

THE
PAX
ROMANA

27 BC - 180 AD

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Western Civilizations I



WHAT IS THE PAX ROMANA?

- Literally means “Roman Peace”
- Characterized as a time of peace and stability within the borders of Rome
- Note that exceptions always exist and periods of crisis did occur

AUGUSTUS 27 BC-14 AD

- First emperor
- Laws of morality
- Grain for all
- General improvements to Rome's infrastructure
- Use of personal wealth
- Stabilized Rome following period of turmoil
- Discouraged expansion



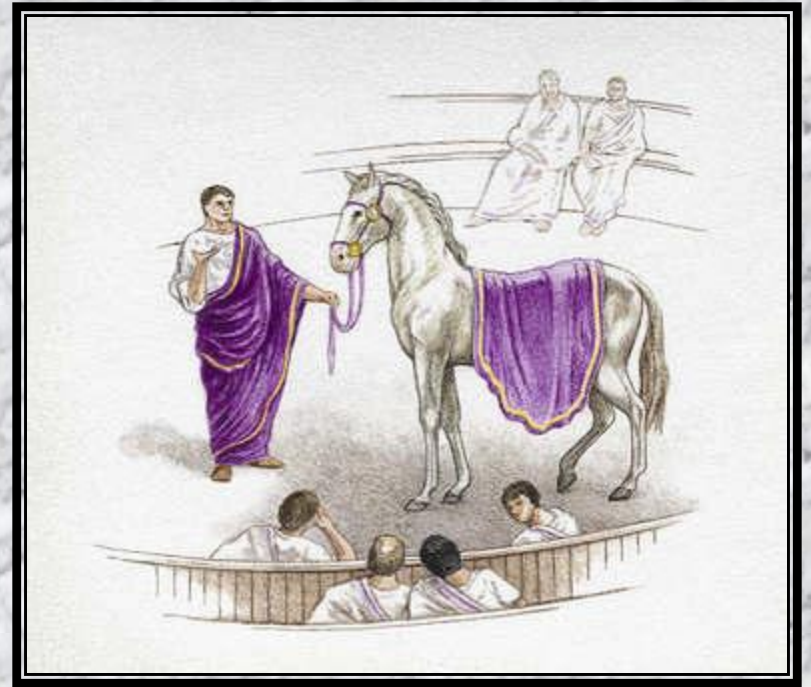
TIBERIUS 14-37 AD

- Generally popular
- Used diplomacy effectively
- Balanced Rome's budget
- Public works programs
- Tax Reforms
- Family problems
- Relationship with Senate
- Unpleasant death



CALIGULA 37-41 AD

- Popular beginning
- Illness
- Desire for immortality
- Incitatus – his horse
- Bizarre practices
- Money woes
- Foreign affairs problems
- Assassination



CLAUDIUS 41-54 AD

- Ascension to throne
- Senate & court involvement
- Effective government
- Expansion & citizenship
- Public works
- Assassination



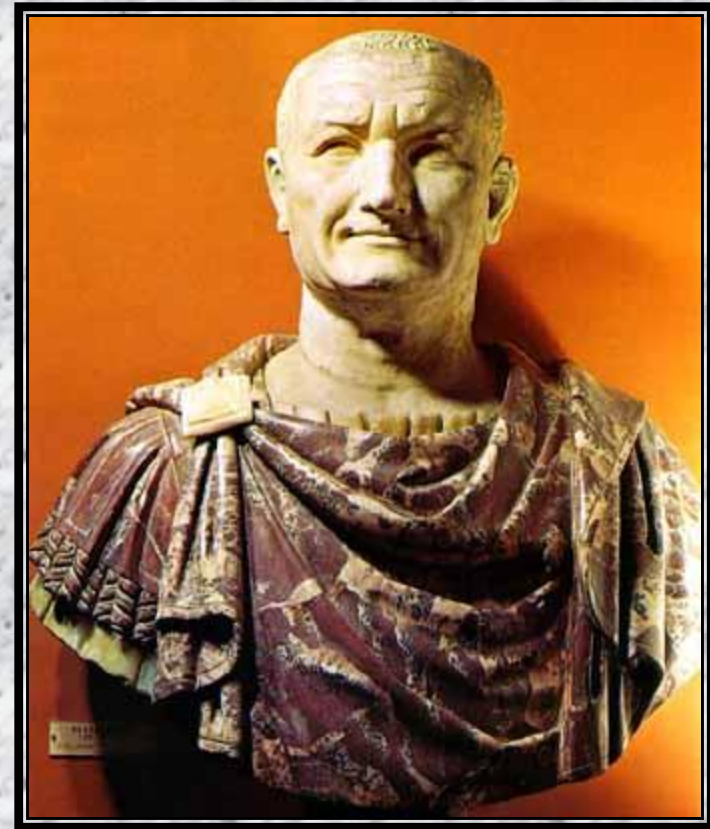
NERO 54-68 AD

- Personality traits
- Successful start
- Problems with his mother
- Political & military enemies
- Eccentricities
- Fire of Rome – 64 AD
- Wasteful ways
- Christian persecution
- Discontent with the Emperor
- Suicide

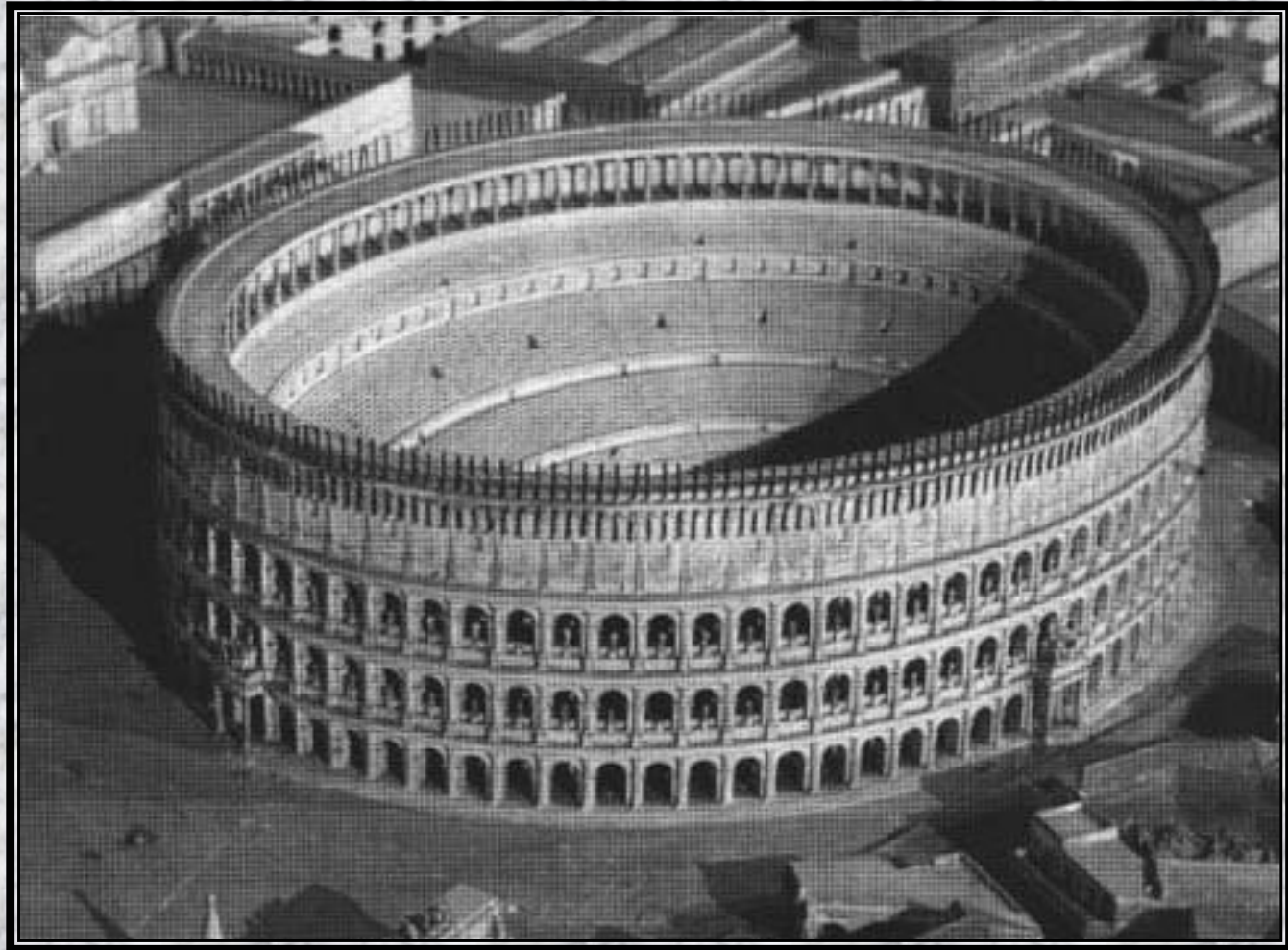


VESPASIAN 69-79 AD

- Common background
- Financial improvements
- Public works – the Colosseum
- Military successes
- Citizenship
- The Senate & the upper class
- Successors: Titus & Domitian

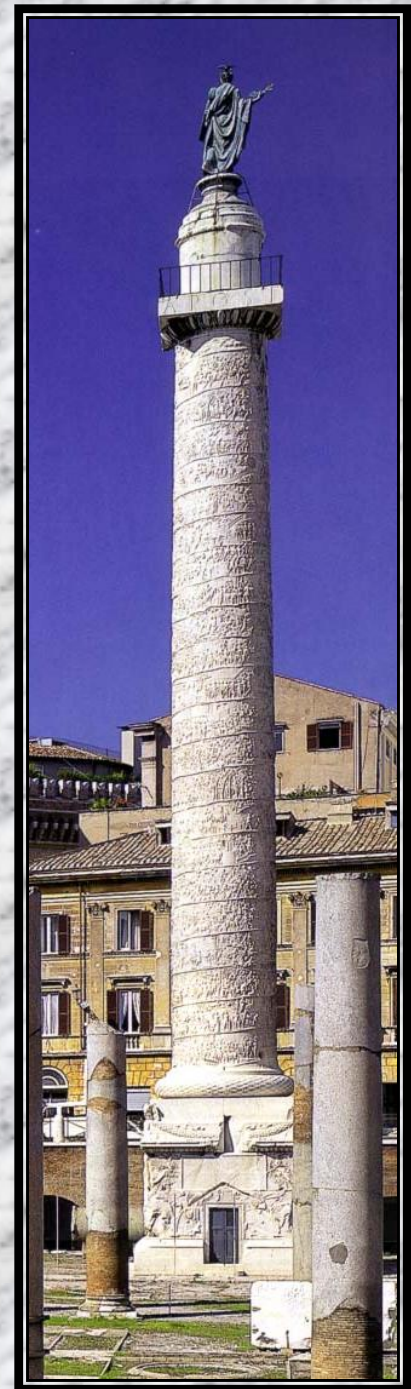


THE FLAVIAN AMPHITHEATER



TRAJAN 98-117 AD

- Rise to power
- Popular
- Expansion
- Government success
- Building program

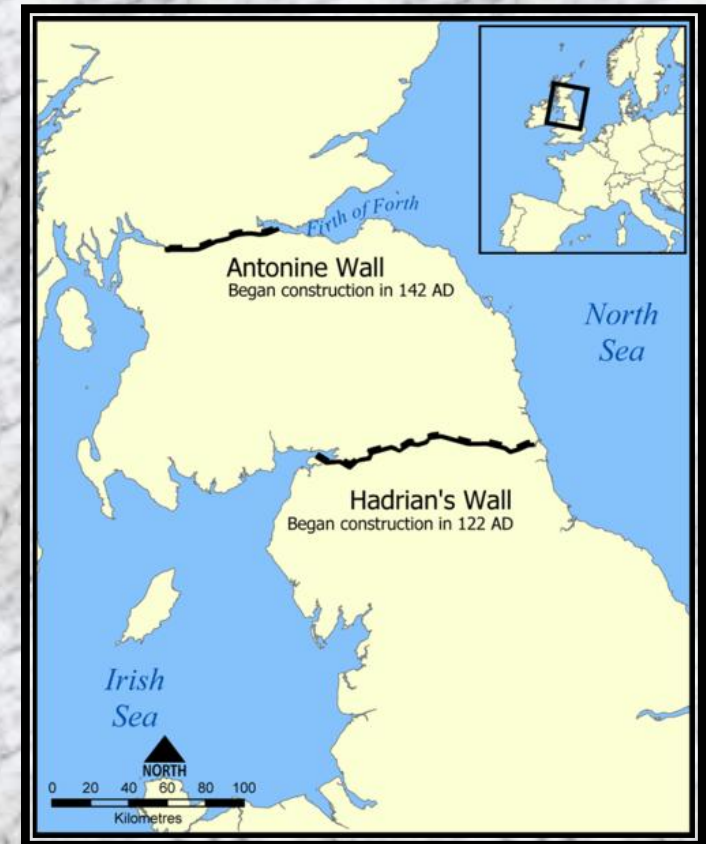


HADRIAN 117-138 AD

- Non-expansion policies
- Greek influence
- Unpopularity in Rome
- Revolt in Jerusalem
- Building program
- Military reforms



HADRIAN'S BUILDING PROGRAMS



MARCUS AURELIUS 161-180 AD

- Respectability
- Struggle to maintain borders
- Philosophy
- Sharing power
- Intolerance
- Fair and ethical practices



EXTENT OF THE EMPIRE



IMPERIAL CITY OF ROME



END OF THE PAX ROMANA

- Commodus undoes most improvements from over a century of stable rule
- Enemies threatened from Persia and Northern Europe
- Military seized control of government, Senate loses significant power
- Internal struggles cripple Rome
- Christianity begins to take hold

THE END

