

# WORLD WALL (#2)

## SOCIAL STUDIES TERMINOLOGY IN THIS CHAPTER

- Persia
- Sparta
- Athens
- Democracy
- Parthenon
- Socrates
- Aristotle
- Alexander the Great
- Erathosthenes
- Archimedes
- Rome
- Republic
- Plebeians
- Patricians
- "Rule of Law"
- Twelve Tablets
- Pax Romana
- Christianity

# The Classical Era in the West

## Chapter 6

# Important Ideas

- Persia grew large and powerful through military conquests, building good roads, collecting tribute, and tolerating differences.
- The city-states of Greece grew prosperous through trade. The Greeks made major contributions to: art, architecture, literature, history, drama, philosophy, and mathematics.
- The city-state of Athens developed the world's first DEMOCRACY
  - Women, Slaves, and Foreign residents **could not vote**.

# Important Ideas

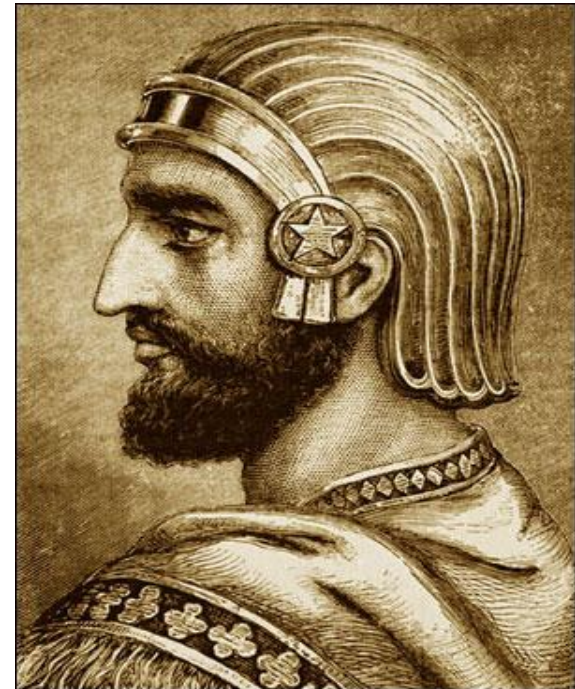
- Early Romans developed a republican form of government, based on elected representatives and the “rule of law.”
  - As Rome expanded it became an empire, and its emperor was considered “godlike”
- Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire by Emperor Constantine

# The Persian Empire 2,000 B.C.-100 B.C.

- The Persian ruler Cyrus the Great united the Medes and Persians in 550 B.C.
  - Expanded the Persian territory to the west and east by conquering territories.



- The son of Cyrus the Great conquered Egypt.
- The next ruler, Darius, unified the Persian Empire by building roads, uniformed set of weights and measurements, and capital cities.
- The empire was 3,000 miles long from the Nile River to the Indus River.



# Persian Religion

- At first Persians worshipped many gods. (Polytheistic)
- 570 B.C. Zoroaster introduced a new religion, Zoroastrianism.
  - Two Gods
    - The god of Truth, Light and Goodness
    - The god of Darkness and Evil.
  - Those who were good would go to heaven, those who were bad would go to hell.







# Persia's Accomplishments

- Began using coins for purchasing items instead of bartering, this begins a “money economy”
- Built roads using stone and gravel and also included stations for fresh horses.
- Created a postal service for communication.
  - Like Post Office, Fed Ex, UPS



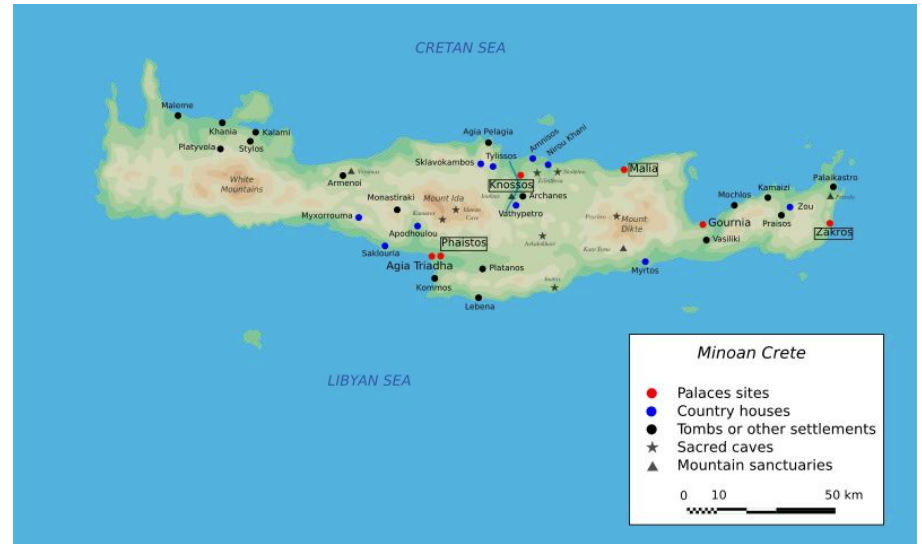
# The Glory of Greece

- Geography of Greece
  - Large mountainous peninsula
  - Islands of the Aegean Sea
  - Coast of Turkey
- Farming was difficult
  - Produced wine, olive oil, and pottery for trade
- Because of trade they developed a new alphabet from the Phoenicians



# Early Greek Civilizations

- Civilizations gradually spread from Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Persia towards the Mediterranean region.
- Minoan Civilization
  - Flourished on the island of Crete 2000B.C. to 1400 B.C.
  - Developed writing, used copper and bronze, great shipbuilders
- Mycenaean Civilization
  - Mainland Greece and on Asia Minor
  - 1400 to 1200 B.C.



# Greek City-States

- Mountains and seas cut-off cities in Greece.
  - This allowed the development of city-states (*polis*)
    - Each with its own government and set of laws
- Greeks still had a common culture
  - Language, religious beliefs, traditions, economic ties
  - Olympics

## ATHENS—Democracy

- Developed the form of government of Democracy
  - Rule of the people
- Citizens voted for every matter.
  - Women, foreigners, slaves were not citizens
- Citizens Assembly was the main governing body, 5000 people could attend to vote.
  - Met 10 times a year
- Citizens who served on a council, or jury were paid for lost earnings.

## SPARTA—Military

- Located on the southern part of Greece (Peloponnesus)
- 725 B.C. conquered the Helots.
  - Made helots become farmers
- Sparta's life was organized around military needs
- Individualism and new Ideas were discouraged
- Strict obedience and self-discipline was highly valued.
- If a baby was unhealthy it was left on a hill to die.



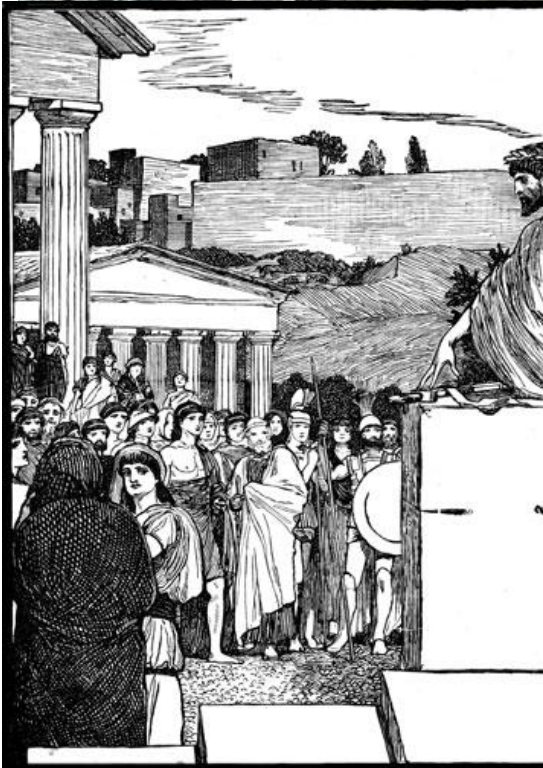
# Golden Age of Greek Culture

- Pericles championed democracy, collected taxes from city-states to rebuild Athens.
  - Art, literature, and philosophy flourished.
- Philosophy---Dignity of the Individual. Use of reason humans could understand how the world worked.
  - Socrates questioned the use of moral terms
    - What is goodness? What is morality and justice?
  - Plato concluded that values like goodness and beauty exist as independent ideas
    - Described the ideal city-state, “Justice as the rule of reason over appetite (our desires)”
  - Aristotle collected and classified things from animals to city-state constitutions and studied their relationships. (Think Biology)



- Art & Architecture
  - Designed statues and buildings with ideal proportions and harmony.
  - Parthenon was built at the Acropolis, inside is the Athena, patron goddess of the city
- Science & Math
  - Eratosthenes showed the earth was round and calculated its circumference
    - Created the *sieve*, a device to discover all prime numbers
  - Archimedes revolutionized geometry
    - Volume and density, designed catapults

- Music & Literature
  - The Greeks developed musical scales
  - Herodotus and Thucydides were historians
    - Would write stories of the past
  - Sophocles created playwrights
    - Completed the first comedies and tragedies



# Peloponnesian Wars

- Athens used their power to tax other city-states.
- Sparta declared war on Athens
- After 30 years of war, Athens won.
- The war weakened all of the city-states.
- Poverty was widespread.
- Athens was devastated and Sparta became the leading city-state.



# Alexander the Great

- Son of the King of Macedonia
- Was taught by Aristotle.
- Conquered most of the Mediterranean world.
  - Egypt and Persia
  - Eastward to the Indus River in India
- Died at an early age
  - His empire collapsed after his death



# Hellenistic Culture

- Hellenistic Culture means-the fusion of Greek culture with the cultures of the Middle East and India
- Alexander the Great would spread the Greek culture to conquered lands
- Statues were created with more emotional representations
  - Statue heads of ordinary people showed imperfections.
- Wealthy people began to study philosophy

# The “Grandeur” of Rome

- One of the most influential civilizations to emerge in the Ancient World.
- Romans adopted the Greek Culture
  - Believed in the same Gods
    - Gave them Latin names
  - Romans studied and imitated Greek achievements in science, art, history and literature.



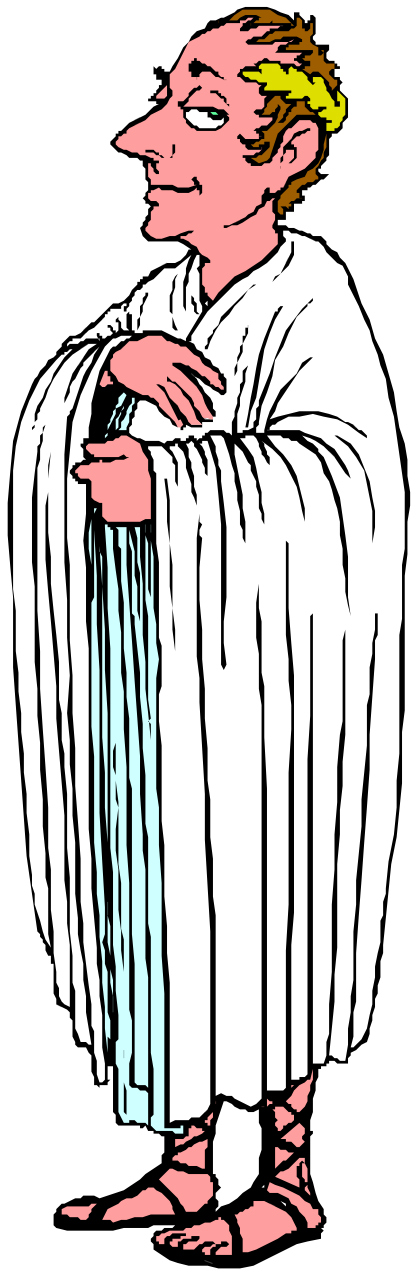
# Geography of Rome

- Located on a fertile plain in the center of Italy close to the west coast
- To the north the Alps protected Rome
- To the west the sea offered protection
  - Also it served as a route for exploration and trade.



# The Roman Republic

- Early Rome overthrew their king and developed a *Republic*.
  - A system of government by representatives
- Two social classes
  - *Patricians*-wealthy land owners
  - *Plebeians*- small farmers, craftsmen, merchants
- Patricians had an assembly known as the Senate.
  - Elected officials were called *consuls*
- Plebeians would chose *tribunes*
  - Speakers to represent them.



- The Twelve Tables
  - Supported the “Rule of Law
  - Government officials were not above the law
  - To protect the Plebeians
  - Covered civil, criminal and religious laws
  - ALL CITIZENS ARE EQUAL UNDER THE LAW!

# The Roman Empire

- Rome ruled the entire Italian Peninsula
- Defeated Carthage in North Africa
  - Rome became the leading power in the Mediterranean Region
- Rome then conquered: Spain, North Africa and eastern Mediterranean.
- Julius Cesar returned to Rome with his army and declared himself “Dictator”



- Roman officials feared loss of freedoms and assassinated Cesar in 44B.C.
- Augustus Cesar was the next ruler, kept monarch powers but preserved republican institutions.
- He removed corrupt officials and tried to restore “Old Roman Values”
- His successors were called Emperors and were worshipped as Gods.
- Expanded the Roman Empire to the north and east

# Pax Romana 27 B.C.-395 A.D.

- Augustus brought peace to the Roman Empire
  - “Pax Romana”
- Centralized political authority allowed the rule of law to effective.
  - Respected local customs, provided laws, promoted trade, and offered citizenship.
  - However, still recognized the institution of slavery
    - A large number of slaves performed much of Rome's labor



- Rome became the center of
  - Communications, commerce, trade, politics, culture, military power.
- Great engineers
  - Large buildings; coliseum etc..
  - 50,000 miles of roads
- Roman Army
  - Professional Force
  - Obedient to its Generals



# Women in Rome

- Responsible for household chores
- Not allowed to hold office
- More equality in Roman society than in Greek Society
- High value on marriage, home and the family
- Could own property and make wills
- Lower class women worked outside the home

# Jewish Rebellion

- Rome allowed the practice of other religions as long as they accepted the emperor as *divine*.
- Jews refused.
- Revolted in 66 A.D. and in 135 A.D.
  - Defeated by the Romans, destroyed the Jewish temple in Jerusalem and drove them out of Israel
  - Fled to the north and west of Europe

# Christianity

- Began 2,000 years ago
- Based on the teachings of Jesus
  - Preached forgiveness, mercy and sympathy
- Crucified because he claimed he was the Messiah
- *Apostles* believed he had risen from the dead to redeem mankind
- Afterlife is promised to all believers



- Wanted to spread the religion to non-believers
- No strict dietary rules or other religious laws
- In the 4<sup>th</sup> Century Emperor Constantine became the 1<sup>st</sup> Christian Emperor
- By 400 A.D. Christianity became the official religion for the Roman Empire



# Fall of Rome

- Political Weakness
  - Emperors became corrupt and ineffective leaders
- Economic Problems
  - Costs of defending and administering the empire led to high taxes
  - Inflation and unemployment led to economic difficulties
- Military Decline
  - Roman began to rely on paid soldiers
  - Recruited from non-Roman people, they were not loyal to Rome
- Invasions
  - Was continually attacked from Northern Europe and Central Asia (Goths and Huns)
  - Eventually invaded Rome.

# Legacy of Rome

- Law
  - Concepts of Justice, equality before the law, and natural law based on reason shaped European legal systems
- Language
  - Several European languages evolved from Latin
    - Spanish, French, Portuguese, Italian, Romanian
- Engineering
  - Built bridges and aqueducts to supply water to cities
  - Developed concrete and the use of arches and domes
- Christianity
  - Was the major turning point in the spread of Christianity.