

## Terms and People

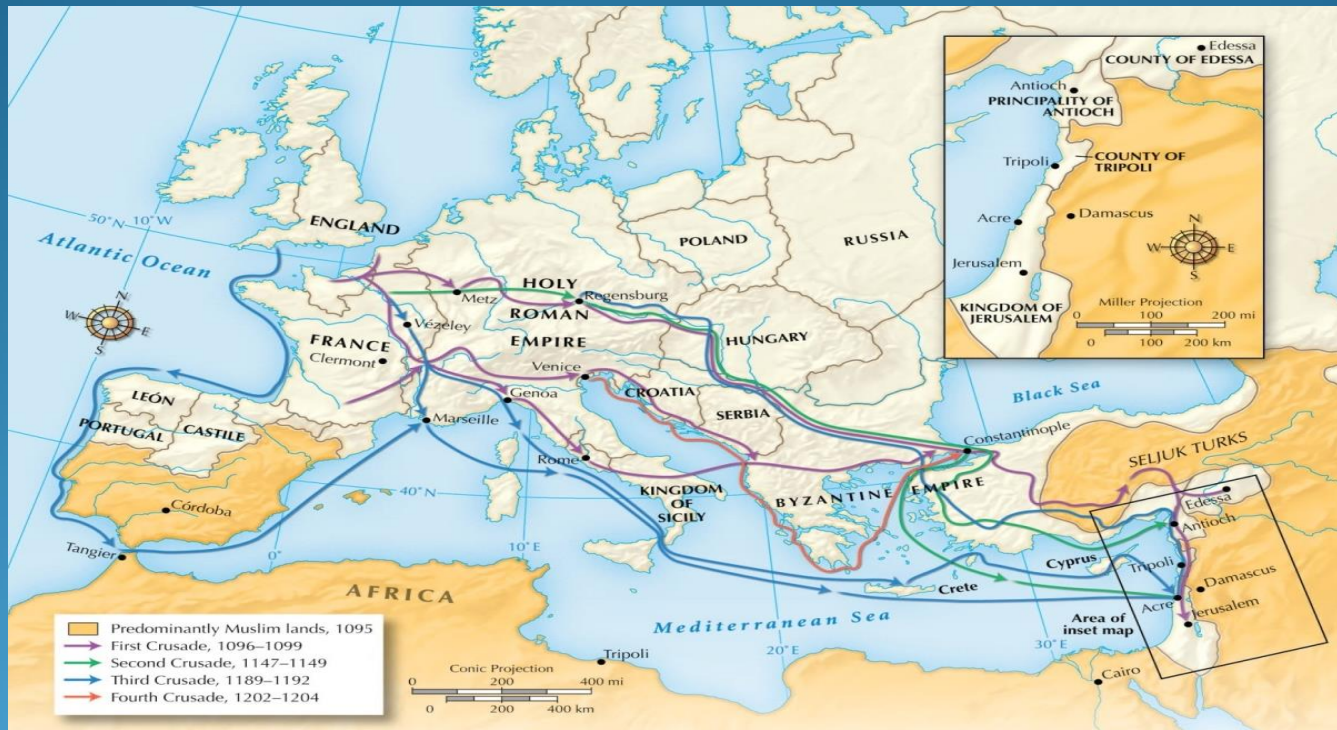
- **feudalism** – a system in which a ruler grants parts of his land to lords
- **Martin Luther** – a German monk who sparked the Protestant Reformation in 1517
- **Henry the Navigator** – a Portuguese prince who, in the 1400s, set up a center for exploration to train sailors
- **Vasco da Gama** – a Portuguese sailor who found a water route around the southern tip of Africa in 1498

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## Terms and People

- **monotheism** – the idea that there is only one God
- **Jesus** – a Jewish teacher who founded Christianity about 2,000 years ago
- **salvation** – in Christianity, the means for saving one from evil; everlasting life
- **direct democracy** – a form of government in which an assembly of ordinary citizens makes decisions
- **republic** – a form of government in which people choose representatives to govern them

# Europe Before 1492



## **Objectives**

- Understand the importance of the Judeo-Christian tradition.
- Learn how Greece and Rome shaped ideas about government and law.
- Discover the impact of the Crusades and the Renaissance on Europe.
- Find out why Europeans began to look beyond their borders.



## **What major influences shaped European civilization?**

Judaism and Christianity influenced European beliefs and values. Together, these influences and values are sometimes referred to as the Judeo-Christian tradition.

The political traditions of Greece and Rome also influenced Europe.

**Around 1700 B.C., a system of beliefs called Judaism arose among the Israelites, a nomadic people of the Middle East.**



Judaism was the first major world religion to teach **monotheism.**

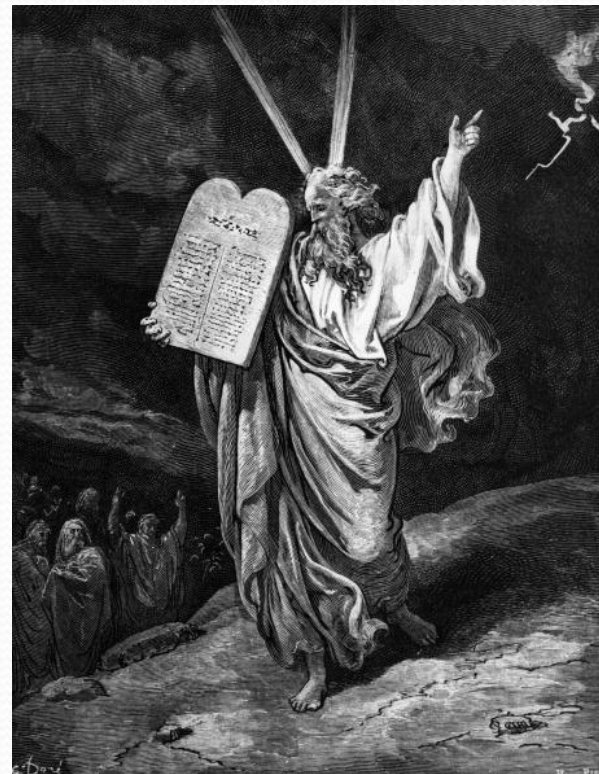


The Israelites credited Moses with bringing God's laws to them.

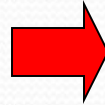
Jews believed that every Jew must obey the Ten Commandments, a set of religious and moral rules.



This belief formed the basis for the later view that no person is above the law.



About 2,000 years ago, a Jewish teacher named **Jesus** of Nazareth began preaching in the region around the Sea of Galilee.



Many believed he was the Messiah, the Savior chosen by God. Crowds flocked to hear him teach.



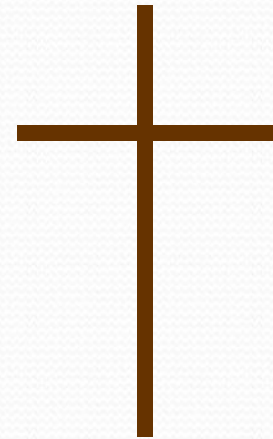
The Roman rulers of Jerusalem saw Jesus as a political threat, and they arrested, tried, and crucified him.



Followers of Jesus said that he rose from the dead three days later.



**His life and teachings inspired a new religion, Christianity.**



## Christianity

### Christian Beliefs

- The religion is based on the belief that Jesus was God in human form and that he came to Earth to save the world.

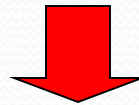
### Teachings of Jesus

- His teachings emphasized love, mercy, and forgiveness.
- He taught that all people have an equal chance for **salvation**.

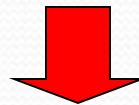
### Spread of Christianity

- Jesus' teachings appealed to the poor and the oppressed.
- This helped the religion spread from the Middle East across Europe.

At first, the Romans viewed Christianity as a threat, and they often killed Christians.



Later, emperors accepted Christianity and made it the official religion of the Roman Empire.



**Eventually, it became the dominant religion in all of Europe.**

Many of Jesus' followers, such as Paul, helped spread Christianity throughout the Roman Empire.

## Growth of Christianity in the Roman Empire

Year	Number of Christians*
0	0
50	1,400
100	7,530
150	40,496
200	217,795
250	1,171,356
300	6,299,832
350	33,882,008

\*Numbers are estimates.

SOURCE: Rodney Stark, *The Rise of Christianity*

# Spread of Christianity to A.D. 476



Judaism and Christianity shaped European religious and moral thinking.



At the same time, ancient Greek and Roman ideas shaped European political traditions.



**Greek and Roman ideas would later deeply influence the founders of the United States.**

# Tablet:

1. List 5 differences between Judaism and Christianity
2. List 10 facts about the Roman Empire

## Athenian Democracy

<b>Setting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In the fifth century B.C., the Greek city-state of Athens had a burst of learning and creativity that included the birth of democracy.</li></ul>
<b>Direct Democracy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Athens was a <b>direct democracy</b>.</li><li>• All adult male citizens could participate in the Athenian Assembly.</li></ul>
<b>Limitations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Women, slaves, and foreign-born people could not participate in government.</li></ul>



Around 900 B.C., a few small villages in central Italy began growing slowly into the city of Rome.



In 509 B.C., the Romans overthrew their king and set up a **republic**, in which an elected senate and assembly made the laws.



**Principles in Rome's code of law later became part of the American system of justice.**

## **Some of the ideas that the American system borrowed from Rome are:**

Everybody is equal  
under the law.

People accused of  
crimes are considered  
innocent until proven  
guilty.

Eventually, the Roman Republic collapsed and was replaced by the Roman Empire, which lasted about 500 years.



In A.D. 476, the Roman Empire fell to invaders.



Thus began the Middle Ages— Europe broke up into many states, and **feudalism** developed.



**In this 1,000-year period, known as the Middle Ages, daily life revolved around the Roman Catholic Church, which had great power.**



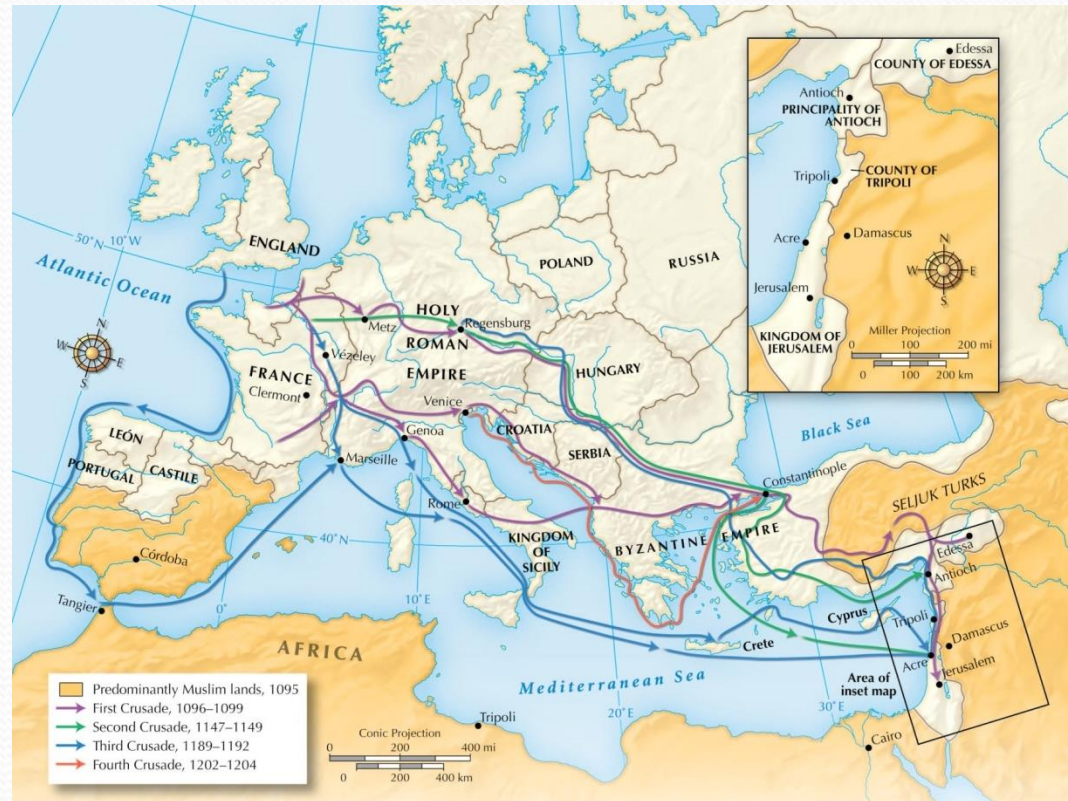
The Catholic Church was the center of learning.



Aside from members of the clergy, few people were able to read and write.

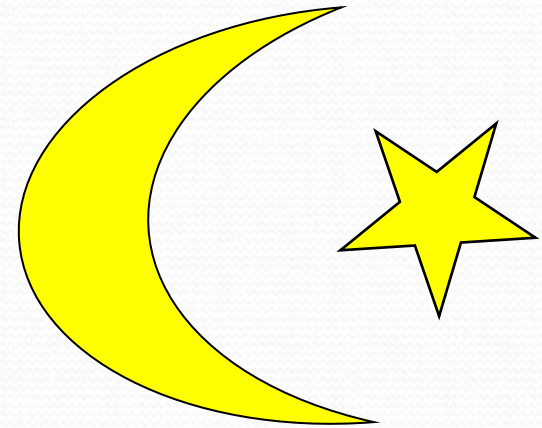


Starting in 1096 and extending over the next 200 years, the Roman Catholic Church supported nine crusades to win back the Holy Land from the Muslims.



## **Although the Crusades ultimately failed, they had important long-term effects:**

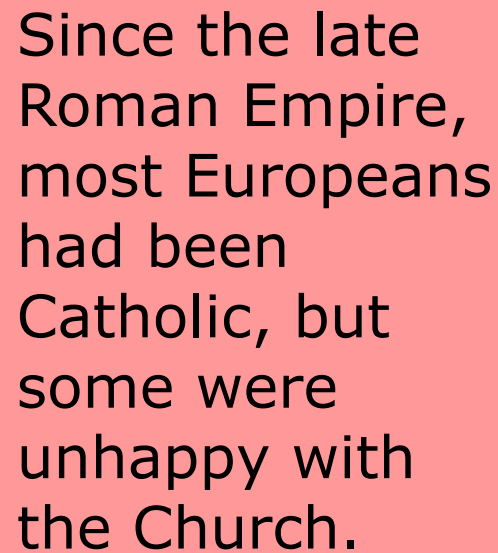
- Europeans had closer contact with the more advanced Muslim civilization.
- Europeans learned about advanced technology used for navigation.
- Increased trade sped up the decline of feudalism.



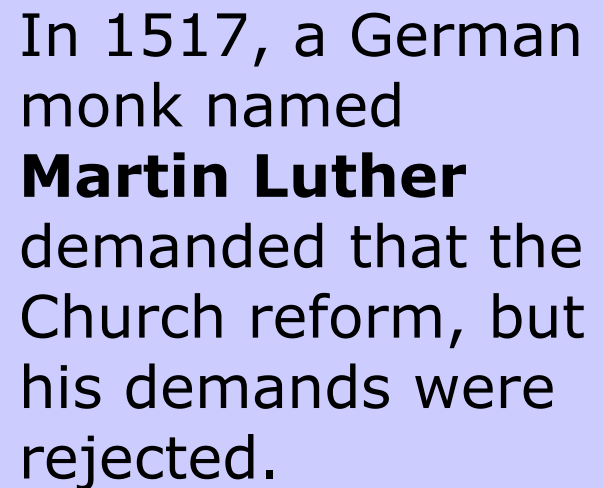
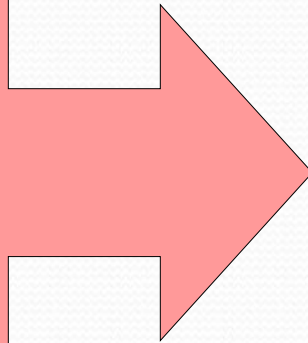
## The Renaissance

<b>Time Period</b>	The Renaissance, a rebirth of learning in Europe, began in the 1300s.
<b>Philosophy and Art</b>	European scholars and artists rediscovered classical Greek and Roman texts and art.
<b>Science and Inventions</b>	Johann Gutenberg's printing press made more books available and boosted literacy rates.
<b>Powerful New Nation-States</b>	The new nations—Spain, Portugal, France, and England—shifted important trade routes from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic Ocean.





Since the late Roman Empire, most Europeans had been Catholic, but some were unhappy with the Church.



In 1517, a German monk named **Martin Luther** demanded that the Church reform, but his demands were rejected.

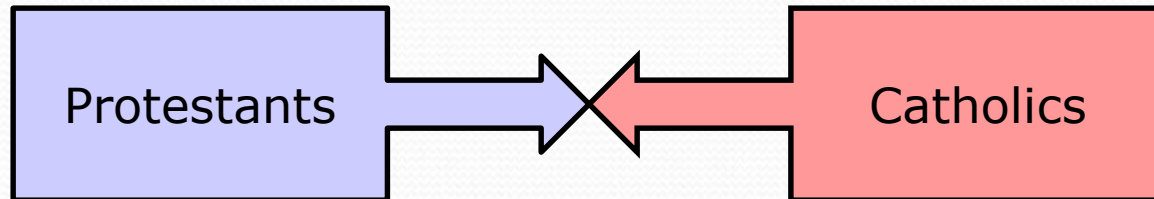
**Luther rebelled against the Church and led the Protestant Reformation.**



Over time, the movement split, and many Protestant churches emerged.



The Reformation also started a long series of wars between Catholic and Protestant forces in Europe.



## Beginning of the Age of Exploration

### Center for Exploration

- The Renaissance, the rise of nations, and the expansion of trade set the stage for an era of exploration.
- In the 1400s, **Henry the Navigator** set up a center for exploration at Sagres, Portugal.
- There, sailors learned to use the magnetic compass, the astrolabe, and advanced mapmaking and navigation techniques.

### Water Route Around Africa

- By 1498, Portuguese sailor **Vasco da Gama** passed the southern tip of Africa on his way to India.
- His course became an important trade route and helped boost Portuguese wealth and power.

# Quiz

1. a form of government in which people choose Representatives
  2. a system in which a ruler grants part of his land to lords
  3. everlasting life
  4. Portuguese sailor who passed the tip of Africa and continued to India
- a. salvation
  - b. feudalism
  - c. republic
  - d. Vasco da Gama
  - e. Henry the Navigator
  - f. Martin Luther

5. The Israelites credited \_\_\_\_\_ with delivering the Ten Commandments.
6. Christians believe that \_\_\_\_\_ was sent by God to save the world.
7. The Greek city-state of \_\_\_\_\_ was the birthplace of democracy.
8. The 1,000-year period after the fall of Rome is known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
9. What was one of the Crusades' important long-term effects?