

# Chapter 16: The Two Worlds of Christendom

## Reading Questions

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### **The Quest for Political Order – p. 328**

1. Byzantium had a number of geographic advantages, but the most important was control of the Bosphorus. Why was controlling the Bosphorus important?
2. For what two reasons had Constantine established his capital at Constantinople?
3. “Caesaropapism” is where the emperor ruled as a secular lord and played an active role in ecclesiastical affairs. Being such good Christians, the Byzantine emperors could not declare themselves gods. What did they do to prove their legitimacy instead?
4. What was the purpose of the Hagia Sophia (pronounced High-yah Soph-ee-yah)? What was so impressive about it?
5. The law Justinian inherited was a confusing mess. What did he do to fix it?
6. Justinian attempted to revive the Roman empire by reconquering the West. Why was he unsuccessful?

### **Muslim Conquests & Byzantine Revival – p. 332**

7. How were the Byzantines able to keep Muslim forces from conquering them?

### **The Rise of the Franks – p. 332**

8. The Franks conquered most of Roman Gaul and became the most powerful society in western Europe, partially because they adopted Christianity. Who supported them because of their conversion?
9. Charles ‘the Hammer’ Martel was most important because he stopped what group from expanding from Spain into the rest of western Europe?
10. Charlemagne controlled what areas of Europe?
11. How did Charlemagne maintain authority over the lands he conquered?
12. Who appointed Charlemagne emperor and why had he not sought for that title?

### **The Age of the Vikings – p. 334**

13. Why did the empire built by Charlemagne end?
14. Give two reasons for Viking expansion.
15. How were the Vikings able to raid inland victims?
16. In the end, what kind of societies/governments did western Europe have?

### **Economy and Society in Early Medieval Europe – p. 337**

17. After the eighth century, why were the Byzantines especially prosperous?
18. The free farmers produced agricultural surpluses that allowed manufacture of many fine goods. They also learned how to manufacture \_\_\_\_\_ from the Chinese.
19. What nation controlled most of the eastern end of the silk road system?
20. Why did northern Europeans need a heavier plow than those of southern Europe?
21. List at least three changes that helped the western Europeans in this period.
22. Maritime trade in western Europe was primarily conducted by what group?

### **Social Development in the Two Worlds of Christendom – p. 339**

23. Contrast the towns of western Europe with the cities in Byzantium.
24. Bentley & Ziegler did not believe in feudalism. How did they describe the social organization of western Europe?
25. What did peasants have to do for their lords?

### **The Evolution of Christian Societies – p. 342**

26. By the early middle ages, who were the two most important Christian authorities?
27. Pope Gregory I faced two challenges. How did he overcome each?
  - Challenge I: invasions by the Lombards
  - Challenge II: each regional bishop acted as though he were the supreme ecclesiastical authority
28. Why did the patriarch of Constantinople lack the power of the popes?
29. What was iconoclasm? Who implemented the iconoclastic policy?

### **Monks and Missionaries – p. 343**

30. Christian ascetics attracted many disciples. What two saints established rules for them, establishing the first true monasteries?
31. St. Scholastica adapted the Benedictine rule so it provided guidance for the life of \_\_\_\_\_ in convents.
32. Like Buddhist monasteries, Christian monasteries helped spread their religion, especially because they provided services important to the community. What services did the Christian monasteries provide? Name at least three.
33. Who sent missionaries into Germany and the British Isles?
34. What important Orthodox/Byzantine missionary to the Slavs gave his name to their alphabet?

### **Two Churches – p. 345**

35. Many things built tensions between the eastern and western churches. What happened in 1054 that marked the final division between the two churches?