

Ancient Rome: From Republic to Empire Notes*

- The city of Rome was a dangerous place during the late Republic (100BCE – 50BCE)
 - Checks and Balances were no longer followed
 - There were riots and violence all over the city
- Cicero – Roman philosopher and orator
- Cicero tried to change Rome for the better
- Roman generals did not listen and attempted to take more power
- The most powerful Roman general was Julius Caesar
- Caesar was a great general and a orator
- Caesar conquered most of Gaul (modern-day France)
- Caesar made an alliance with a man named Pompey so they could rule Rome together
- After 10 years, Pompey wanted Caesar to give up his power
- Caesar marched his army into Rome (illegal)
- Caesar returned to Rome and named himself dictator for life
- Four years later Caesar was killed by several aristocrats
- Marc Antony and Octavian came to power next
- Antony married Octavian's sister, Octavia
 - Divorced her 8 years later to marry Cleopatra
- Octavian was insulted and wanted to kill Antony

- A Civil war began in Rome
 - Between Antony and Octavian
- Octavian's navy fought Antony's navy at the Battle of Actium (by Greece)
 - Octavian won the battle
- Antony fled to Egypt
 - There he committed suicide with Cleopatra to avoid prison
- Octavian becomes the sole ruler of Rome
- He gained more power and named himself princeps
 - princeps = first citizen
- 27BCE – Senate named Octavian "Augustus"
 - Augustus = revered one
 - This is end of Roman Republic; start of Roman Empire
- 117 CE – Rome controlled:
 - Britain, Western Europe, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Turkey, Greece, North Africa