**Chapter 8 Section 3-5 Notes**

**Section 3**

* Thousands of Europeans took part in a series of wars called the Crusades.
* **First Crusade (1096-1099)**: Christian knights waged a religious war against the Muslims in Jerusalem in an attempt to reclaim the Holy Land.
  + In the 1050s, the Seljuk Turks (Muslim) invaded the Byzantine Empire. The Seljuks extended their power over the Holy Land, which is the name for Jerusalem and other places in Palestine where Jesus lived and preached.
  + The Byzantine emperor Alexius I urgently asked Pope Urban II for Christian knights to help him fight the Muslim Turks. Even though Roman popes and Byzantine emperors were longtime rivals, Urban agreed.
  + At the Council of Clermont in 1095, Urban encouraged bishops and nobles to action and he called for a crusade to free the Holy Land.
  + By 1096, thousands of knights were on their way to the Holy Land. As the crusading spirit spread through Western Europe, armies of ordinary men were inspired and left for the Holy Land too. Few would return.
  + Religious zeal was only one motivation in the First Crusade:
    - Many knights hoped to win wealth and land.
    - Some hoped to escape troubles at home.
    - Others yearned for adventure.
    - The pope also had mixed motives. Urban hoped to increase his power in Europe and perhaps heal the split between the Roman and Byzantine churches.
* Only the First Crusade came close to achieving its goals. After a long and bloody battle, Christian knights captured Jerusalem in 1099. They capped their victory with a massacre of Muslim and Jewish residents of the city.
* **Second Crusade (1145-1149):** Because the First Crusade had been a relative success, many crusaders returned home. Some stayed to govern the conquered territory. These crusaders divided their captured lands into four small states called crusader states. The Muslims repeatedly sought to destroy these Christian states, prompting Europeans to launch new crusades. The Muslims captured one in 1144, starting the Second Crusade.
* **Third Crusade (1189-1192):** In 1187, Jerusalem fell to the Muslim leader Salah al-Din known to Europeans as Saladin.
  + This Crusade was led by Frederick Barbarossa, King Phillip II of France and King Richard I of England (Richard the Lion-Heart).
  + King Richard’s army made it all the way to Jerusalem but refused to lay siege to the city.
  + In 1192, Richard and Saladin signed a peace treaty reestablishing the Kingdom of Jerusalem. Saladin opened the city back up to Christians.
* **Fourth Crusade-Sixth Crusade (1198-1229):** the crusaders were diverted from fighting Muslims to fighting other Christians.
  + After helping merchants from the Venice defeat their Byzantine trade rivals in 1204, crusaders captured and looted Constantinople, the Byzantine capital.
  + At the same time, Muslim armies overran the crusader states. By 1291, they had captured the last Christian outpost, which was the port city of Acre.
  + Just as the Christians had done 200 years before, the Muslims massacred the conquered Christians.

**Impact of the Crusades**

1. The Crusades left a bitter legacy of religious hatred. Both Muslims and Christians committed atrocities in the name of religion.
2. The Crusaders arrived in the Middle East at a time when Muslim groups were struggling with each other for control of the region. The Crusades forced these Muslim groups to join together to fight the Christians. Therefore, the Crusades reunified the Muslim regions of the Middle East.
3. The Crusades also helped to quicken the pace of changes that were already underway:
   1. Returning crusaders brought back luxuries from the Byzantine Empire such as fabrics, spices, and perfumes. Trade increased and expanded.
   2. The Crusades further encouraged the growth of a money economy. **HOW?** To finance the journey to the Holy Land, nobles needed money. They therefore allowed peasants to pay rent in money rather than labor or grain.
   3. The Crusades helped to increase the power of the monarchs. **HOW?** Monarchs won new rights to collect taxes in order to support the wars. Also, some kings like Louis IX and Richard I (AKA Richard the Lion-Heart) led Crusades, which added greatly to their prestige.
   4. Contacts with the Muslim world led Christians to realize that millions of people lived in regions they had never even known existed. This led Europeans to explore far-off places, expanding European horizons.
      * In 1271, a young Italian named Marco Polo, traveled to China. He returned and wrote a book about the wonders of Chinese civilization.

**The Reconquista**

* In the 700s, the Muslim Moors had taken over much of Spain and the Iberian Peninsula. Several tiny Christian kingdoms still existed in the north. These kingdoms slowly expanded their borders and sought to take over Muslim lands. Their campaign to drive the Muslims from the region is known as the Reconquista or “reconquest.”
* The Christians’ first victory of the Reconquista came in 1085 when they captured the city of Toledo. For the next 200 years, Christian forces slowly pushed southward.
* By 1140, the Christian kingdom of Portugal had been established and by 1300, the Christians controlled almost all of the Iberian Peninsula.
* In 1469 Ferdinand of Aragon married Isabella of Castile. Why is this important? This created the unified state called Spain.
* Using their combined forces, Ferdinand and Isabella made a final push against the Muslim stronghold of Granada and were victorious. Granada fell in 1492 and the Reconquista was complete.
* Ferdinand and Isabella also ended religious tolerance in Spain. With the help of the Inquisition, a Church court set up to try people accused of heresy, Isabella launched a cruel crusade against non-Christians in Spain. Many Jews and Muslims were burned at the stake. More than 150,000 people fled Spain.

**Section 4**

* By the 1100s Europe was showing signs of increased prosperity:
  + Reliable food supply
  + Growth of trade and towns
* This increased prosperity brought growth in education.
  + The church wanted better educated clergy.
  + Royal rulers also needed literate men for their growing governments.
  + The sons of wealthy townspeople hoped that, by acquiring an education, they might qualify for high positions in the Church or the royal government.
* Universities appeared all over Europe training men in law, medicine, and theology. Women were not allowed to attend universities.
* The writings of the ancient Greeks posed a challenge to Christian scholars. WHY? Aristotle taught people should use reason to discover basic truths. However, as Christians, they accepted many ideas on faith. How could they use the logic of Aristotle without undermining their Christian faith?
* Some scholars tried to resolve the conflict between faith and reason by using a method called scholasticism, which used reason to support Christian beliefs.
  + Scholastics studied the works of the Muslim philosopher Averroes and the Jewish Rabbi Maimonides.
* The writings of these philosophers influenced the famous scholastic Thomas Aquinas. In his work, *Summa theologica,* Aquinas concluded that faith and reason exist in harmony. Aquinas said both lead to the same truth, that God rules over an orderly universe.
  + Aquinas successfully brought together Christian faith and classical Greek philosophy.
* During this time, medieval literature also grew. While Latin remained the written language of scholars and churchmen, new writings began to appear in the vernacular, or the everyday languages of ordinary people such as French, German and Italian.
* Across Europe, people began writing down oral traditions in the vernacular. The most popular heroic epic was *The Song of Roland*, which praises the courage of one of Charlemagne’s knights.
* Geoffrey Chaucer was an English writer. His most popular work was *The Canterbury Tales* where he describes a band of English pilgrims traveling to St. Thomas Becket’s tomb.
* During the Middle Ages, great accomplishments were made by the Europeans in the arts and architecture. Their greatest achievements were the towering stone cathedrals which were symbols of their wealth and religious devotion.
* About 1140, Abbot Suger wanted to build a new church at St. Denis in Paris. Here builders developed what became known as Gothic style of architecture. It most important feature was the flying buttresses, which were stone supports that stood outside the church. These supports allowed builders to construct higher, thinner walls and leave space for large stained-glass windows.

**Section 5**

* In the fall of 1347, a trading ship loaded with grain left the Black Sea port of Caffa and set sail for Sicily. By mid-voyage, sailors were falling sick and dying.
* Soon after the ship docked in Sicily, townspeople began getting sick and dying.
* Within months, a new disease that the Europeans called The Black Death was raging through Italy. Within a year it had reached Spain and France. From there it ravaged the rest of Europe. 1 in 3 people died.
* The sickness was bubonic plague, a disease spread by fleas on rats.
* How did this disease get to Europe?
  + This disease had broken out before in Africa, Europe and Asia but had subsided. One stain, however, survived in Mongolia. In the 1200s, Mongol armies conquered much of Asia, probably setting off the new epidemic or outbreak of the rapid-spreading disease.
  + At this time, rats infested ships, towns and even homes. No one really noticed or was bothered by rats. In the early 1300s, rats spread the plague around crowded Chinese cities. Fleas jumped from those rats to infest the clothes and packs of traders traveling west. As a result, the disease spread quickly from Asia to the Middle East and then to Europe.
* As the plague spread quickly through Europe, people panicked. Some saw the plague as God’s punishment. Some blamed the Jews, charging unjustly that they had poisoned the wells and caused the disease.
* Normal life broke down as people fled cities or hid in their homes to avoid contracting the disease.
* The plague also affected Europe’s economy. As workers and employers died, production declined. Survivors demanded higher wages. As the cost of labor grew, inflation (rising prices) broke out.
* All of these factors, plus the overwhelming fear Europeans felt, led to revolts. The plague had spread death and social unrest. It will take Europe more than 100 years to fully recover from its effects.

**Church**

* The Church was unable to provide the strong leadership that was needed during the plague crisis. Critics claimed that popes were worldly, pleasure-lovers and anticlerical sentiment grew.
* In 1378, reformers elected their own pope to rule from Rome. French clergy responded by choosing a rival pope. For years there was a schism (split) in the Church. During this schism, three popes claimed authority.
* A Church council at Constance, Germany, finally ended the crisis in 1417. HOW? By removing authority from all three popes and electing a compromise candidate. They chose Pope Martin V.

**The Hundred Years’ War**

* On top of the disasters of plague, economic decline, social unrest, church fighting came a long, destructive war.
* Between 1337 and 1453, England and France fought a series of conflicts known as The Hundred Years’ War. WHY were they fighting?
  1. English rulers had battled for centuries to hold onto the French lands of their Norman ancestors.
     + When Edward III of England, whose mother had been a French princess, claimed the French crown in 1337, war erupted between France and England.
  2. England and France were also rivals for control of the English Channel, the waterway between their countries.
  3. Each country also wanted to control trade in the region.
* This war lasted 100 years because once fighting started, economic rivalry and a growing sense of national pride made it hard for either side to give up the struggle.
* At first, the English won a series of victories at Crecy in 1346, Pointiers in 1356 and Agincourt in 1415. HOW? They owed much of their success to the longbow, invented by English archers. So it seemed England would win it all.
* In 1429, a 17-year-old peasant woman named Joan of Arc appeared at the court of Charles VII, the king of France. She told him that God sent her to save France. King Charles was desperate so he allowed her to lead an army against the English.
  + - Joan inspired the French troops and, in just one year, led them in a series of victories.
    - Joan was captured by the English and tried her for witchcraft. She was burned at the stake. Much later, the Church declared her a saint.
    - WHY is Joan’s death important? The execution of Joan rallied the French troops, who saw her as a martyr. After her death, the French took the offensive. By 1453, the English only held one port in northwestern France.
* Impact of the Hundred Years’ War:
  1. It created a new sense of national feeling in France and allowed French kings to expand their power.
  2. In England, the war increased the power of the Parliament because kings had turned to them for funds, which helped them win “the power of the purse.”
  3. Even though the loss of French lands shattered English dreams of a continental empire, the English turned to new trading ventures overseas.
  4. After the war, castles and armored knights all but disappeared because they were no longer needed. New weapons like the longbow and the cannon made them obsolete.
  5. Merchants turned to hired soldiers to do their fighting.
* As Europe recovered from the Black Death, the population and manufacturing grew. These changes led to increased trade.