

A stylized map of Europe and the Mediterranean region. The landmasses are white with black outlines, and the surrounding water bodies are light blue. A green, rounded rectangular box with a thin brown border is centered over the Mediterranean Sea and the Balkans. Inside this box, the title text is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

The Western Civilizations
An Introduction and Chronology of
Western Civilizations and its Origins

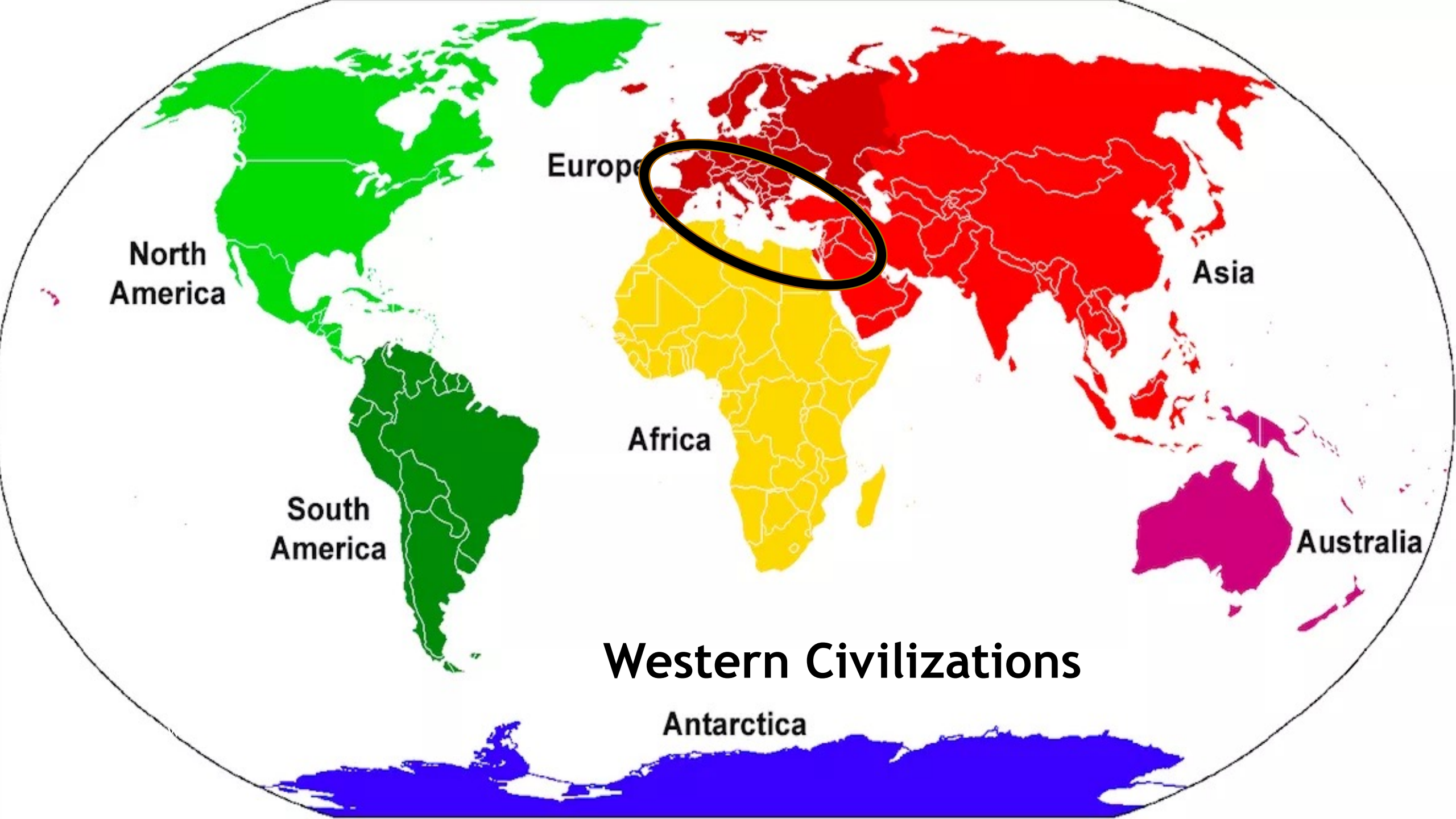
A map of the Roman Empire in 117 A.D. The empire's territory is shaded in red, covering the British Isles, Gaul, Hispania, the Italian Peninsula, the Balkans, the Eastern Mediterranean, and the Nile valley. The Mediterranean Sea and surrounding waters are shaded in blue. Land not under Roman control is shaded in yellow. A green callout box with a brown border is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the map.

**The Roman Empire by
117 A.D./C.E.**

- **What do we mean by the West?**
 - **The West of what?**
- **What is the Origin of the Western Civilizations?**

Western Civilizations





North America

South America

Europe

Africa

Asia

Australia

Antarctica

Western Civilizations

What do we mean by the West?

Describing the West

- Ideas about the West and the distinction between **West** and **East** originated with the **ancient Greeks**.
- **The Greeks** defined themselves in relation to the earlier, advanced societies of the Near East such as **Mesopotamia** and **Egypt**, which they identified as “**Eastern.**”



Describing the West

- The Greeks passed this idea on to the **Romans**.
- They considered themselves part of the **West**.
- They viewed the **Near East/ MENA [the Middle East & N. Africa]** as more sophisticated and advanced.
- Greco-Roman **ideas** about the **West** were passed on to people who lived in **western and northern Europe**.
- They saw themselves as **inheritors** of this tradition and thus as the **West**.



The Roman Forum

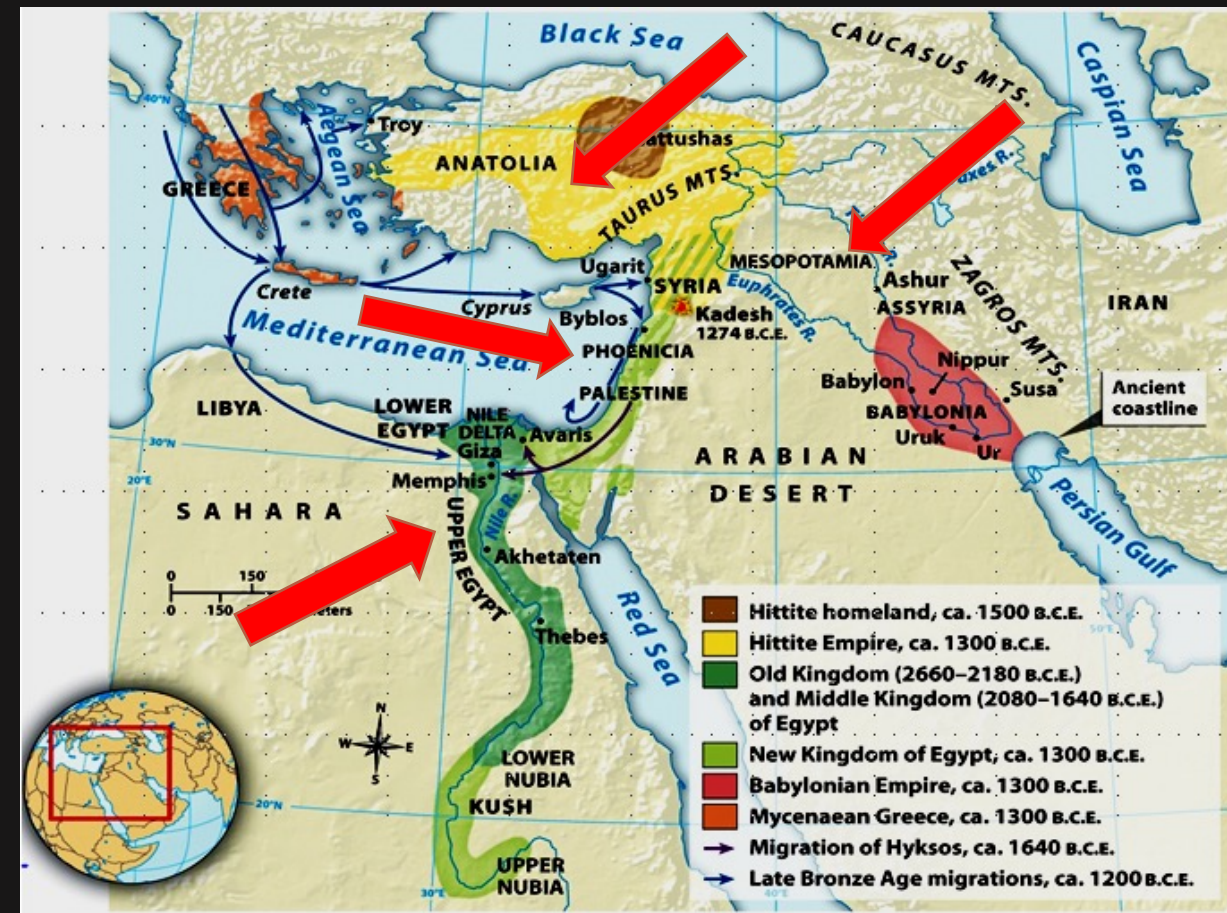


The Parthenon, Athens

What are the Origins of Western Civilizations?

The Origins Western Societies

- Mesopotamia (Sumer, Babylon, & Assyria & Anatolia)
- Egypt
- Phoenicia
- Persia



What is Civilization?

□ Civilization is a large-scale system of

- Political,
- Economic,
- and Social Organizations
- Cities/ Urbanization
- Laws,
- States,
- Writing.



World Ancient Civilizations

A Chronology of Western Civilizations and its Origins

Mesopotamia Civilization	c. 3500 BCE
Egyptian Civilization	c. 3200 BCE
Minoans Civilization (Greeks)	c. 2000 BCE
Myceneans Civilization (Greeks)	c. 1600 BCE
Etruscan Civilization	c. 900 BCE
Roman Civilization	c. 750 BCE
Christianity	c. 30 C.E. /A.D.
Islam	c. 622 C.E. / A.D.

The Ancient Near East, 1800 to 1400 B.C.



The Greek expansion 7th c. BCE





THE EMPIRE OF ALEXANDER

334-323 B.C.

- Conquest course of Alexander
- ⊗ Battle
- ⊙ Siege
- Town founded by Alexander
- ◉ Settlement of existing town
- ⌋ Mountain pass
- Greek colony
- Persian royal road
- A Alexandria





Alexander and His Successors, 336–300 B.C.



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps

1. **Region** Onto which continents did Alexander's empire reach at its height?
2. **Region** Which kingdoms succeeded the empire of Alexander the Great after his death in 323 B.C.?

Italy Before the Roman Conquest



- Roman
- Latin
- Greeks
- Etruscans
- Gauls
- Italic

- Rome territory 700 BC
- Rome territory 500 BC

This map shows Italy in about 400 BC. Note the language differences in the various regions. Greek, Etruscan, Latin and the many Italian dialects were indeed different languages. By the time of Augustus, Latin became the dominant language and all Italians had Roman citizenship.

Rome 336 B.C.

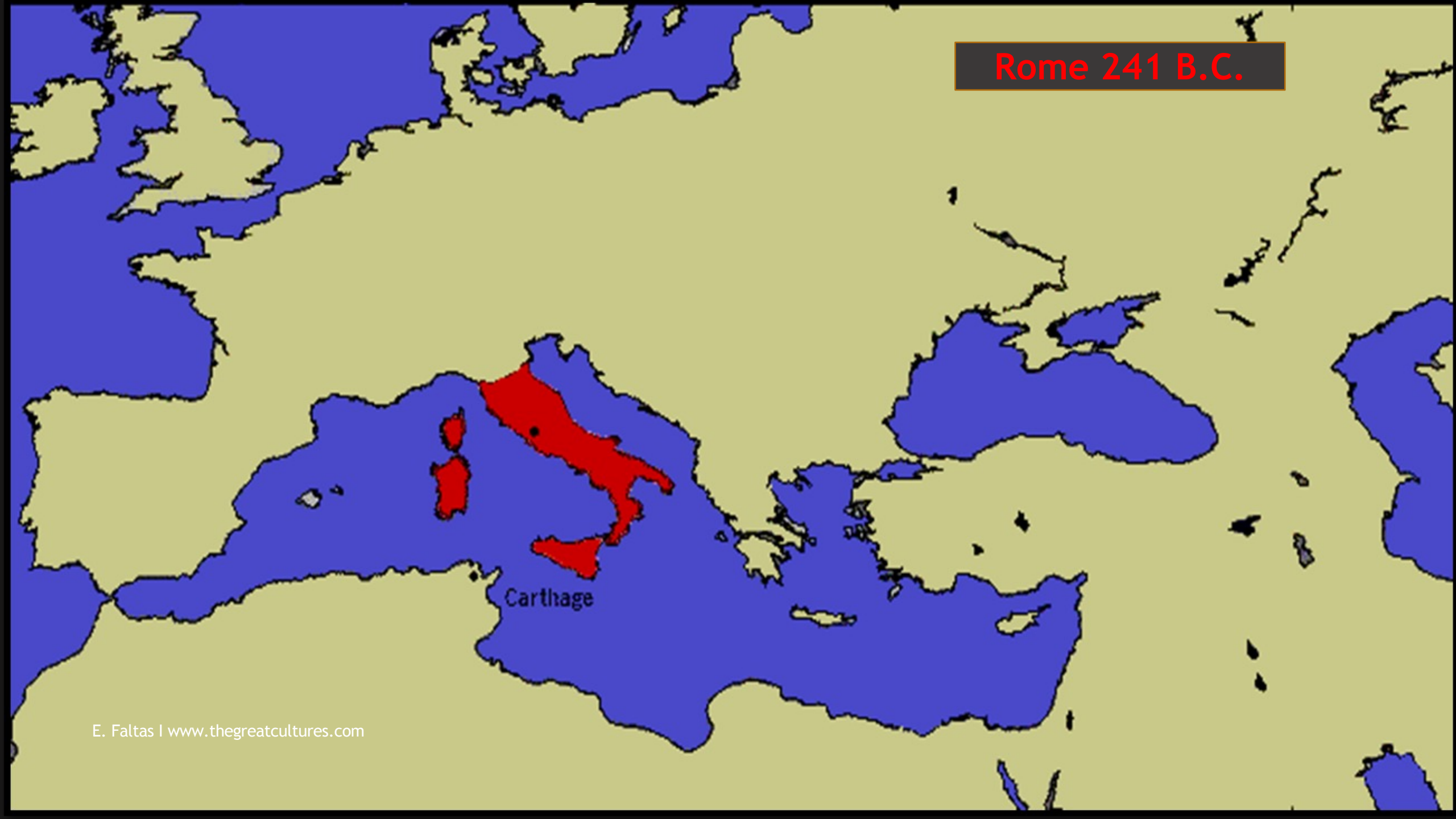


Chronology of Western Civilizations # 1

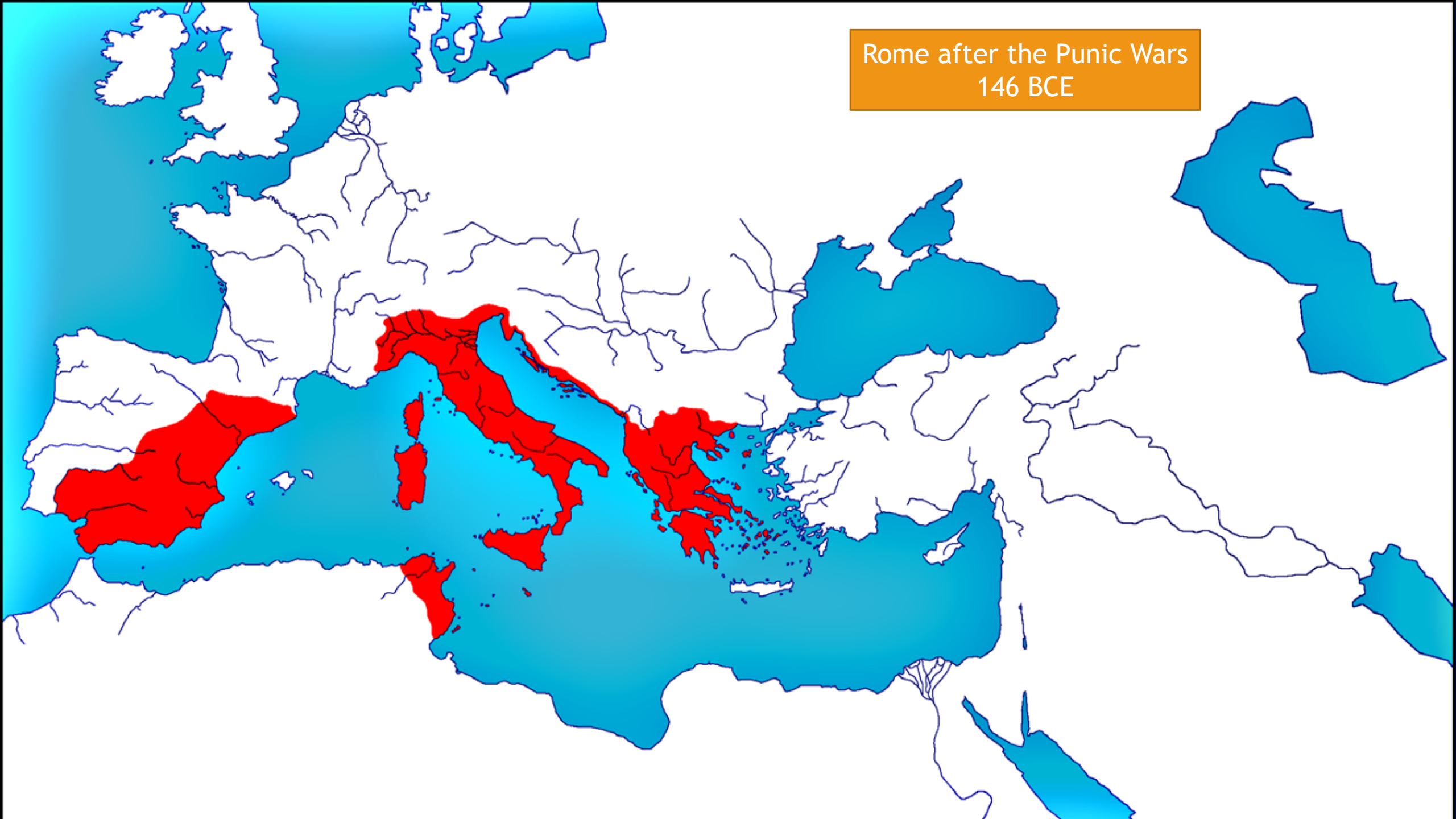
From 3500 to 30 B.C.E

- ✓ **Mesopotamia** and **Egypt** led the development of ancient world civilizations beginning in **3500 BCE**.
- ✓ Mesopotamian civilizations were (**Sumerians, Akkadians, Babylonians, and Assyrians**)
- ✓ In the **7c. BCE**, **Greece** kicked in and developed the Mediterranean world cultures.
- ✓ In **323 BCE**, **Alexander died, leaving a massive legacy and an empire of 4000 miles wide**.
- ✓ Following his death, Alexander's vast empire **was divided among his four generals**, a division that would eventually lead to its **decline over the next three centuries**.
- ✓ During that time, Romans were emerging as a world power.

Rome 241 B.C.



Rome after the Punic Wars
146 BCE



A map of the Roman Empire at its greatest extent in 117 A.D./C.E. The empire is shown in red, covering a vast area from the British Isles in the northwest to the Persian Gulf in the east, and from the Atlantic Ocean in the west to the Indian Ocean in the east. The Mediterranean Sea is in the center, surrounded by the empire's territory. The rest of the world is shown in yellow, and the oceans are in blue.

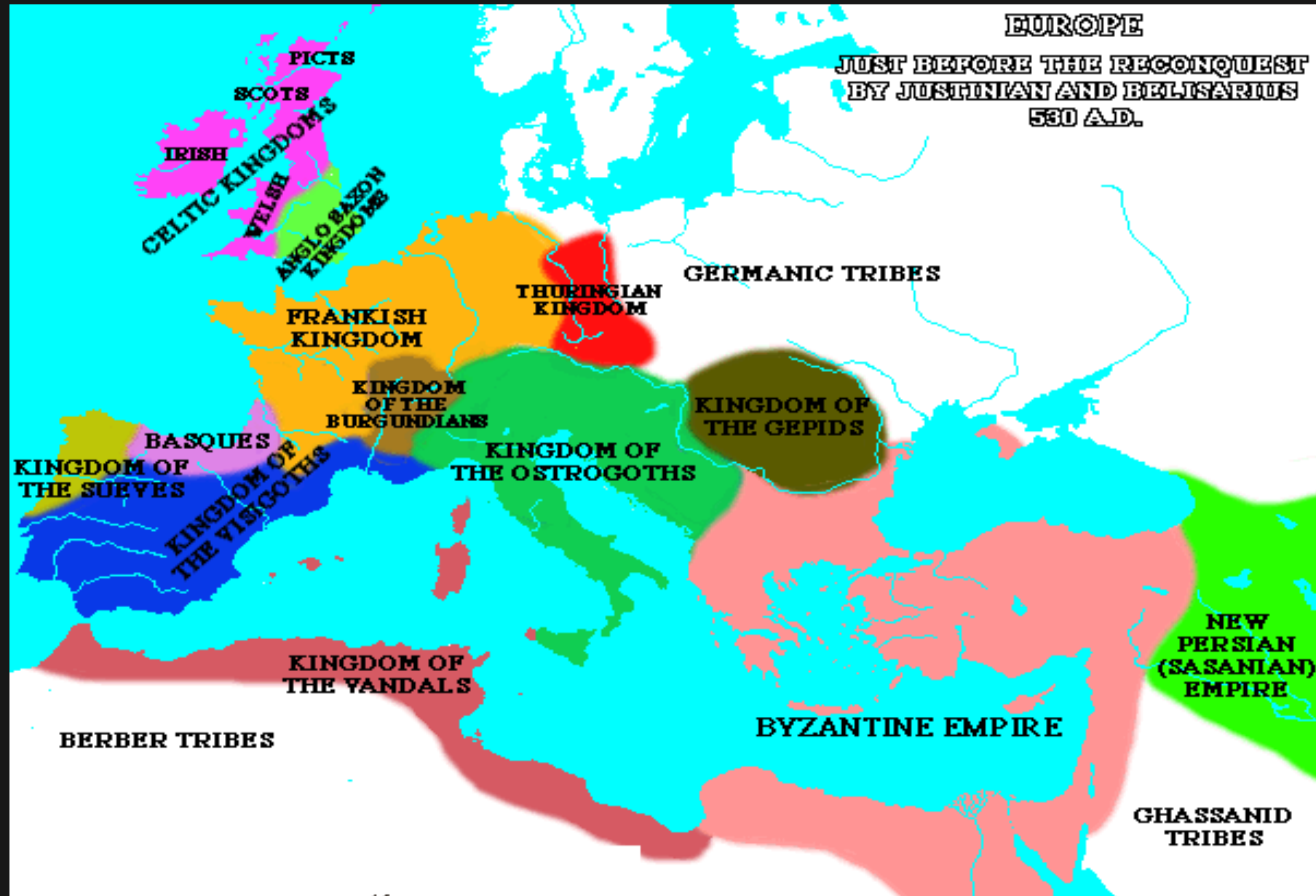
Incredible Expansion of Rome

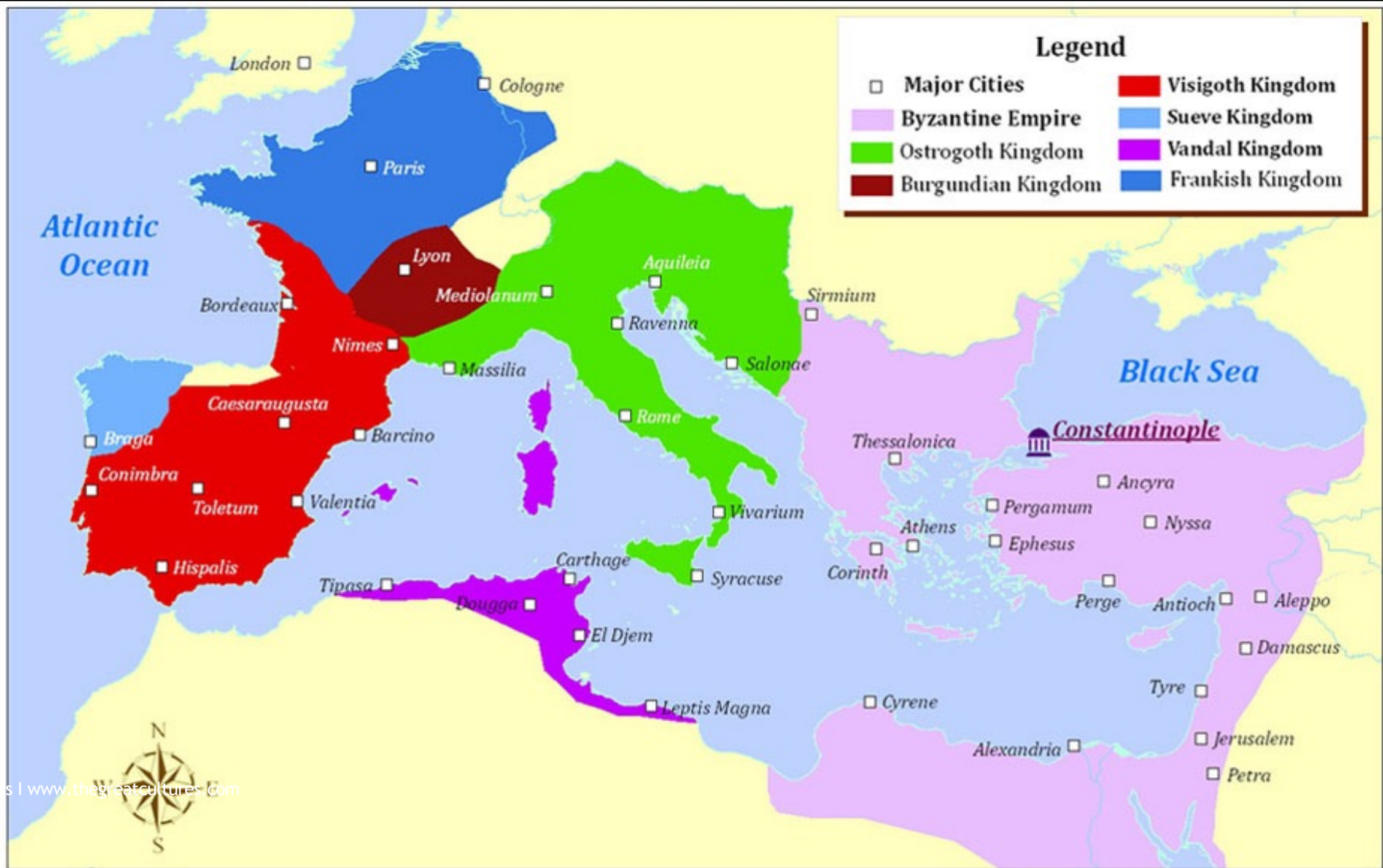
Rome at its Largest Extent 117 A.D./C.E.

The Division of the Roman Empire 284 C.E.



Europe by 6th. Century C.E





Chronology of Western Civilizations # 2

from 750 B.C.E. to 600s C.E.

- ✓ **Rome**, a city with a rich and storied history, was founded in **753 BCE**. This marked the beginning of a civilization that would go on to shape the world as we know it today.
- ✓ By **509 BCE**, Rome had become a Republic and started expanding.
- ✓ By **336 BCE**, Rome dominated the **Italian Peninsula** and expanded over the Mediterranean.
- ✓ By **117 CE**, the Roman Empire controlled **50 countries** from France to Persia.
- ✓ In **284 CE**, the Roman Emperor **Diocletian** made a significant decision that would shape the future of the Empire. He divided it into Western and Eastern, each with its own ruler. This marked the beginning of a new era for Rome.
- ✓ By the **6th. Century**, the Eastern part later became the **Byzantine** Empire, and its capital was called **Constantinople**.
- ✓ On the other hand, the Western Roman Empire was conquered and occupied by the **Germanic nomadic tribes (the Barbarians)**.

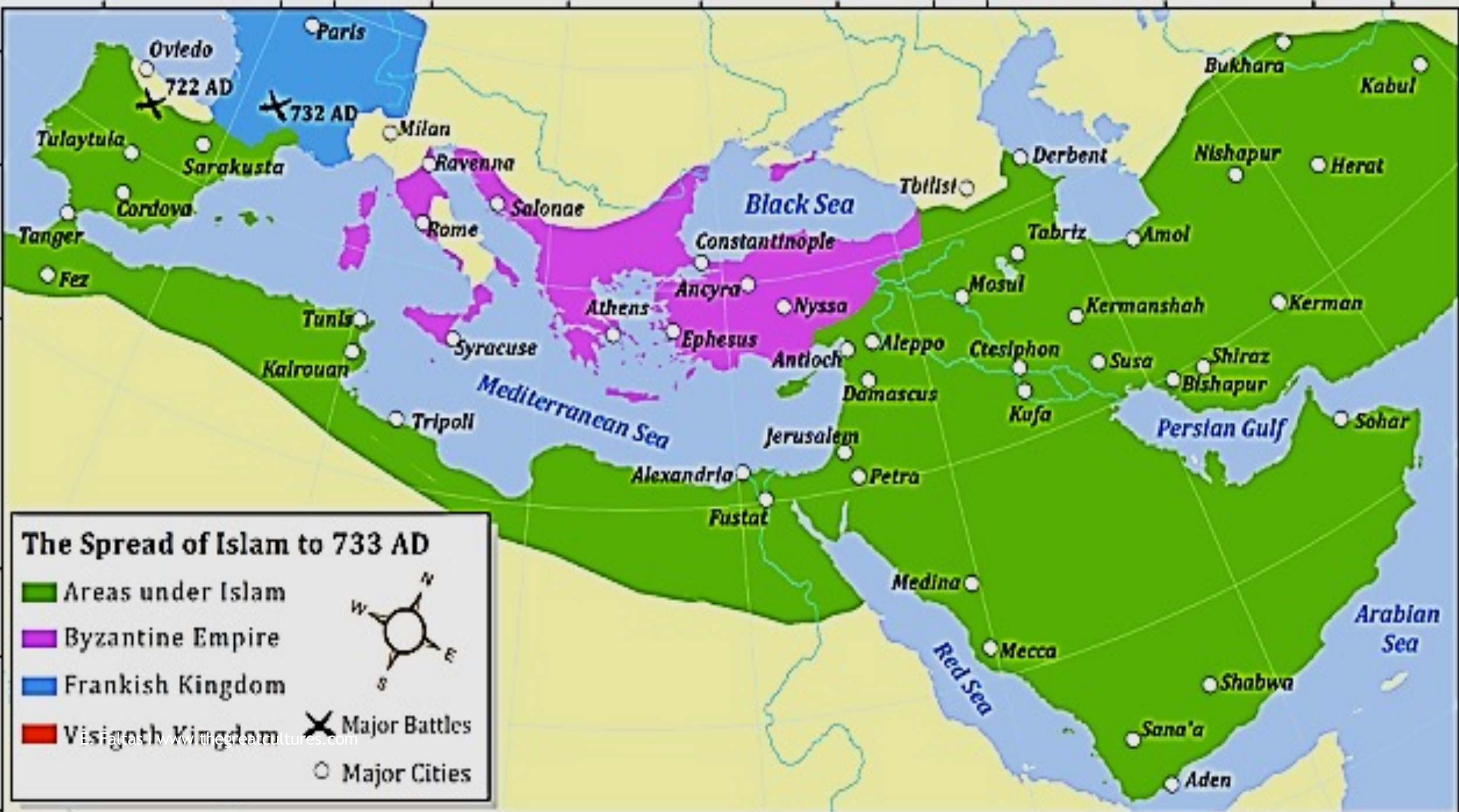
The Rise of the Arabs and Islam 632 A.D



- Islamic world under Muhammad, 622–632
- Territory added by first four Caliphs, 632–661
- Territory added by Umayyad Caliphs, 661–750
- Military campaigns

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Islam Expands



The Spread of Islam to 733 AD

- Areas under Islam
- Byzantine Empire
- Frankish Kingdom
- Visigoth Kingdom
- ✕ Major Battles
- Major Cities

Expansion of the Islamic World to 1500



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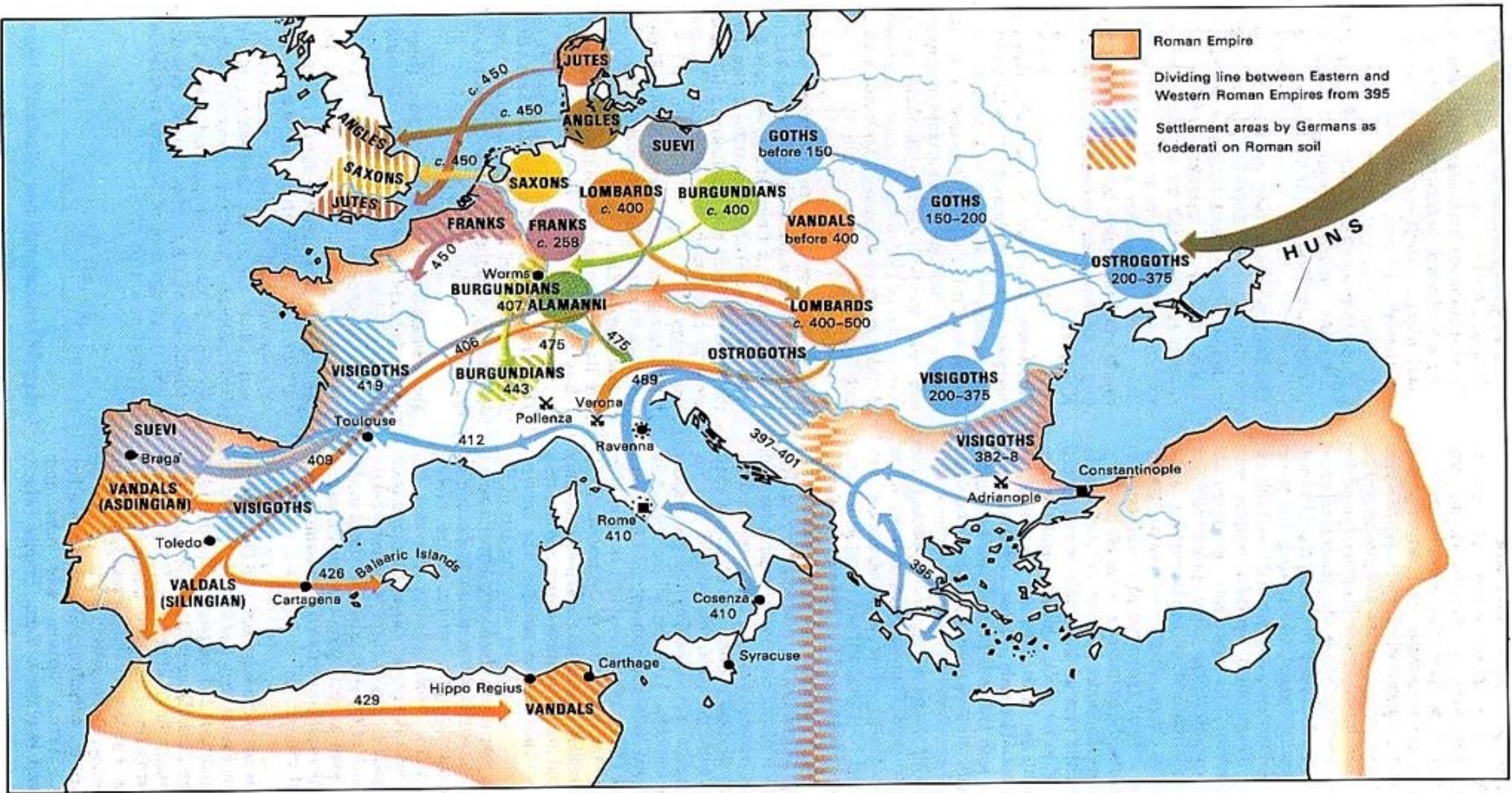
- Islamic world at the end of the Umayyad dynasty
- Extent of the Islamic world 1250
- Extent of the Islamic world 1500
- Area reconquered by Christians 1250
- Area reconquered by Christians 1500
- Extent of Christian crusading principalities in 12th century
- Site and date of important battle



Chronology of Western Civilizations # 3

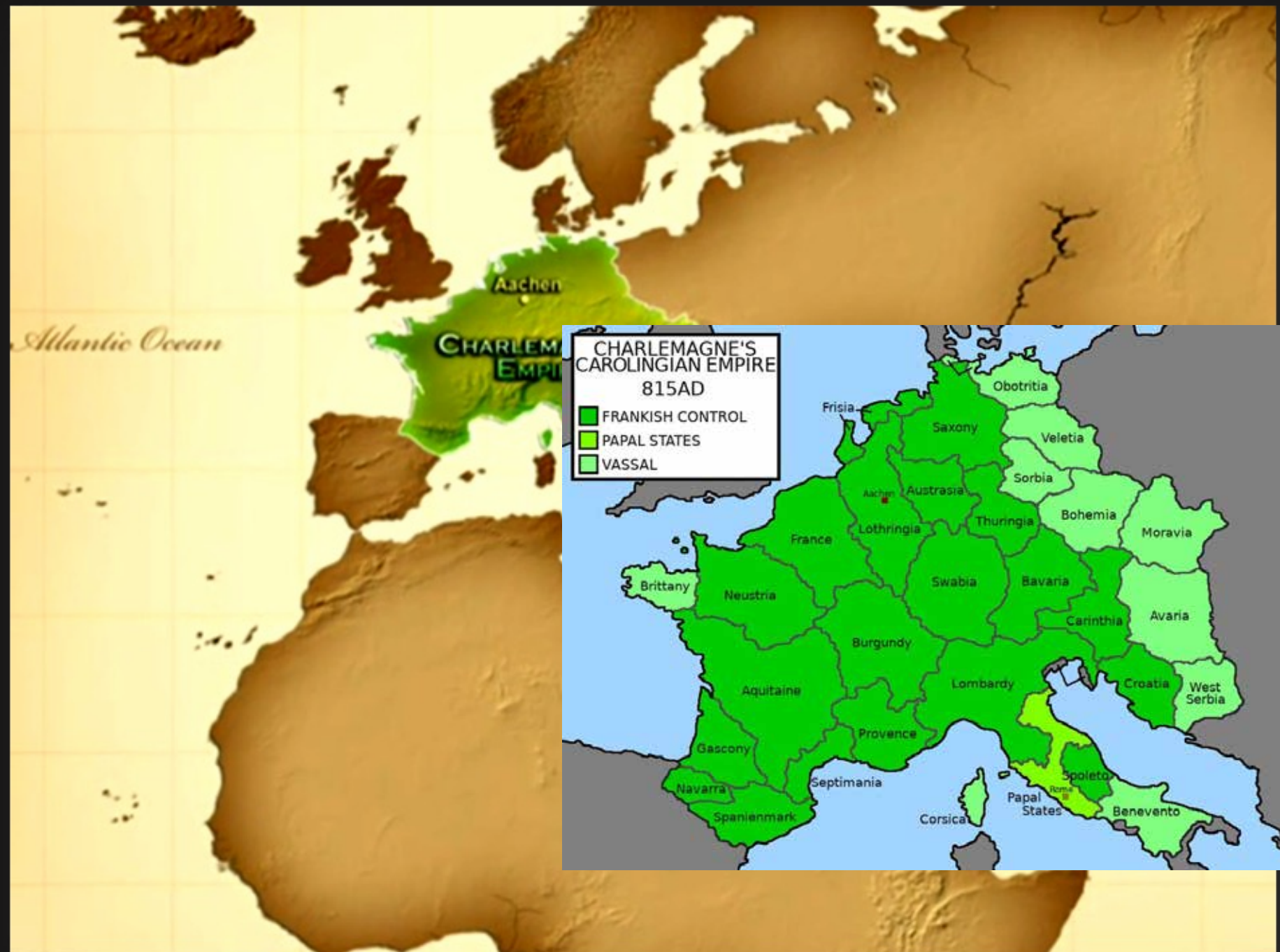
From 630 to 1500 C.E./A.D.

- ✓ By **632 C.E.**, **Arab** nomadic tribes (barbarians) from the **Peninsula of Arabia** were conquering the world.
- ✓ By **632 - 732 C.E.**, Arabs had conquered Southwest Asia (**Middle East**), **North Africa** & **Spain**.
- ✓ They defeated **Byzantine** armies and **Farsi** (Persian) armies.
- ✓ They established an **Islamic Caliphate** from Iran to Spain.
- ✓ By **1500 CE**. Arab Muslims expanded their Caliphate from **Spain, North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Central and South Asia to the east and Southeast Europe**.
- ✓ The longer they kept control of these lands, the more culture changed.
- ✓ These countries adopted the **Arabic language** and **Islam religion**, which made Islam the second-largest religion in the world.



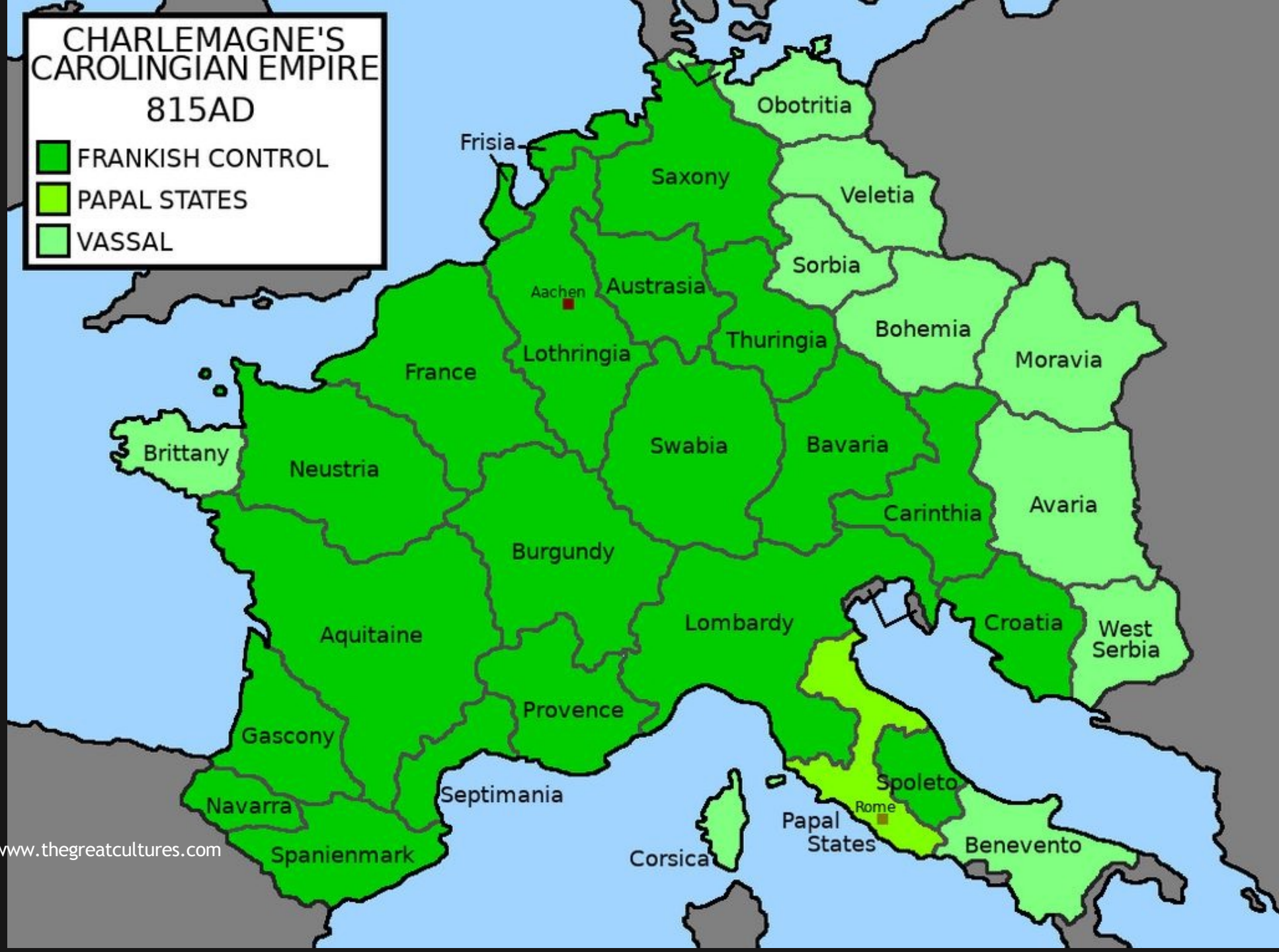
Migrations and areas of settlement of Germanic tribes, 4th and 5th cents.

800 C.E., The Frankish Empire was established.



**CHARLEMAGNE'S
CAROLINGIAN EMPIRE
815AD**

-  FRANKISH CONTROL
-  PAPAL STATES
-  VASSAL



Western Europe during the Middle Ages. 800 - 1400s C. E.

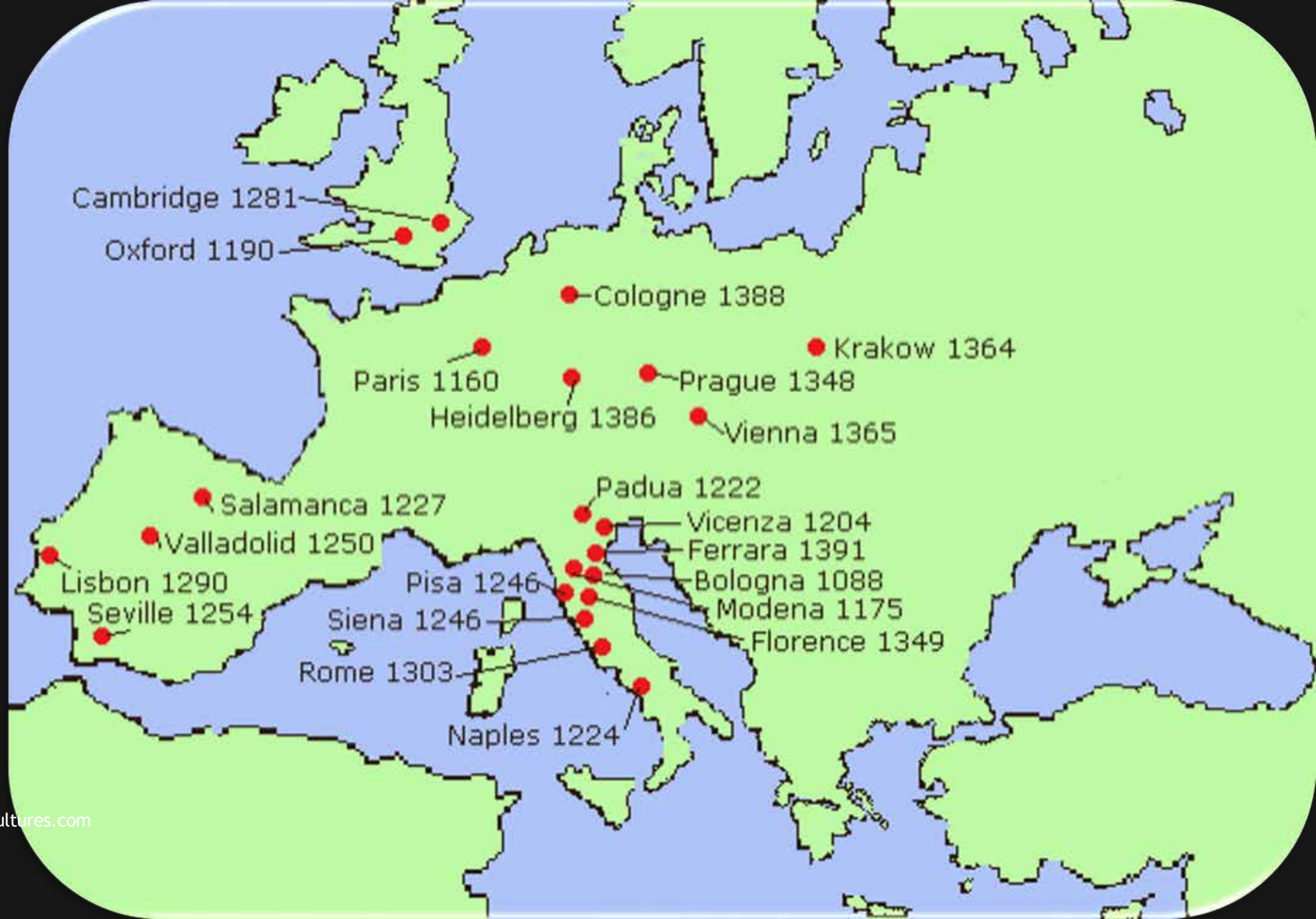


Chronology of Western Civilizations # 4

From 500 to 1500s C.E.

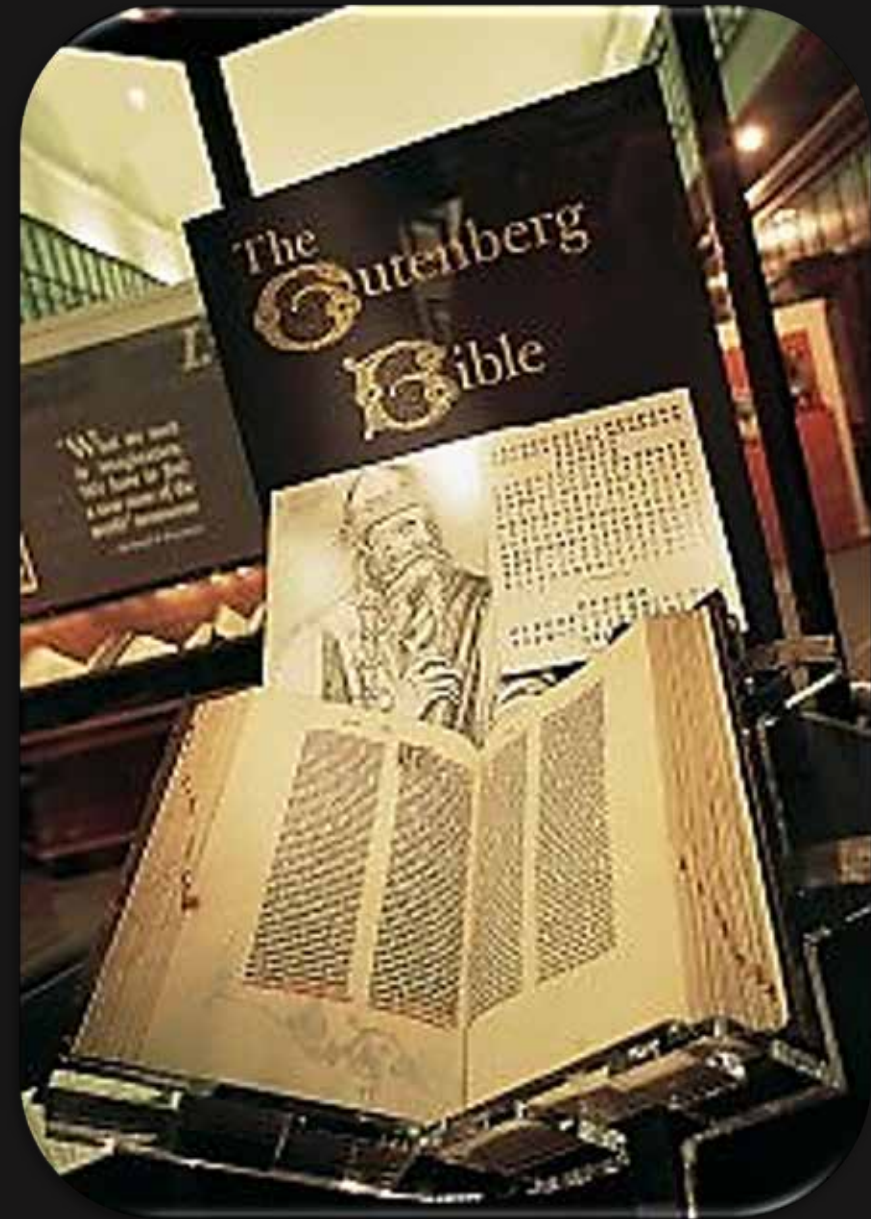
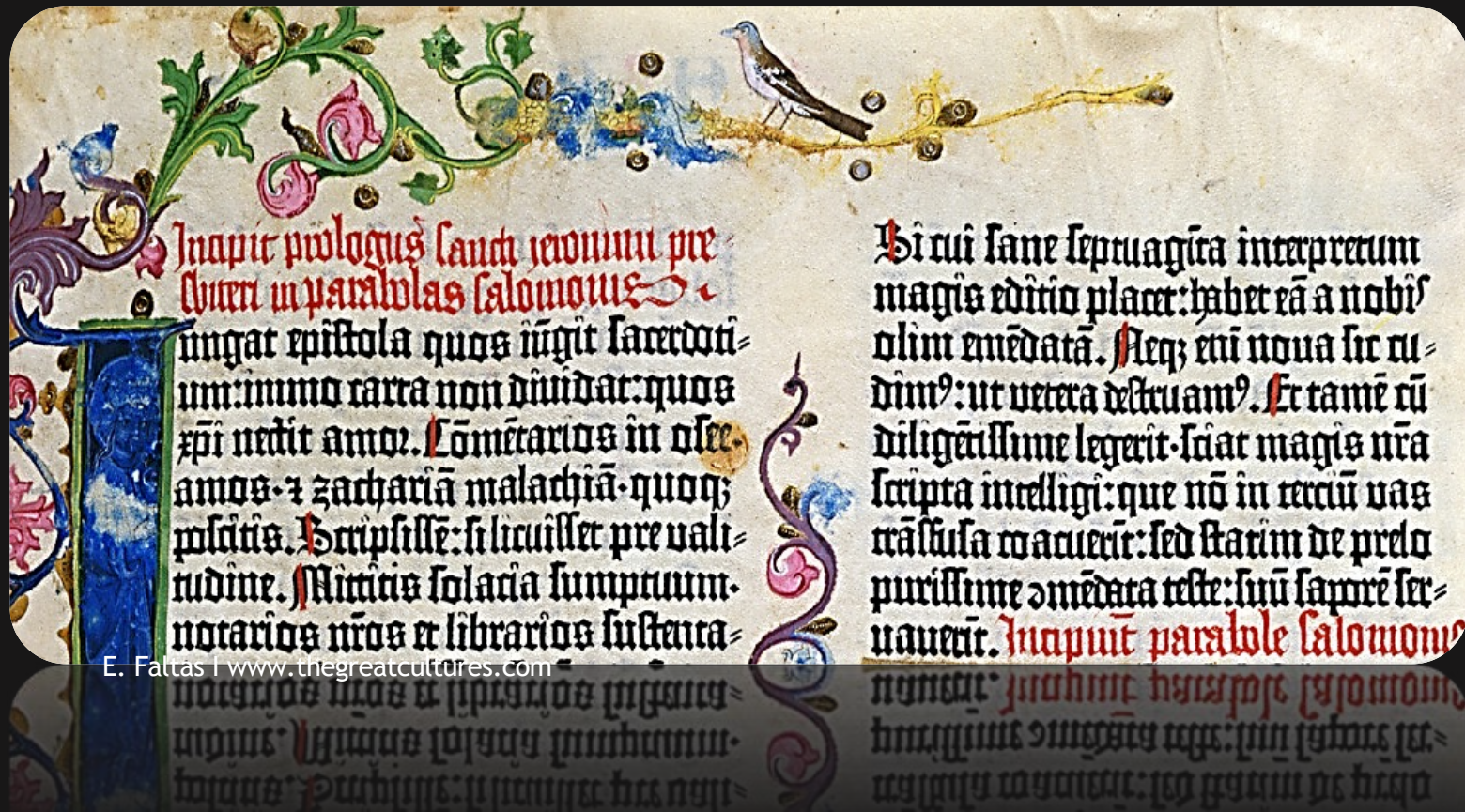
- ✓ By 500 C.E., Germanic tribes **overran** what was left of the Roman Empire.
- ✓ **The Ostrogoths**, or “eastern Goths,” came from the land we now call **Ukraine**.
- ✓ The Ostrogoths conquered most of **Italy, Greece,** and the **western Balkans**.
- ✓ The **Vandals** took control of the Roman territory in **North Africa**.
- ✓ **The Franks** overran **France**, while **the Saxons** conquered southern **England**.
- ✓ By 800 C.E., The Roman Papacy allied with the Frankish & created **the Holy Roman Empire**.
- ✓ Europe will be divided politically and culturally into three zones: **Western Europe** (France, England, and the Iberian Peninsula), **Central Europe**, The Holy Roman Empire (Germany and Italy), and **Eastern Europe**.

The Renaissance 1400 C.E.



Gutenberg Bible: Huntington Library San Marino, California

Henry Huntington purchased the Bible in 1911 for the then-unimaginable sum of \$50,000.



The Thirty Years' War 1618 - 1648



The French Revolution 1789 C.E.,

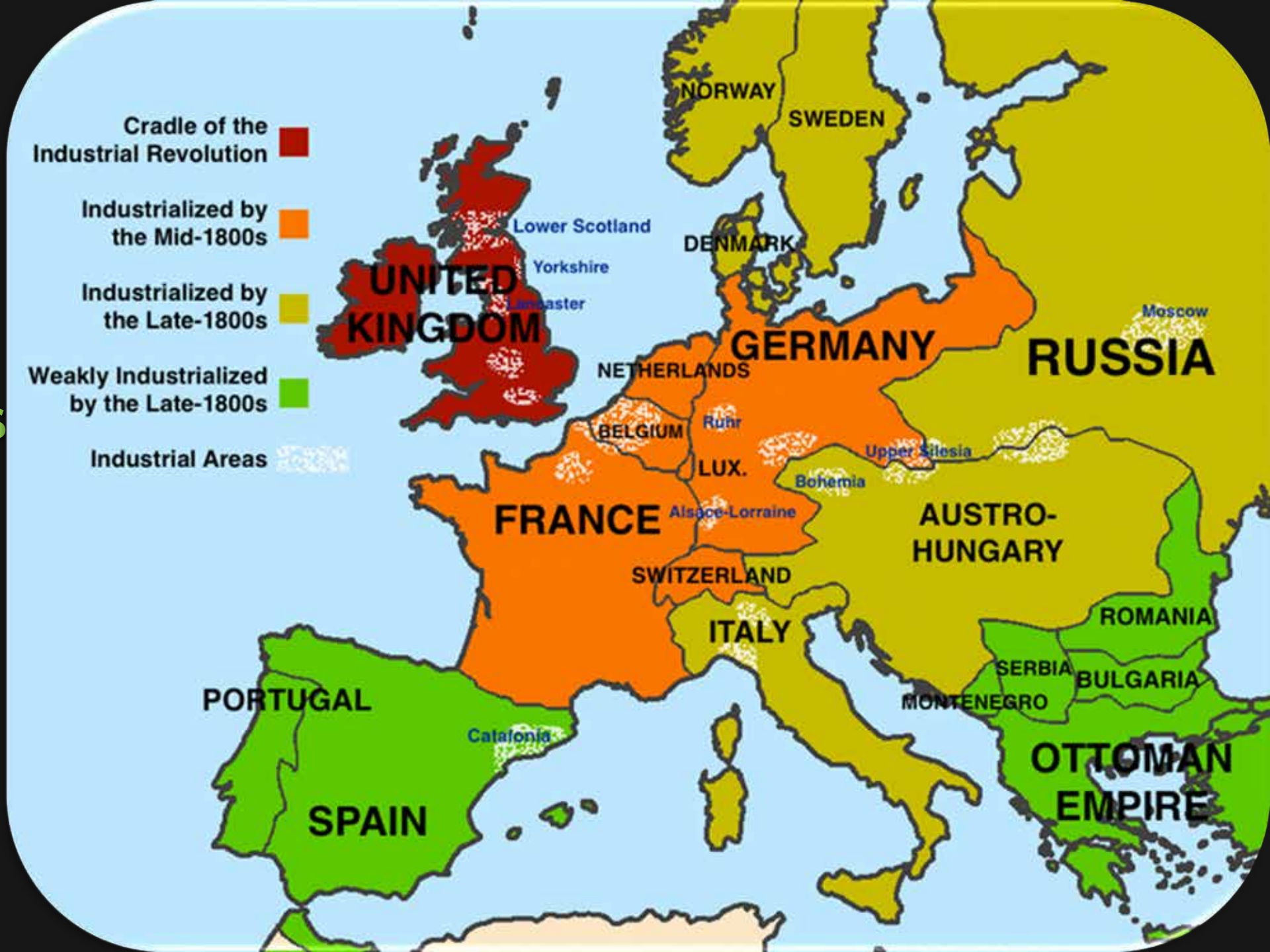


Chronology of Western Europe # 5

From 1400 - to 20 century A.D./C.E.

- ✓ **1450:** Invention of the **printing press** by Johannes Gutenberg, revolutionizing the spread of information and ideas.
- ✓ **1517:** **Martin Luther's Ninety-Five Theses** spark the Protestant Reformation, leading to significant religious and social changes.
- ✓ **1555:** **The Peace of Augsburg** ended religious conflict in the Holy Roman Empire by allowing rulers to choose either Lutheranism or Catholicism.
- ✓ **1618-1648 C.E.** **The Thirty Years' War** was a devastating conflict across Central Europe that ended with the **Peace of Westphalia**.
- ✓ **1789 C.E.,** **The French Revolution** begins, leading to the overthrow of the monarchy and radical social change.
- ✓ **1848 C.E.** **The Revolutions in Western Europe** were a series of European political upheavals that advocated liberal reforms and national unification.

Western Modernizations 1700s - 1900s



New Ideologies Emerge in Europe 1815-1914 C.E.



capitalism
(described by capitalists)



capitalism
(described by socialists)



fascism



socialism
(described by socialists)



socialism
(described by capitalists)



anarchy
(described by anarchists)

Chronology of Western Europe # 5

From 1400 - to 20 century A.D./C.E.

- ✓ 1871 C.E., **Germany unified**, consolidating various independent German states into a single nation-state under Prussian leadership.
- ✓ 1914-1918 C.E., **World War I** - devastating global conflict, ending with the Treaty of Versailles.
- ✓ 1939-1945 C.E., **World War II** - another catastrophic global war, leading to the defeat of the Axis powers and significant geopolitical shifts.
- ✓ 1949 C.E., **NATO was established**, and the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) was founded.
- ✓ 1989 C.E., **The Berlin Wall fell**, symbolizing the end of the Cold War and leading to the reunification of Germany.

Chronology of the Middle East From 1400 – to 20 century A.D./C.E.

Chronology of the Middle East # 6

From 1400 – to 20 century A.D./C.E.

- ✓ 1453 C.E., **The Fall of Constantinople** to the Ottomans under Sultan Mehmed II marked the end of the Byzantine Empire and the rise of the Ottoman Empire
- ✓ 1830 C.E. **French invasion of Algeria**, beginning European colonialism in North Africa.
- ✓ 1882 C.E. **British occupation of Egypt**, establishing de facto control over the country.
- ✓ 1916 C.E. **Sykes-Picot Agreement** - a secret agreement between Britain and France, dividing Ottoman territories in the Middle East.
- ✓ 1917 C.E. **Balfour Declaration** - The British government supports the establishment of a "national home for the Jewish people" in Palestine.
- ✓ 1918 C.E. **The End of World War I** and the collapse of the Ottoman Empire led to the creation of new nation-states under European mandates.
- ✓ 1948 C.E. **Establishment of the State of Israel**, followed by the first Arab-Israeli War.

The Ottoman Empire 1299 - 1922 C.E.



Colonial Claims, 1900

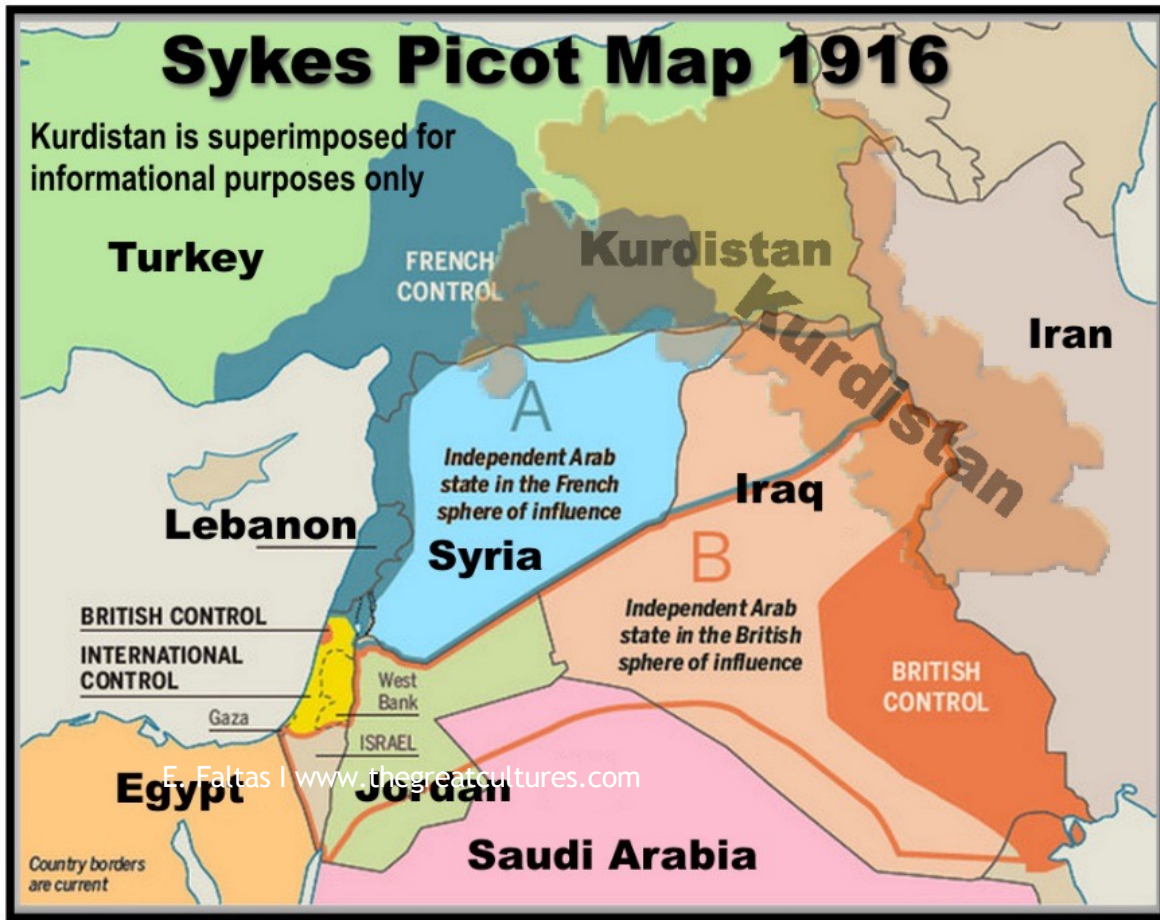
The Scramble for Africa, 1880-1914 C.E.





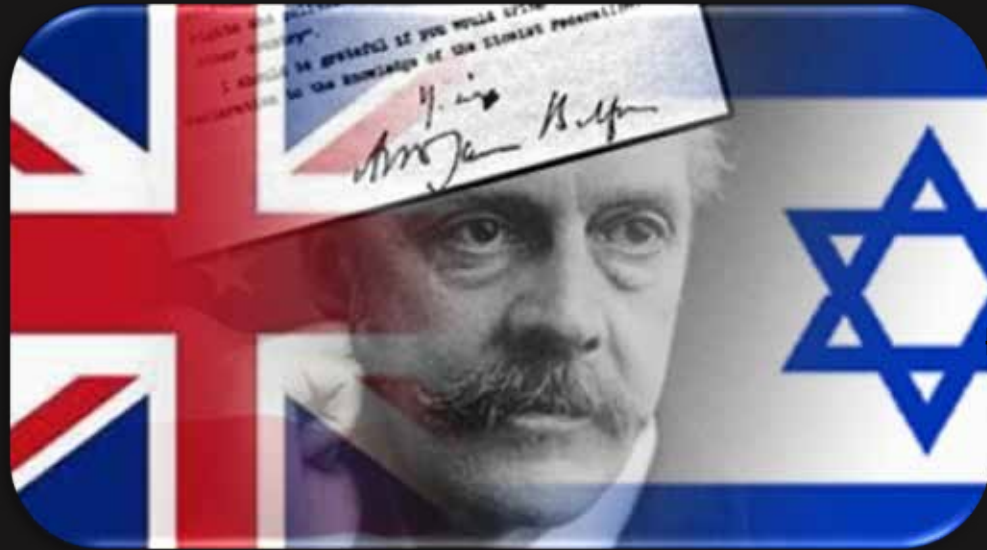
The Great War, WW I

Sykes-Picot Agreement 1916



Lawrence of Arabia 1888 1935
Portrait by Augustus John,

Balfour Declaration 1917 C.E.





The Present Day Middle East and North Africa

● Capitol

0 200 400 600 800 1000 Miles

0 200 400 600 800 Kilometers

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Chronology of the Middle East # 7

From 1400 – to 20 century A.D./C.E.

- ✓ **1952 C.E. Egyptian Revolution:** The overthrow of King Farouk led to the establishment of a republic under Gamal Abdel Nasser.
- ✓ **1956 C.E.** The Rise of Pan-Arab Nationalism.
- ✓ **1967 C.E. Six-Day War** - Israel defeats neighboring Arab states and captures the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Sinai Peninsula, and Golan Heights.
- ✓ **1970s C.E.** The Rise of Islamism - Radical Wahabi Islam
- ✓ **1973 C.E. Yom Kippur War** - Egypt and Syria launch a surprise attack on Israel, leading to subsequent peace negotiations.
- ✓ **1979 C.E. Iranian Revolution** - overthrow of the Shah and establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran under Ayatollah Khomeini.
- ✓ **1979 C.E. Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty**, leading to normalized relations between the two countries.
- ✓ **1991 C.E. Gulf War** - coalition forces led by the United States liberate Kuwait from Iraqi occupation.

Chronology of the Middle East # 6

From 1400 – to 20 century A.D./C.E.

- ✓ 2001 C.E. **September 11 attacks** - led to U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan
- ✓ 2003 C.E. **U.S.-led invasion of Iraq**, resulting in the overthrow of Saddam Hussein.
- ✓ 2010-2011 C.E. **Arab Spring**: widespread protests and uprisings across the Middle East and North Africa led to significant political changes.
- ✓ 2011 C.E. **The Syrian Civil War begins**, leading to a prolonged and complex conflict with significant regional and international involvement.
- ✓ 2014 C.E. **The Rise of ISIS** - the militant group captures large territories in Iraq and Syria, leading to a global coalition to combat it.
- ✓ 2020 C.E. **Abraham Accords** - normalization agreements between Israel and several Arab countries, including the UAE and Bahrain.
- ✓ 2021 C.E. **U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan**, leading to the Taliban's rapid return to

Grace & Peace

