

SPREAD OF CHRISTIANITY

HISTORY

CHAPTER 2

CLASS VII

SUMMARY OF THE CHAPTER:-

* Christianity did not fade away with the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. His teachings were spread by his followers.

* St. Paul played a crucial role in spreading Christianity. He was the first to encourage non Jews to become Christians.

* Christian's were being viewed as rebels and were being tortured were killed.

* Emperor Constantine embraced Christianity and put an end to the persecution of Christians. He shifted the capital from Rome to the ancient city of Byzantium Empire because he believed that the Roman Empire had become too big to be administered efficiently. The new capital was named Constantinople.

*There were a few main events which took place in Medieval Europe at that time.

A. The decline of the ancient Roman Empire had its final blow in 476 CE when a barbarian chief made himself king of Italy and forced the last emperor of Rome to give up his crown.

B. The Roman Empire was split into two parts. The Western Roman Empire which declined due to the repeated barbarian invasions and the Eastern Roman Empire known as Byzantine, which survived for another thousand years owing to its strategic location which enabled rulers to exploit the trade routes between Asia and Europe. Under the able ruler Justinian the 1st, the Eastern Roman Empire became the wealthiest empire in Europe.

C. A series of holy wars (eight crusades) were fought by the Christians to reclaim the Holy Land captured by the Turks.

D. The most important impact of the Crusades was that they paved the way for the birth of Renaissance in Europe.

E. Monasteries played a crucial role in the spread of Christianity. It served the people and acted as centers of learning as well as healing.

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WORKSHEET

A. Fill in the blanks :-

1. _____ was the first Roman ruler to embrace Christianity.
2. _____ plundered the Roman treasures, killed and enslaved many Romans.
3. The Roman Empire ended in _____ CE.
4. A total of _____ crusades were fought to recapture the Holy land from the Turks.
5. _____ became the residence for monks.

B. Write True or False :-

1. St Paul played an active role in spreading Christianity in the Roman Empire. ____
2. The persecution of Christians ended in around fourth century C.E. ____
3. The king granted land to the serfs in return for fighting battles . ____
4. Monasteries were guided by the motto, " service to society ". ____
5. The crusades put an end to trade between Asia and Europe. ____

C. Match column A with column B . Please do not draw lines.

A	B
1. 476 CE	a. Emperor Constantine shifted his capital from Rome to Constantinople.
2. 330 CE	b. The Turks captured Constantinople.
3. 1096 - 1291	c. Emperor Theodosius made Christianity the official religion in Rome.
4. 1453	d. Eight Crusades were fought to recapture the Holy land from the Turks.
5. 391 CE	e. The Roman Empire came to an end.

D. Answer the following questions :-

1. Draw and explain the feudal society in Medieval Europe
2. What role did Constantine play in the spread of Christianity?
3. What were the events experienced in Medieval Europe?
4. What led to the decline of the Byzantine Empire?
5. How did the crusades pave the way for the birth of Renaissance in Europe?

E. With reference to your text book, please do the following questions :-

1. Exercise D - Question Nos... 1 and 2.
2. Exercise E - Question Nos... 3 and 5.