



# CHAPTER 11 ~ THE DARK AGES OUTLINE

**THE FRANKS** - Franks (a Germanic people group) became most dominant of Barbarian tribes

## Merovingian Line of Kings

**Clovis** (481 - 511) - grandson of Meroveus, tribal leader of the Franks who formed the Franks into an empire

- Conversion to Christianity while appealing to God for help in battle - similar to Constantine
- Baptism of Clovis formed alliance between Roman church and Frankish kings

Merovingian kings were known as "**the do-nothing kings**"

The real ruling power fell into hands of the Mayor of the Palace (Chief Official of the Royal Palace)

## Carolingian Line of Kings

**Charles Martel** "The Hammer" was first main Mayor of the Palace

- Defeated the Moors (Muslims from North Africa) at **Battle of Tours**, preventing western Europe from being conquered

**Pepin the Short** - the first Carolingian king - Son of Charles Martel & Mayor of the Palace

- Obtains Pope's support in becoming king in title, not just responsibility
- Pope Stephen crowns him King of the Franks and sends last of the Merovingians to a monastery
- *Donation of Pepin* (756) establishes the Papal States, making the pope a ruler of a kingdom in central Italy

## Carolingian Line of Kings continued...

**Charlemagne** (768 - 814) = Charles the Great - Son of Pepin the Short

- Crowned emperor of the Holy Roman Empire on Christmas Day A.D. 800 by Pope Leo III
- Promoted education and learning by establishing schools in all monasteries & abbeys (Carolingian Renaissance)

**Louis the Pious** (814 - 840) - very pious son of Charlemagne who has three sons who want to inherit the throne

Treaty of Verdun

- Split Charlemagne's Empire between the three sons of Louis the Pious, but eventually it was two areas
- Set the stage for the formation of France & Germany

## PRIMARY RULERS OF FRANCE ~ IN MIDDLE AGES

### Carolingian Line of Kings continued...

**Charles III** (893 - 923) - Charles the Simple - a Carolingian Ruler

- Trouble with the Vikings (Norsemen / Northmen / Normans)
- Makes treaty with Rollo the Viking allowing him to establish Norman colony on NW coast of France - Normandy

### Capetian Line of Kings of France begins

**Hugh Capet** ( 987 - 996 ) - first ruler of new Capetian Line of Kings which remained throughout French history

## PRIMARY RULERS OF GERMANY ~ IN MIDDLE AGES

### Saxon Line of Kings of Germany

**Henry the Fowler** (919 - 939) - Saxon Line of Kings

**Holy Roman Empire Officially Begins under Otto the Great**

**Otto the Great** (936 - 973) - son of Henry the Fowler

- finally defeats the Huns (Magyars) and drives them into area we now call Hungary

### Salian Line of Kings of Germany

**Henry IV** (1056 - 1106)

- Investiture Controversy - Pope Gregory VII versus Henry IV
  - Pope Gregory VII claimed the selection of church officials belonged solely to the church
  - Henry wanted selection in hands of emperor, so Pope Gregory VII excommunicated him
  - Henry forced to stand outside pope's residence three days barefoot in snow before pope relented

### Hohenstaufen Line of Kings of Germany

**Frederick Barbarossa** (1152 - 1190) - Third Crusade with Richard the Lion Heart & Philip Augustus of France

## THE POWER OF THE PAPACY

### The Great Schism of 1054

- Leo IX excommunicated the Patriarch of Constantinople
- This causes permanent split between Roman Catholic & Eastern Orthodox Church

### "Babylonian Captivity of the Papacy"

- Reminded people of the 70 year period of Israelites' captivity by Babylonian Empire (in 586 - 538 BC)
- The court of the Pope was moved to Avignon, France and "held captive" by the French there

**The Other Great Schism** - A split within the Roman Catholic Church from 1378 to 1417

- By its end, three men simultaneously claimed to be the true pope
- The schism was ended by the Council of Constance (1414-1418)



# MEDIEVAL CHRISTIANITY

## Key Concepts in Church of Rome

- *Apostolic Succession*: Growth of Bishops based on idea that bishops get authority passed down from original 12 apostles
  - *Petrine Theory*: based on idea that Jesus founded his church upon Peter (considered the first Bishop of Rome - or Pope) and all other popes have their power and authority transmitted to them from the line of succession from Peter
  - *Sacraments*: a rite performed by a priest that conveys divine grace, such as the Sacraments of Baptism & Matrimony
  - *Excommunication*: a religious censure used to deprive or suspend membership in a religious community
  - *Transubstantiation*: means the change of the substance of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ
  - *Relics*: an object or a personal item of religious significance, carefully preserved with an air of veneration as a tangible memorial
  - *Saints*: individuals of exceptional holiness
  - *Indulgences*: certificates granted by priests as a reward for specific good works that indicated a reduction in punishment for a person's sins - Martin Luther saw this practice as the purchase and sale of salvation. The belief is that indulgences draw on the storehouse of merit acquired by Jesus' sacrifice and the virtues and penances of the saints.
  - *Purgatory*: where souls who are not yet ready for heaven can achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven
- Council of Toulouse - forbade anyone except a clergyman to possess a copy of the Bible

## Famous Popes

*Pope Leo I* (ruled church 440 - 461)

-Turned back Attila from attacking Rome

*Pope Gelasius* (ruled church 492 - 496)

-Developed Idea of "Two Swords" or Two Authorities:

- (1) King/Emperor as Temporal Authority
- (2)The Pope as Spiritual Authority

*Pope Gregory the Great* (ruled church 540 - 604) - Introduced the Gregorian Chant & sent missionary Augustine to England!

*Pope Gregory VII* (ruled church 1073 - 1085) (previously named Hildebrand, advisor to popes)

- Proclaimed that popes may depose emperors and that the Roman church is inerrant
- Investiture Controversy - Pope Gregory versus Henry IV - which laid foundation for Papal Absolutism

*Pope Innocent III* (ruled church 1198 - 1216)

- Sponsored 4th Crusade resulting in the sacking of Constantinople in 1204
- Excommunicated King John of England and placed his realm under an interdict
- Claimed the pope is the mediator between God and man

*Pope Boniface VIII* - Proclamation in 1299 that for "every creature to be subject to the Pope is necessary for salvation"



## Christians questioning Church of Rome

- John Wycliffe (1320 - 1384) - Translated the Bible into English
- Peter Waldo (1150 - 1220) - Frenchman who gave the French a Bible translation in French



## Rise of Monasteries

- Some who feel that the church has lost its purity turn from all worldly things and become "ascetics"
  - *Monks* - men who withdrew from society and lived in communal societies called monasteries where they were required to work hard to keep their minds focused on good work and off of evil things
  - *Nuns*- female versions of monks who live communally in convents
  - *Friars* - monks who preached and did missionary work outside the monasteries
  - *Hermits* - men who went off to live by themselves to seek mystical experiences with God, often engaging in various forms of self torture
  - *Anchorites* - a type of hermit who typically lived in a one roomed cell

All the above were characterized by:

- *Asceticism* describes a lifestyle characterized by abstinence from various sorts of worldly pleasures with the aim of pursuing religious and spiritual goals.

## Famous Monks

*St. Benedict* & Benedictine Monks

*St. Francis of Assisi* & Franciscan Monks

*St. Dominic* & Dominican Monks & *St. Thomas Aquinas*

*St. Patrick* in Ireland - not a monk and not part of Roman Catholic Church, but interesting Christian missionary!

