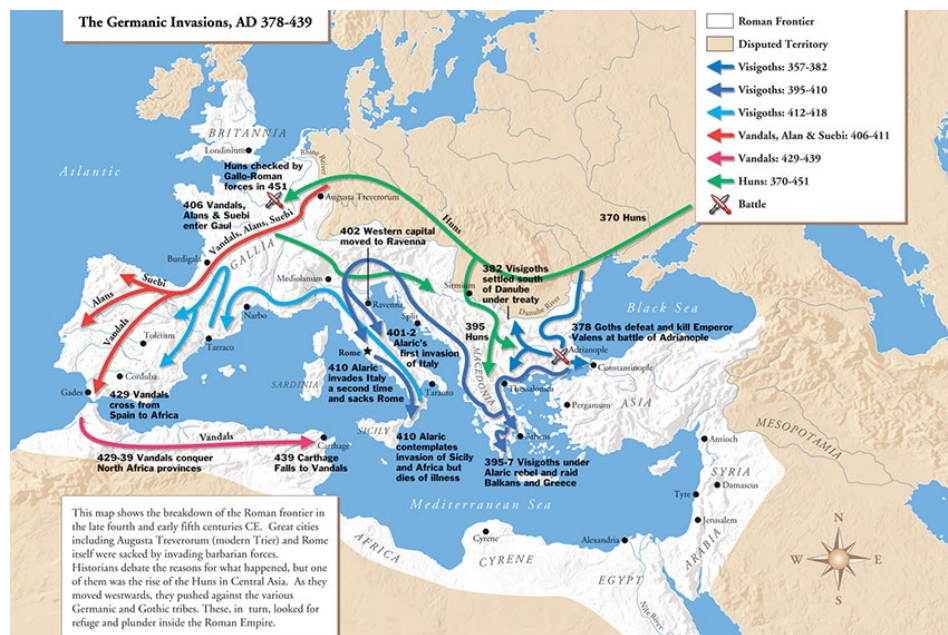
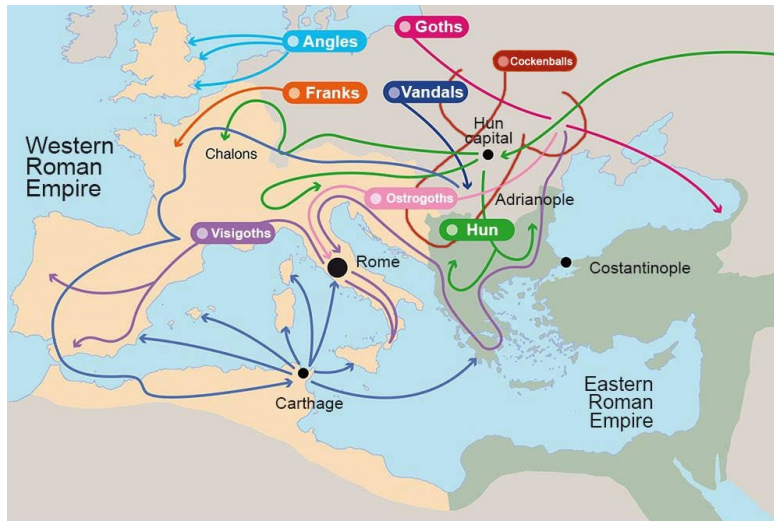


Faith of our Fathers

Class #12: The 6th Century

I. The Fall of Roman

"The world is rushing to ruin. The glorious city, the capital of the Roman Empire, has been swallowed up in one conflagration. Churches once hallowed have sunk into ashes. Who could have believed that Rome, founded on triumphs over the world, could fall to ruin; and that she, the mother of nations, should also be their grave?" Jerome, 476AD



Key events and dates ...

- 376AD. Visigoths (West Goths) and Ostrogoths (East Goths) begin attacking Roman defenses on the eastern & western fronts
- 378AD. Battle of Adrianople. Battle for eastern front, where Roman army was destroyed.
- 410AD. Alaric, the leader of the Visigoths, entered & sacked Rome
- 476AD. Odoacer attacked Rome, defeating Romulus Augustulus and his armies. This was the decisive end of the mighty Roman empire.

II. The Battle re: the Nature of Jesus

- Monophysitism vs. Chalcedonianism

Jesus Christ, the God-man, is acknowledged in two natures unconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, and inseparably; the difference of the natures being in no way removed because of the union, but rather the properties of each nature being preserved, and both concurring into one person, one hypostasis; not as though He was parted or divided into two persons, but one & the self-same Son and only-begotten God, Word, Lord, Jesus Christ."

The Chalcedonian Definition

III. Important Figures

A. Gregory of Tours

B. Boethius

- "Founder" of modern classical education (trivium & quadrivium)

C. Benedict of Nursia

- Father of western monasticism

D. Gregory the Great

- Consolidated power into the office of the papacy

E. Augustine of Canterbury

- Called the "apostle to the English"

IV. Important Theological Developments

A. The theology of Gregory the Great

- Salvation thru baptism
- Christians have to make up for sins committed after baptism by doing works of love
- Communion/Eucharist washes away post-baptismal sins
- Declaration of existence of Purgatory
- Establishment of special masses, communion services to intercede for the dead

B. Worship in the churches

- Celebration of communion called the "mass"
- Growing presence of icons, statues in churches
- Development of the Gregorian chant
- Writing of The Book of Pastoral Rule, by Gregory