

I. Byzantine Christianity

- a) Decline of Byzantine: Arabs, Ottomans and Mongols
- b) Armies organized into themes, army units with peasants
- c) Emperor controlled both the Church and State
- d) Patriarch: highest church official
- e) They reject the pope
- f) Priests can marry
- g) Speak Greek language

II. Controversy

- a) Use of Icons: religious images
- b) Byzantine people worshipped icons and images
- c) But in the 700s the Byzantine emperor outlawed the worshipping of icons
- d) People broke into churches and destroyed icons
- e) Western pope supported icons
- f) The Pope excommunicated the emperor and patriarch
- g) This caused a split between east and west in 1054
- h) Called the Great Schism: Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church

III. Geography

- a) Located in Eurasia
- b) Different climates, south warmer and farmable, north cold and snowy
- c) Southern steppe helped spread trade and also helped people migrate

IV. Russia

- i Kiev was the capital of Russia 882-1169
- ii Rejected Islam because of the rule against alcohol
- iii Rejected Judaism because God lacked political power
- iv Vladimir the Great (Vladimir I) adopts Eastern Orthodox
- v Forced baptism on his subjects
- vi Borrowed saints, icons and architecture from the Romans
- vii Traded with the Byzantine Empire
- viii Gave them slaves
- ix Byzantine missionaries Cyril and Methodius create the Cyrillic alphabet

V. Kiev Decline

- a) In the 12th century princes rivaled over power
- b) 13th century invaded by Mongols
- c) Orthodox church survives due to Mongol tolerance