

## CIVILIZATION: Byzantine Empire

<b>Time Period:</b>	330-the emperor Constantine built a new capital at Constantinople; Byzantine would be a separate Empire after the Fall of Rome in 476 to 1453-the taking of Constantinople by the Ottoman empire
<b>Geographic Description:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Eastern half of the Roman Empire that lived on after the fall</li> <li>-Capital Constantinople benefited from strategic location which protected the area from barbaric invasions while rest of Roman Empire fell</li> <li>-Covered an area from Rome through southeastern Europe and Asia Minor, down to Egypt and across North Africa, as well as a portion of Spain at its height under Justinian; in 600s it would slowly lose land – growth of Islam caused land loss as well as desire for independence in the Balkans later</li> </ul>
<b>P</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Justinian(527-565)-autocrat ruler-re-conquered parts of Northern Africa, Italy, and Southern Spain</li> <li>-Justinian Code of Law-included Roman laws, legal writings, and student handbook, “body of civil law”, help preserve for Western Europe, basis for Roman Catholic Church and medieval rulers, influential today</li> <li>-effective bureaucracy which was similar to Chinese in that they looked for skilled bureaucrats as opposed to those born into it</li> </ul>
<b>E</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Constantinople-controlled key trade routes that linked Europe and Asia; controlled Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits; located on a peninsula overlooking the Bosphorus Strait-connects the Black Sea to the Mediterranean</li> <li>-possessed a harbor and was protected on three sides by water</li> <li>-merchants had wealth but not much power due to the fact that gov't oversaw trade</li> <li>-was in a great location for pushing European goods out of Europe and served as a entrepot for Asian luxury goods up to 1200s when Italian city-states would begin to rise to prominence</li> </ul>
<b>R</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Eastern Orthodox Christianity-Byzantine emperor controlled the overall business of the Church</li> <li>-appointed patriarch-highest church official to run day-to-day affairs- ruler considered Jesus' co-ruler</li> <li>-used Caesaropapism (autocratic/religious leader – comparable to caliph)</li> <li>-Priests could marry</li> <li>-Great Schism(1054)-permanent split between Orthodox and Roman Catholic Church</li> </ul>
<b>S</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Blended Greek, Roman, and Christian influences and helped spread them to other regions in the world</li> <li>-It was a society characterized on the one hand by Christianity and on the other hand by an autocratic political system in which the emperor was God's representative on earth</li> </ul>
<b>I</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Greek used instead of Latin</li> <li>-Preserved Greco-Roman culture</li> </ul>
<b>A</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Greco-Roman architecture, Hagia Sophia-arch dome</li> <li>-Icons-holy images of Jesus, the Virgin Mary, or saints, supposed to create a sense that the person was present</li> <li>-Mosaics-pieces of stone or other materials that formed a biblical scene</li> </ul>
<b>Decline:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Lost much land to invading armies</li> <li>-lost land due to Arab and Persian expansion</li> <li>-Attack on Constantinople during the 4<sup>th</sup> Crusade 1204 by Venetian (Italian merchants)</li> <li>-Civil wars among leaders</li> <li>-Balkan independence movements begin around 1000s</li> <li>-Religious differences</li> <li>-Ottoman Turks took advantage of situation and attacked using siege weapons</li> <li>-Constantinople fell to Ottomans in 1453</li> </ul>
<b>Global connections/ interactions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Remained a political and cultural force nearly 1,000 years after fall of Rome...carried on the Roman tradition for 2,000 yrs in total</li> <li>-To Europe, it was a symbol of the power and glory of Rome when Western Rome was recovering from fall</li> <li>-Justinian's Code preserved Roman law and used by other European gov'ts</li> <li>-the accomplishments of Roman engineers were preserved</li> <li>-Preserved Hellenistic science, philosophy, arts, and literature</li> <li>-Preserved the ancient texts of Greece</li> <li>-influenced Russia due to location along key trade routes</li> </ul>