

Chapter 10

Europe in the Middle Ages, 1000–1500

- In the early Middle Ages, Europe saw explosive urban growth, a revival of trade, and an emboldened Catholic Church.
- Yet catastrophic setbacks followed in the form of plague, economic collapse, and war.
- Christianity remained a focus of European life, but centuries of confrontation with the monarchies left the Church weakened.

I. Section 1 Peasants, Trade, and Cities

A. The near doubling of Europe's population, combined with more peaceful and settled conditions, contributed to major improvements in life in Europe.

1. Reasons for the change included the development of labor-saving devices, improvements in farming that increased food production, and a revival of trade.
2. Trade, in turn, contributed to the development of a money economy, the resettlement of ancient cities, and the emergence of new cities.
3. Many people still lived as peasants.

B. They combined agricultural and craft work to provide for their families, while turning over part of what they produced to the lord of the manor.

1. The cities, meanwhile, were crowded, dirty places that nevertheless provided new opportunities for men and women.
2. In the cities, guilds regulated employment in many crafts and professions.

II. Section 2 Christianity and Medieval Civilization

A. A sign of the Church's growing role in European affairs was the Concordat of Worms.

1. By barring monarchs from investing bishops, this document marked a victory for Pope Gregory VII in his bid to reform the Church and assert papal power.
2. The importance of the sacraments for ordinary Christians gave the Church a central role in people's lives.

B. The veneration of saints was also popular and spurred interest in a long list of saints who Christians believed could intercede in heaven on their behalf.

1. Religious fervor prompted new monastic orders to spring up for men and women. The new orders developed an activist spiritual model.

2. The Inquisition gave the Church a tool for discouraging heresy. Those who failed to do proper penance for heresy could face execution.

III. Section 3 The Culture of the High Middle Ages

- A. The first universities were established in twelfth-century Italy, France, and England as educational guilds.
 1. Most students received a liberal arts education.
 2. Theology was the most prestigious subject and was heavily influenced by scholasticism.
- B. Scholasticism sought to reconcile faith and reason and to harmonize Christian teachings with recently rediscovered works of Greek philosophers.
 1. The best-known practitioner of scholasticism was Saint Thomas Aquinas.
 3. Although Latin was the universal language of medieval civilization, new literature—mainly poetry—was appearing in regional languages, such as French, English, and Spanish.
 4. An eleventh- and twelfth-century building boom produced many new churches. Innovations in architecture made it possible to build soaring Gothic cathedrals, one of the artistic triumphs of the High Middle Ages

IV. Section 4 The Late Middle Ages

- A. Europe's fortunes sank as bubonic plague carried by infested rats decimated Europe's population.
 1. In a wave of anti-semitism, many people attacked Jews, accusing them of causing the plague by poisoning the wells.
 2. The plague devastated Europe's economy as well and accelerated the end of serfdom.
- B. Church power declined as European kings rejected papal claims of supremacy.
 1. Popular respect for the papacy was undermined by the Great Schism, a nearly forty-year papal crisis during which a rival papacy was set up in France.
 2. The Hundred Years' War introduced new methods of warfare, adding to the problems of the late Middle Ages.
 3. The "new monarchies" of the fifteenth century reestablished the centralized power of the monarchies in England, France, and Spain.

CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING:

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A. manor | B. serf |
| C. money economy | D. commercial capitalism |
| E. guild | F. lay investiture |
| G. interdict | H. sacraments |
| I. heresy | J. Inquisition |
| K. theology | L. scholasticism |
| M. vernacular | N. Black Death |
| O. anti-Semitism | P. Great Schism |
| Q. new monarchy | R. <i>taille C.</i> |
| S. Great Schism | |

- __ 1. economic system in which people invest in trade or goods to make profits
- __ 2. in medieval Europe, an agricultural estate run by a lord and worked by peasants
- __ 3. an economic system based on money rather than barter
- __ 4. a business association associated with a particular trade or craft, which evolved in the twelfth century and came to play a leading role in the economic life of medieval cities
- __ 5. in medieval Europe, a peasant legally bound to the land who had to provide labor services, pay rents, and be subject to the lord's control
- __ 6. the denial of basic church doctrines
- __ 7. the practice by which secular rulers both chose nominees to church offices and gave them the symbols of their office
- __ 8. Christian rites
- __ 9. a court established by the Catholic Church in 1232 to discover and try heretics; also called the Holy Office
- __ 10. a decree by the pope that forbade priests to give the sacraments of the church to the people

- __ 11. a medieval philosophical and theological system that tried to reconcile faith and reason
- __ 12. the study of religion and God
- __ 13. the language of everyday speech in a particular region
- __ 14. hostility toward or discrimination against Jews
- __ 15. an annual direct tax, usually on land or property, that provided a regular source of income for the French monarchy
- __ 16. in the fifteenth century, government in which power had been centralized under a king
- __ 17. a form of bubonic plague, spread by fleas carried by rats
- __ 18. a split in the Catholic Church that lasted from 1378 to 1418, during which time there were rival popes in Rome and in the French city of Avignon; France and its allies supported the pope in Avignon, while France's enemy England and its allies supported the pope in Rome

Checking for Understanding answers:

1-D, 2-A, 3-C, 4-E, 5-B, 6-I, 7-F, 8-H, 9-J, 10-G, 11-L, 12-K, 13-M, 14-O, 15-R, 16-Q, 17-N, 18-P