roman lake
- Some people believed the empire was too large
  - Too hard to govern
  - Too hard to defend
- Tribes of warriors from Germany attacked the northern border of the Empire
- Persians invaded from the east
- Romans were able to hold off these groups for 200 years
  - This proved costly for the Romans
  - Constant fighting
- People on the borders of the Empire were nervous
  - Could the Roman army protect them?
  - These people abandoned their land to move inward
- Roman government had some Germans farm land in the Empire
  - Germans moved into the Empire
  - The Germans in Roman territory ignored whatever rules the Roman government laid down
- Germans were not listening to the Roman government in the north
- Disease was spreading throughout Rome
- Taxes were increased, making people angry
  - Had to support the large army
- No strong Emperor to take control and fix everything
- Diocletian became Emperor in the late 200sCE
  - Decided the Empire was too large for one man
- The Roman Empire was split in two
  - Eastern and Western
  - Two Emperors would control the Roman Empire
- After Diocletian, Constantine became Emperor
  - Constantine moved the capital city from Rome to Constantinople (Istanbul) in Turkey
    - Also made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire
- Foreign tribes settled along the border of Rome around the same time Diocletian was Emperor
  - Eventually, they began raiding the Empire
- One of the first groups to invade were the Huns
  - From Central Asia
  - Their fiercest leader was Attila
- The Huns battled the Goths (from Southeastern Europe)
  - Goths, Visigoths, and Ostrogoths
  - The Gothic groups fled into Roman territory
- Eastern Roman Empire fought the Goths and pushed them into the Western Roman Empire
  - Goths cause problems for several hundred years
- Western Rome was defeated by the Goths
  - Large numbers of Goths move towards Rome
- 410 – Goths marched into Rome and destroyed the city
After Gothic victories, other groups attacked the Western Roman Empire
  - Vandals, Angles, Saxons, Jutes, and Franks
  - From Northern Europe
The Huns continued to attack the Eastern Roman Empire
  - Were never successful in conquering it
The Emperors in Rome were very weak
  - Military leaders took control and ruled Rome
    - The military leaders often argued and fought
    - This meant small civil wars in Rome itself
This weakened Rome even more
476 – The last Roman Emperor was overthrown
  - 476 – The end of the Western Roman Empire
The Roman Empire was too large
  - Communication and defense was difficult
  - Despite the large road system Rome built
    - 50,000 miles of paved roads!
Corruption was all over the place
  - Corruption – Decaying of people’s values
  - Government sought money before helping people
Private armies were created
  - Weakened Rome’s defenses; took away from army
Taxes raised, schools closed, population fell
  - The city of Rome declined, and so did the Empire
As the Western Empire fell, the Eastern Empire grew in power
  - Called the Byzantine Empire
  - Capital city – Constantinople
  - Byzantine Empire – Society that developed in the Eastern Roman Empire
Emperor Justinian actually conquered much of the land of the Western Empire
  - Emperor Justinian re-wrote the laws so they were Christian
  - Called Justinian’s Code of Laws
Justinian was responsible for creating a lot of wonderful buildings and architecture
  - Church of Hagia Sophia
Justinian had many enemies in the Empire
  - Theodora helped Justinian eliminate his enemies – not always peacefully
Justinian died in 565
After Justinian died, the Byzantine Empire began to decline
  - Eventually, the Ottoman Turks conquer the city in 1453
    - They rename the city Istanbul
    - 1453 – The end of the Byzantine Empire
Ancient Rome: The End of the Roman Empire Notes

- The _____________ ruled the entire ____________ region
- Some people believed the __________ was too ____________
  - Too hard to __________
  - Too hard to __________
- Tribes of __________ from __________ attacked the northern __________ of the Empire
- ____________ invaded from the ____________
- ____________ were able to hold off these groups for __________ years
- People on the __________ of the __________ were ____________
- ____________ government had some __________ farm land in the ____________
  - The ____________ in Roman territory __________ whatever rules the ____________ government laid down
- ____________ were not ____________ to the ____________ government in the north
- ____________ was spreading throughout ____________
- ____________ were increased, making people ____________
- No ____________ Emperor to take ____________ and ____________ everything
- ____________ became Emperor in the late ____________
- The Roman ____________ was split in ____________
  - ____________ and ____________
- After Diocletian, ____________ became Emperor
- ____________ moved the ____________ city from Rome to ________________ in Turkey
  - Also made ____________ the official religion of the ____________ Empire
- One of the first groups to ____________ were the __________
  - From ____________
  - Their ____________ leader was ____________
- The ____________ battled the ____________ (from Southeastern ____________)
  - The ____________ groups fled into ____________ territory
- ____________ Empire fought the ____________ and pushed them into the ____________ Roman Empire
- ____________ Rome was defeated by the ____________
- 410 –
• After _____________ victories, other ______________ attacked the ____________ Roman Empire
  
• The ____________ continued to attack the ________________ Roman Empire
  
  o Were ______________ successful in _______________ it

• ______________ leaders took ____________ and ruled ____________
  
  o The ______________ leaders often argued and ______________

• 476 –
  
  o 476 –

• The Roman Empire was too ____________
  
  o _______________ and ______________ was difficult

• ______________ was all over the place
  
  o Corruption –

• ________________ sought ______________ before helping people

• Private ______________ were created

• Taxes ____________ , schools ____________, population fell
  
  o The city of ______________ declined, and so did the ______________

• As the ______________ Empire fell, the ______________ Empire grew in ______________
  
  o Called the ______________ Empire
  
  o Capital city –
  
  o Byzantine Empire –
  
  o Emperor ______________ re-wrote the ______________ so they were ______________
  
  o Called Justinian’s ______________

• ______________ was responsible for creating a lot of wonderful ____________ and ____________
  
  o Church of ______________

• Justinian died in ______________

• After ______________ died, the ______________ Empire began to ______________

• Eventually, the ______________ Turks conquer the city in ______________
  
  o They rename the city ______________
  
  o 1453 –
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• ____________ - The last Roman Emperor was overthrown
  
  o ______________ - The end of the Western Roman Empire

• The Roman Empire was too __________
  
  o ______________ and defense was difficult

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  o ______________ - Decaying of people’s values

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  o They rename the city ______________
  
  o _________ - The end of the Byzantine Empire