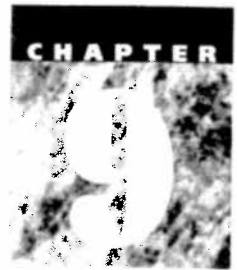


The High Middle Ages (1050–1450)



GROWTH OF ROYAL POWER IN ENGLAND AND FRANCE

TEXT SUMMARY

During the Middle Ages, kings, nobles, and the Church struggled for power. Kings slowly began to increase their power. First, they expanded royal lands. Kings then gave rights to townspeople and gained their loyalty.

English and French kings made government stronger. In England, kings created a royal treasury. People paid taxes to the king, not the nobles. King Henry II set up royal courts and a system of common law to broaden royal justice. English kings met with councils made up of nobles and clergy for advice. As time passed, the English council developed into Parliament. It won the right to approve taxes. This provided a balance to royal

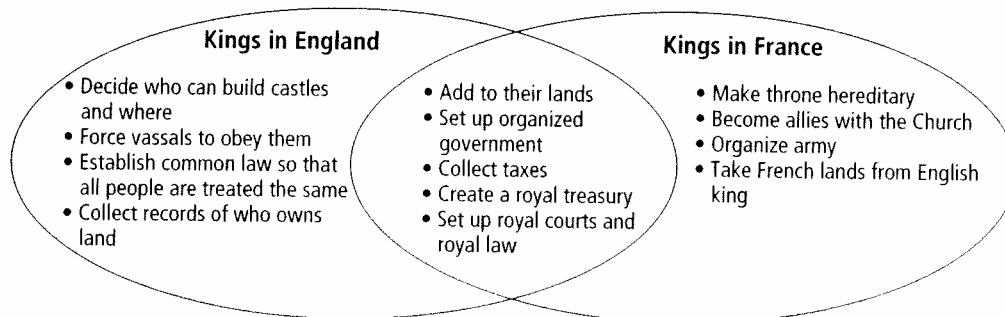
power. In France, the ruling family made the throne **hereditary**, passing power from father to son. French kings also formed an alliance with the Church. Rulers collected taxes, organized an army, and created an orderly government. Like English kings, French monarchs met with councils for advice.

Important ideas about government emerged in England. In 1215, English nobles forced King John to sign a document called the Magna Carta. The Magna Carta gave rights to the people. It also stated that the king must obey the law. These ideas are important in governments today.

THE BIG IDEA

Strong monarchs in England and France worked to increase their land holdings and their power over their subjects.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: Kings Increase Their Power



During the Middle Ages, European monarchs strengthened their power by centralizing government and developing ties to the middle class.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What was the Magna Carta?

2. **Diagram Skills** Describe three ways the English kings increased their power.

THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE AND THE CHURCH

TEXT SUMMARY

After Charlemagne died in 814, Germany split into many states. Powerful nobles ruled the states. In time, a German king was crowned Holy Roman emperor. Later emperors tried to unify the empire. However, conflicts with powerful German nobles prevented the emperors from succeeding. In addition, emperors and popes clashed over who had the right to pick bishops. The conflict continued because most nobles supported the pope. Finally, in 1122, the pope and emperor reached a settlement about choosing bishops.

During the 1100s and 1200s, Holy Roman emperors tried to gain control of Italy. However, the pope and his Italian allies defeated the emperors. While the emperors focused attention on Italy, German nobles grew more independent. When French and English kings grew stronger, the rulers of Germany lost more control. Thus, Germany stayed divided.

During the 1200s, the Church was very powerful. Pope Gregory VII and Pope Innocent III believed that the pope should have more power than any other ruler. Rulers who objected were excommunicated. After the 1200s, the power of the pope declined.

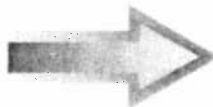
THE BIG IDEA

Conflicts with nobles and the Roman Catholic Church prevented Holy Roman emperors from unifying Germany.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *Struggles Between Emperors and Popes*

Conflict

- Emperors and popes both want to choose Church officials.



Resolution

- They reach a compromise.
- Emperor grants land to bishops.
- Pope chooses bishops and gives them spiritual power.

Conflict

- Emperor and pope fight over land in northern Italy.



Resolution

- Pope and his Italian allies defeat Emperor.

The Holy Roman emperors and the pope struggled over important issues from the late 1000s to the 1200s.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- What happened to Germany after the death of Charlemagne?
- Diagram Skills** What was the compromise that the pope and the Holy Roman emperor reached about choosing bishops?

SECTION

EUROPEANS LOOK OUTWARD

TEXT SUMMARY

While Europe was still cut off from the world, civilizations in other places were thriving. (See Chapters 3, 4, and 7.) Islamic civilization stretched from the Middle East across Northern Africa to Spain. The Byzantine empire was a rival to Islam.

In the 1050s, the Seljuk Turks invaded the Byzantine empire and conquered Palestine. The pope called for Europeans to rescue the Holy Land from the Turks. For 200 years, thousands of knights fought religious wars called the **Crusades**. In the end, the Crusaders failed to regain the Holy Land.

However, the Crusades had major effects on Europe. People of different religions grew to hate each other. Other

effects were more positive. Trade with the East increased, especially from Italian port cities. Kings and popes became more powerful. Since nobles needed more money to pay for armies, they allowed serfs to pay rent in money instead of grain or labor.

Europeans realized there was culture and civilization in far-away places. Some Europeans, such as Marco Polo, traveled to far-off lands.

Religious wars also took place in Spain. In 1492, the rulers Ferdinand and Isabella forced out the Muslims and united Spain. The Spanish then persecuted Jews and Muslims who refused to convert to Christianity.

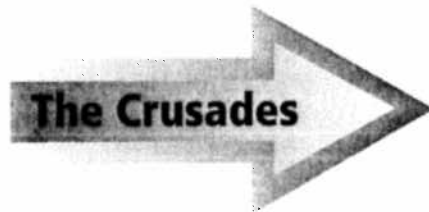
THE BIG IDEA

The Crusades brought changes and caused Europeans to learn more about the Middle East and Asia.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *The Crusades*

Causes

- People want to free the Holy Land from Seljuk control.
- Many people want to get rich and gain new land.
- Some people want to see new places.



Effects

- Trade increases.
- People of different religions grow to hate each other.
- Popes become more powerful.
- Feudal kings become more powerful.
- Renting land helps to free serfs.
- Europeans become interested in traveling.
- People learn about other cultures.

The Crusades helped to speed up changes in Europe and to open it up to new ideas.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What happened in Spain after the Spanish defeated the Muslims?

2. **Diagram Skills** What were three effects of the Crusades?

LEARNING, LITERATURE, AND THE ARTS

TEXT SUMMARY

By the 1100s, economic, social, and political conditions in Europe had improved. This change created a need for education. The Church wanted a more educated clergy. Rulers needed people who could read and write to help run the government. Wealthy people wanted their sons to have important jobs.

The Church set up schools to train the clergy, but eventually **laymen**, or people who were not in the clergy, could attend. Some of these schools became the first universities. Women were not allowed to attend university. During this period, new learning was reaching Europe. Scholars rediscovered the ideas of ancient Greece, Rome, and the Muslim world.

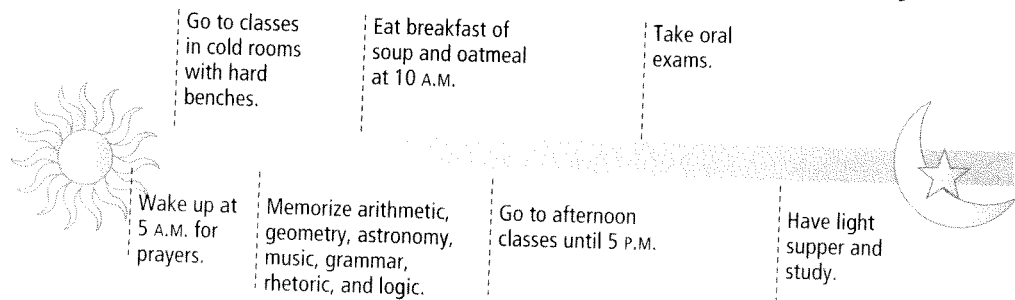
Important changes took place in medieval European literature. Writers began to use everyday languages that ordinary people could understand. Authors such as Chaucer wrote stories about warrior heroes and ordinary people that showed courage, humor, and morality. Popular works such as these give us an idea of what life was like in the High Middle Ages.

Changes also took place in architecture. Some architects built stone churches that looked like Roman fortresses. This style was called **Romanesque**. Others built huge **Gothic** churches with pointed arches, high ceilings, and supports called **flying buttresses**. Stained glass windows and marble statues showed Bible stories to those who could not read.

THE BIG IDEA

Improved economic and political conditions in Europe led to a revival of learning during the High Middle Ages.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: Life at a Medieval University



Students at medieval universities sat for hours as teachers dictated to them in Latin.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- List two changes that took place in Europe during the 1100s.
- Diagram Skills** About how many hours did university students in the Middle Ages spend in class?

TEXT SUMMARY

The late Middle Ages was a hard time for Europeans. During the 1300s, a deadly disease called the **bubonic plague**, or Black Death, spread through Europe. One out of every three people in Europe died from this disease. The economy fell apart because of the loss of workers and rising prices. Landowners converted farmland to sheep pastures to avoid the high wages of farm hands. Peasants who were thrown off their farms rushed to towns, but found no jobs. People everywhere were scared and angry. Revolts all over Europe resulted.

The Roman Catholic Church faced serious problems. Its frightened followers needed comfort. But many priests and monks died from the plague, so the

Church was not able to help. In addition, rich popes and bishops who lived in luxury caused great resentment. Angry reformers attacked corruption and elected their own pope. For many years, two or three different popes ruled at the same time.

During this period, England and France fought the Hundred Years' War. The English king wanted French land and wanted to be king of France. A young woman named Joan of Arc led the French to several victories. Then the English captured and killed her. Her execution inspired the French to win the war. Later, the Church made Joan of Arc a saint.

THE BIG IDEA

The late Middle Ages was a period of decline in Europe, marked by disease, corruption, and war.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *Hard Times During the Late Middle Ages*

FAMINE	BLACK DEATH	PROBLEMS IN THE CHURCH	HUNDRED YEARS' WAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crops fail • People starve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bubonic plague spreads from Asia to Europe • One in three people die • Society and economy fall apart 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People resent rich clergy • Church cannot comfort people during plague • Reformers demand change • Reformers choose their own pope 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English king wants to be king of France • Both England and France want French land • They fight for more than 100 years • France defeats England

Although the 1300s and the 1400s were a time of crisis, they marked the end of the Middle Ages and the beginning of modern times.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Why did England and France fight the Hundred Years' War?

2. **Chart Skills** What were two effects of the Black Death?