

Lesson 3: The Papacy, Islam, and Charlemagne

Introduction

AD 410 – Fall of Rome (Alaric the Goth)

Remember the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation:

Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome—then ten toes (Daniel 2), ten horns (Daniel 7)

Germanic tribes that take over Europe, but mingle with the Roman culture (iron & clay).

Results of the Germanic invasion:

War (pillaging, sacking), anarchy (the Roman Empire government fell apart)

Latin disappears as a home language, but remains as the language of the church and university for Europe:

“the Dark Ages” – new Germanic languages, education and book learning almost disappear.

Irish monks copied books and evangelized the Germans – Patrick has an amazing legacy of God’s grace.

Once the Roman Empire fell, three new “players” appeared on the scene and competed with each other...

...the Pope, Mohammed, and the King.

[Draw a picture of each one.]

Who are these “players” and who eventually will win?

Pope Gregory I (540-604) – Imperial Impulse

Last Latin Father – First Medieval Pope – Latin Doctor

Governmental

Senatorial – Ambassador – Benedictine monk → strong central government

Expansive

Italy, Gaul, Spain, Britain → a mission to the “Angels”

Paternalistic (“pope”)

The Book of Pastoral Rule – uniformity in liturgy and language

“I know not what bishop is not subject to the Apostolic See.”

Mohammed (570-632) – Violent Cult

Mecca – starts preaching vision (AD 613)

Medina – chased here by pagans (AD 622 = year zero for Islam)

Caliphs (successors) – all four recognized by Sunnis, but only the last by Shiites

Three Waves of Islam

Saracen Invasions – Egypt, North Africa, Spain – stopped by Charles Martel at the Battle of Tours (AD 732)

Spanish Moors – a *wadi* is now *guada*

Turks – Ottoman Empire

Radical Islam – begins with the Iranian revolution

Charlemagne (742-814) – King of the Franks

Revival of Learning – Alcuin of York (cf. Alfred the Great)

Capitulary of Saxony – first time “evangelization” by the sword

Tension between the Three Rulers

Leo III vs. Charlemagne

December 25, 800 – Coronation of Charlemagne as *Holy Roman Emperor* by Pope Leo III

Holy Roman Empire – a supposed restart of the Roman Empire with a long legacy (cf. Third Reich)

Gregory VII vs. Henry IV

Cluny Reforms – against simony and lay investiture

The Crusades

Urban II – first sermon, first crusade (1095)

Innocent III and Gregory IX – the inquisition as an internal crusade against heresy

The Moral of the Story: Christ has been appointed “head over all things *for the church*” (Eph. 1:22), so who wins?