Chapter 9 - The High Middle Ages. (1050-1450).

(1) Growth of Royal Power in England and France.
(2) Holy Roman Empire and Church.
(3) Europeans Look Outward.
(4) Learning, Leisure, the Arts.
(5) A Time of Crisis.

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1096. 1215. 1347. 1429. 1453.

(1) Growth of Royal Power in England and France.

**Vocabulary.**
exchequer - treasury.
common law - law for all in country.
jury - group sworn to speak truth.

**Setting the Scene.**
During Middle Ages monarchs struggled to exert royal authority over nobles and churchmen in areas which are European nations of today.

**Monarchs, Nobles, and Church.**
Monarchs were at head of society but nobles, churchmen had more power.

**Strong Monarch in England.**

**Norman Conquest.**

**Growth of Royal Power.**
William gave fiefs to Normans and Church but kept a lot of land himself.
1086. To learn about kingdom he had ‘census’ taken on all (for taxes).
The survey was called ‘Domesday Book’ (on final day, no one can escape).
William’s successors increased power. His son, Henry I, replaced officials with paid royals, organized central treasury or exchequer to collect taxes.

**A Unified Legal System.**
1154. His grandson, Henry II, Inherited throne, Broadened royal justice.
Decisions of royal courts became basis of English common law (unlike feudal law) that applied to all in England. People chose royal courts over Church’s or nobles’ ‘trial by ordeal.’ Royal courts thus increased king’s power.

Henry II developed a jury system. (French ‘jure’ means ‘sworn to oath.’)
He expanded courts: grand jury (opt if trial) and trial jury (go for verdict).
Conflict With Church.
Henry’s efforts to extend royal power led to bitter dispute with the Church. Henry claimed the right to try the clergy in royal courts. Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, once Henry’s friend, opposed the king’s move. 1170. Becket is murdered in his own cathedral. Henry denies he put out hit. Becket becomes martyr. Becket becomes saint. Henry has to back down.

Note: Henry II is married to Eleanor of Aquitaine (c1122-1204).
Eleanor of Aquitaine plays a central role in medieval Europe.
She marries Louis VII at 15 (a month before he became king).
She leads her own troops (as Amazon) in Second Crusade.
Her first marriage is annulled in 1152. Consanguinity.
She marries Henry II at 30 (two years ere he becomes king).
She backs sons Richard and John in rebellion.
She gets ransom for Richard the Lionhearted.
She fights her son John in 1200.
She is herself an example of feudal monarch who extended royal authority in late Middle Ages.

Evolving Traditions of English Government.
The repeated clash of later English rulers with nobles and Church will evolve into creeping traditions of government that influence modern world.

John’s Troubles.
Henry’s son John was (text) ‘a clever, greedy, cruel, untrustworthy ruler.’
He lost conflicts against the king of France, Pope, and English nobles.
1205. John lost battle against King Philip II. Gave up Anjou, Normandy.
1209. John lost spat with Pope Innocent III over selecting new archbishop.
He is excommunicated. England goes on interdict: papacy ‘fief.’
1215. John angers own nobles with high taxes. Has to sign Magna Carta.

Magna Carta.
In 1215 barons forced John to sign ‘great charter’ that listed their rights.
Barons protected their own rights; then included a few clauses to recognize the legal rights of townspeople and Church. Late clauses limit king power.
e.g., King agrees to consult Great Council before imposing new feudal taxes.

Development of Parliament.
1200s. Great Council came to be known as Parliament (‘parler’=to talk).
As Parliament got larger role in government, it helped unify England.
1295. Edward I summons Parliament to approve money for war with France.
Significant. ‘Model Parliament’ of 1295 signals ‘limited monarchy.’
A limited monarchy is government where ruler does not have absolute power.

Looking Ahead.
Like Edward I, English kings summoned the Parliament to ask for money.
Over centuries Parliament gained the very important ‘power of the purse.’
Parliament wins the right to approve any new taxes. King is checkmated!
Early England.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>William I.</th>
<th>Henry II.</th>
<th>John</th>
<th>Magna Carta</th>
<th>Edward I.</th>
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<tr>
<td>the Conqueror</td>
<td>becomes king</td>
<td>becomes</td>
<td>calls Parliament</td>
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1066. 1154. 1205. 1215. 1295.

Successful Monarchs in France.

France, unlike England, was not unified kingdom but patchwork of territory.

The Capetians.

987. Hugh Capet, count of Paris, is elected to the throne.

- Capetian dynasty (father to son) will last for 300 years.
- Hugh was weak. But apparently smart.
- Increases royal power. Plays rival royals against each other.
- Builds effective bureaucracy: Collects taxes. Imposes royal law.

Philip Augustus.

1180. Philip II (1165-1223) is called ‘Augustus’ as first great Capetian.

- Employs middle-class, not nobles, in government jobs.
- Organizes standing army.
- Introduces new national tax.
- Wins English lands in Anjou, Normandy (from John in 1215).

Louis IX. King and Saint.


- Persecutes heretics and Jews.
- Leads knights in two wars (Crusades) against Muslims.
- Makes France an efficient centralized monarchy.

Philip IV Clashes With Pope.

1285. Philip IV is grandson of Louis IX.

- Extends royal power ruthlessly.
- Clashes with pope (1302): he wants to tax clergy, appoint bishops.

Estates-General.

1302. Philip rallies French support (v. pope). Sets up Estates-General.

- Later French kings met body but it never got ‘power of purse.’

Early France.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hugh Capet</th>
<th>Philip II</th>
<th>Louis IX</th>
<th>Philip IV</th>
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<td>elected</td>
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987. 1180. 1226. 1285.
Holy Roman Empire and Church.

Vocabulary.
lay investiture - secular Church appointment.
anull - invalidate.
crusade - holy war.

Setting the Scene.
By High Middle Ages both popes and monarchs were extending authority.
Pope Innocent III (1098-1216) claimed papal power over royal power.

Holy Roman Empire.
800. Charlemagne was made HRE. France and Germany under his rule.
843. Treaty of Verdun. HRE split into three regions.
936. Otto I (duke of Saxony) took title King of Germany.
    Otto develops close ties with Church in order to centralize his power in
    Germany. In exchange, he gains right to appoint German bishops and
    archbishops. Otto invades Italy to protect pope from Roman nobles.
962. Otto I crowned emperor by pope (John XII).
    Otto claims to be successor to Charlemagne. Leader of Christendom.
    Otto’s successors take title ‘Holy Roman Emperor’ for themselves.
    Germans saw themselves as heirs to emperors of ancient Rome.
In next 250 years, German emperors became deeply involved in Italian affairs but as the
power of Church grew after 1000, popes and emperors clashed in a great power struggle

Conflict Between Popes and Emperors.
    Emperors conflict with popes over appointment of Church officials.
    HREs decided who would be bishops and abbots within their realm.
    Cluniac reforms (early 900s) revived by Pope Gregory VII (1073)
    said Church, not kings, should be the one to choose Church officials.

Pope Gregory VII.
Gregory was pope either loved or hated. He was hated a lot in his day.
Gregory (former monk Hildebrand) made pope (1073) as able reformer.
Gregory wants the Church to become independent of secular rulers.
Gregory bans lay investiture (1076) in which a lay person (a person who
is not clergy) invests (presents bishop with ring) a Church position.
Gregory says that only the pope has the right to install bishops.

Emperor Henry IV.
Henry IV is angry with pope because bishops held lands as royal fiefs.
Henry argues that he is the overlord of bishops and entitled to fill job.
Henry gets excommunicated (1076). German princes side with pope.

The Struggle Intensifies.
The pope frees Henry’s subjects from their allegiance to the emperor.
Henry repents. Crosses Alps. Stands barefoot in snow for three days.
Pope knows Henry is trying to save throne but lifts excommunication.
Henry is absolved (1077). Henry later (1080) resumes his papal hostility.
Takes possession of Rome. Forces Gregory (d. 1085) into exile.
Concordat of Worms.
1122. The struggle over lay investiture goes on for another 50 years.
   It ends with a treaty called ‘concordat’ at Worms in Germany.
   Church ends up with sole power to invest bishops with spiritual
   authority while emperor had right to invest them with fiefs.

The Struggle for Italy.
The next problem is that ambitious German emperors want to master Italy.
In their efforts they came into conflict with popes and wealthy towns.
Frederick Barbarossa.
1152. Frederick I (nicknamed Barbarossa='red beard') became HRE
   He was determined to rule both Italy and Germany.
The pope saw Fred’s actions as threat to Papal States in central Italy. Opposition was
north Italian towns and pope in Lombard league. Fred loses battle. But his son marries
heirress to Sicily, southern Italy.
Frederick II.
1212. Frederick II becomes HRE.
   He was grandson of Barbarossa raised in southern Italy.
   Able and arrogant. Willing to use any means to get his ends.
   He wrests imperial crown from Otto IV on promise to pope
   (Innocent III) he would undertake crusade to Holy Land.
   His first priority was actually to consolidate imperial power
   in Italy by reducing the pope’s power.
   Founds the University of Naples.
   Encourages mesical school at Salerno.
   He finally does go on a crusade (1228-1229) or ‘holy war’
   during which he captures Bethlehem and Nazareth.
   Crowns himself ‘King of Jerusalem.’ Really!

Effects on Germany and Italy.
While Frederick was preoccupied with conquest in Italy German nobles
grew more independent. The Holy Roman Empire survived but it remained fragmented
into many feudal states.
Meanwhile, England and France were becoming unified nations while German emperors
were busy fighting in Italy. It would not be until the 1800s that the small states of Germany
and Italy become two independent nations.

Height of Church Power.
1198. Church was at its peak.
   Pope Innocent III embodied the triumph of the Church.
   Pope claimed supremacy over rulers in reign (1198-1216).
   Excommunicated John (England), Philip (France), Fred II (HRE).
   But success was problematic. Church was too into politics.
1209. Pope Innocent III (with Philip II) launches brutal crusade
   against Albigensians in southern France. Thousands killed.
1296. Pope Boniface VIII loses challenge with Philip IV of France
   over king taxing clergy. King gets French pope elected.
   French pope (Benedict XI) appoints bunch French cardinals.
   Babylonian Captivity. 7 French popes reign from Avignon.
   The papacy enters a period (75 years) of decline.
(3) Europeans Look Outward.

Vocabulary.
- schism - split.
- levy - collect.
- religious toleration - allow people own worship.

Setting the Scene.

The World in 1050.
In 1050.
- **Western Europe** emerged from a period of isolation.
- **Islam**, New civilization from Spain to India. Traders.
- **India**, Thriving cities. Temples. Palaces. Number system.
- **West Africa**, Trading empire of Ghana (gold).

1050.
 Seljuk Turks invade Byzantine empire. Turks from Central Asia.

1071.
 Seljuk Turks overrun most of Asia Minor (Turkey).
 Extend power to Palestine (Holy Land). Attack Christian pilgrims.

The Crusades.
In medieval times Christians saw Palestine as the ‘Holy Land.’

632. Muhammad dies. Islam embarks on expansion.
 Muslim Arabs conquer Palestine. **Tolerate** Christians.

1054. Christian Church split: Orthodox (East), Roman (West).

1071. Seljuk Turks, warlike converts to Islam, take Palestine.
 Seljuk Turks **torture** Christian pilgrims.
 * Seljuk converts to Sunni Islam in late 10th century.
 He becomes ‘sultan.’ Unites Turkish dynasty.

1095. Byzantine emperor asks pope for knights to fight Turks.

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<th>Great Schism</th>
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<th>Second Crusade</th>
<th>Third Crusade</th>
<th>Fourth Crusade</th>
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<td>1189</td>
<td>1192</td>
<td>1202</td>
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1054. 1095.
1054. Schism (split) between Roman and Byzantine churches.
1144. Edessa (feudal state) falls to Turks. Bernard, French monk, calls for a crusade to get Edessa back.
1187. Saladin captures Jerusalem.
1291. Muslims capture city of Acre. Last Christian outpost.

Effects of Crusades on Europe. Crusades left bitter legacy. Christians and Muslims massacred each other. The word ‘crusade’ is today negatively charged with bad memories. Crusades had big effect on Europe.

Economic. Increase trade. Crusaders introduce fabrics, spices, and perfumes from Middle East to Europe. Venetian troop ships carry cargo. Crusades further growth of money economy (in lieu of grain or labor).

Monarch. Feudal lords win right to levy taxes to support Crusades. Kings who lead Crusades (Louis IX of France) enhance their prestige.

Papacy. Papal power rises to its greatest height. Then plummets. Urban hoped crusades would have the effect:
  (1) Reunite two branches of Church.
  (2) Increase prestige of Church.
World View. Contacts with Muslim world lead Christians to realize that millions of people live in regions unknown to them. Travelers follow. 1271-75. Marco Polo (1254-1324), Italian, travels overland to China.

(4) Learning, Literature, and the Arts.

Vocabulary.
- scholasticism - faith and reason coexist.
- vernacular - everyday language.
- epic - long, narrative poem.
- flying buttress - outside stone support.
- illumination - artistic decoration.

Setting the Scene.
By 1100s. Economic success of towns ignites cultural success.

Medieval Universities.
Church needs educated clergy. Royals need literate men for bureaucracies. Education for wealthy boy qualifies for high job in Church or government.

Academic Guilds.
By 1100s. Schools spring up around great cathedrals to train the clergy.
- Cathedral schools evolve into the first universities.
- Salerno (medicine) and Bologna (teaching) are first universities.
- Oxford (theology) and Paris (law) soon have theirs.

Student Life.
5 a.m. Wake-up. Prayers. Classes (until 10).
10 a.m. First meal. Classes (until 5).
5 p.m. Supper. Study until bed.
Subjects covered: the Seven Liberal Arts:

Women.
Exception: Christine de Pizan (1364-1430), Italian-born, lives in French court. She is more educated than men of her time. Earns living as a writer (unusual). Writes “The City of Ladies,” about achievements of women.

Europe: ‘New’ Learning.
Many ‘new’ ideas were from ancient Greece and lost after fall of Rome.

Spread of Learning.
Muslim scholars translated works of Aristotle and other Greek philosophers into Arabic and their texts spread across the Muslim world, including Spain.
In Muslim Spain, Jewish scholars translated Arabic texts into Latin texts.
By 1100s. The new translations revolutionize learning in Western Europe.

Philosophy.
The writings of ancient Greeks was a problem to Christian scholars.
Aristotle taught that people should use reason to discover basic truths. Whereas Christians accept many ideas on faith. Christian scholars, ‘scholastics,’ tried to resolve conflict between reason and faith.
Scholasticism uses reason and logic to support Christian beliefs.
Scholastics study Muslim philosopher Averroes, Jewish rabbi Maimonides.
Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) writes ‘Summa Theologica.’ Explains Christian beliefs in the light of reason. Faith and reason are in harmony, he concludes, and lead to the same truth that God rules over an orderly universe.
Science and Mathematics.
Scientific works translated from Arabic and Greek reach Europe via Spain.
Christian scholars study Hippocrates (medicine) and Euclid (geometry) along with work of
Arab scientists. Yet science makes little progress since scholars in Middle Ages believe all
true knowledge must fit Church tenet.
* Note: Text offers no illustration. Such as the way ancient astronomer
  Ptolemy theory that sun revolved around earth was endorsed.
Europeans adopt Hindu-Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.) - much easier to use than
cumbersome Roman numerals (and helped prove earth is round).

Medieval Literature.
While Latin was language of scholars and churchmen, new writings begin to appear in
vernacular (everyday language) that ordinary people know.

Heroic Epics.
The vernacular in France, Spain, Italy and Portugal was strongly tied to Latin. Such are
called Romance languages from the language of Rome.
Troubadours wandering from court to court spread use of vernacular.
A popular form for nobles was chanson de jeste - long narrative poem on ideals of chivalry.
France has ‘Song of Roland’ on a Charlemagne knight.
Spain’s great epic of ‘El Cid’ involves Christian lord against Muslims.
Other epics are Germany’s ‘Siegfreid’ and England’s ‘Beowolf.’
* Note: A popular form of vernacular literature for middle class
  was fable which mocks nobles, clergy and townspeople.
  ‘Reynard the Fox’ is example. Animals behave as humans.

Dante’s Divine Comedy.
‘In the middle of the journey of life, I found myself in a dark wood, where the straight way
was lost,’ is the opening sentence in Dante’s famed masterpiece.
Dante (1265-1321) composed ‘Divine Comedy’ poem in Italian vernacular. He ties theology
with history. Virgil guides Dante to souls in hell and purgatory.

Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales.
Geoffrey Chaucer (1340-1400) writes ‘Canterbury Tales’ poem in English about a range of
everyday people on a trip to Thomas Becket’s tomb.

Architecture and Art.
The greatest achievements of Middle Ages are towering stone cathedrals.
Medieval art and architecture reflected power of the Church, notably in cathedrals which
could take 30 years for construction.

Romanesque Strength.
Romanesque (1000-1150). Solid stone churches that reflect Roman influences. Look like
Dark and Gloomy!

Gothic Grace.
Gothic (1150-1300). Tall. Light. Airy with flying buttress that leaned against outside wall.
Colored, stained-glass windows with scenes from Bible (visual for illiterate people).

Illuminated Manuscripts.
(1300-1400). Gothic style was applied to paintings and illumination or artistic decoration of
(5) A Time of Crisis.

Vocabulary.
epidemic - rapidly-spreading disease.
inflation - rising prices.
longbow - new English weapon.

Setting the Scene.
1348. The Black Death (bubonic plague) reached beyond Italy > Spain > France to rest of Europe. Epidemics were common, but none equaled Black Death.

The combination of plague and war and famine looked like end of the world. Upheavals of 1300s-1400s marked end of Middle Ages, start of modern age.

Black Death.

Global Epidemic.
Bubonic plague. Disease spread by fleas on rats. Europe, Asia, North Africa. Plague starts in Asia. Moves along trade routes - No one knew what to do!
Set off an epidemic (‘epi’=on, upon; ‘demi’=people).
1200s. Mongol armies conquer Asia. Spread disease.
1300s. Rats scurry through Chinese cities (kill 35 million).

Social Upheaval.
In Europe, plague brought terror and bewilderment. People could not stop it.
Some turn to witchcraft and magic for cures.
Others opt for wild pleasures (since they expected to die anyway).
Others see it as God’s punishment. Flagellants parade through streets.
Others blame Jews. Accuse them of poisoning the wells.
(Italian poet Bocaccio describes plague in his ‘Decameron.’)

Economic Effects.
Survivors demand higher wages! Leads to inflation or rising prices.
Landowners fight higher prices. Convert land from crops to sheep raising that required less labor (less cost). Villagers forced off farms go to towns.
But guilds in towns refuse to accept new members. Revolts ensure!
Western Europe would not recover from effects of plague for 100 years.

*Black Death killed a third of all the people in Western Europe.
Farms were abandoned. Busy commerce of cities collapsed.

Upheaval in Church.
Roman Catholic Church experiences spiritual crisis, scandal, and division in the late Middle Ages.
Divisions Within Church.

1309. Pope Clement V moves papal court to Avignon.

Babylonian Captivity. Next 70 years. Next 7 popes.

The Babylonian Captivity (1309-1378) refers to time that popes lived in Avignon, France. The timing is similar to the captivity of Hebrews in Babylon.

Background: In 1294 King Philip IV (1268-1314) of France tried to tax clergy. Pope said "no." Philip got a French pope elected who moved to Avignon.

1378. Reformers in Rome elect their own pope to rule in Rome.


1417. Council of Constance ends Schism.

New Heresies.


He says Bible, not Church, is source of Christian truth. Church could do little in response. It was in Great Schism.


Preacher. Rector at university.

Spread Wycliffe’s reform in Bohemia (Czech republic).

Branded a heretic. Burned at stake (1415). Made a martyr.

Hundred Years War (1337-1453).

During a time of plague, famine, economic decline: England fought France.

Causes.

English rulers want to hold onto French lands of Norman ancestors.

French rulers on the other hand want to extend their power in France.

1337. Edward III of England (1312-1377) claims French crown. War!

In 1337 English held many lands in France. Remember Henry II married Eleanor in 1152. Edward’s mother was Isabella, sister of Charles IV of France, who died in 1328 without a male heir.

1346. English win at Crécy.

1356. English win at Poitiers.

1415. English win at Agincourt.

English longbow (6’ long) is better than French crossbow.

1429. Joan of Arc (1412-1431) is 17 when she tells ‘uncrowned’ Charles VII that God wants her to save France.

After her execution (1431), French start to win. Use cannon.

1453. English hold only port of Calais in NW France.

1454.

Effects.

France. People emerge from war with national pride and loyalty to king.

King expands power. Establishes basis for absolute power.


Common soldiers (longbow) replace knights as fighters.

By late Middle Ages the world of feudalism had changed. Strong rulers emerge to protect people. Knights were obsolete. Warfare had changed. Nobles did not disappear but took a place in splendid royal courts.

Looking Ahead.

Population growth. Economic revival. Trade increase. More important!