

~~not here~~

Lecture 20: Transformations from Antiquity to Medieval Culture

I - transition from "classical" period to "Middle Ages"

roughly a 1000 yrs.

End of Roman Empire western part.

- no real "fall" gradual process over a period of time

- move to Constantinople in fourth century

- influx of Germanic peoples mixing of cultures + traditions

- end of imperial expansion, no new slaves

- Rome sacked 410 besieged + destroyed. Senate tries giving gold ~~to~~ they would go away.

Germany Army

- Odoacer defeats Roman army 476 Odoacer (King) captures Rome + stays there. Turns Rome into his capital. Rules as a German King. (Rome senate still meets)

- sixth-century plague

541-543 city now a ghost town

- rise of Islam

- Split, East/West

II - Early middle ages (6th-9th centuries)

- Christianity as Roman religion

Roman Catholic Church

Popes authority comes from the Bible.

Matthew Chpt. 16

- Rome's claim of ecclesiastical superiority

- Latin language universal lang. after Rome gone

- Roman roads, aqueducts, fortifications all still there

- Idea of Christian emperor/Roman emperor Each one thought they were the heir

III - Transformations

Social system will change. New ideas + system will take place

- decline of cities, culture becomes rural; political power reverts to local lords/landowners ppl. moved out of the cities (urban) + move to country (rural) pop. drops dramatically.
feudalism. Land = power

- replacement of slavery with serfdom

slavery declines. serfs = someone who lives on the land but doesn't own it. works for the lord.

- nobility

certain families are thought of as being a noble. no taxes, social status

- land grant (fief) vassals

Fief - a piece of land from a noble grants a lesser person w/ land.
- monasteries

group of men dedicated to God.

learning + scholarship are kept alive

vassals - gets land but fights for the noble in return