

# 30 Days of History: The Middle Ages

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# The Fall of Rome

The Roman Empire was at the height of its power and wealth between approximately AD 100 and 200. Roman emperor Hadrian did not continue to expand the empire, and other than a Jewish revolt in Palestine in 132, things were relatively peaceful. Hadrian made Jerusalem a Roman colony and would not allow the Jewish people to worship there. After Hadrian died, the emperors became more and more powerful, and the people became less interested in their government. However, one person could not do all the work needed to keep an empire as large as Rome together. Roman armies became very loyal to their commanders, as they were very far away from Rome.

When did Diocletian become emperor, and how did he set up the government of the Roman Empire? \_\_\_\_\_

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What did Diocletian do concerning the economy and religious practices of the empire to try to organize the empire the way he wanted it? \_\_\_\_\_

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What happened concerning the religious practices of the Roman Empire when Constantine I came to power? What happened concerning the center of government in 330 under Constantine I? \_\_\_\_\_

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What happened to permanently change the empire after the death of Emperor Theodosius in 395?

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How did the West Roman Empire fare over time? What finally happened to the West Roman Empire in 476? \_\_\_\_\_

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How did the East Roman Empire fare over time? What finally happened to the East Roman Empire?

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After the fall of the Roman Empire, what force united Europe for approximately 1,000 years? \_\_\_\_\_

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# The Vikings

Where were the Vikings from? What tribal race were the Vikings from? What were some of the names used by Europeans to refer to the Vikings? \_\_\_\_\_

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Why type of language did the Vikings speak? Did they have a written alphabet? If so, tell a little about it. Although very accomplished sailors, what did the majority of Vikings do for a living? What other areas were they accomplished in? \_\_\_\_\_

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What was it about the countries where they were from that helped make the Vikings excellent sailors? Why did the Vikings begin to attack towns in Britain and the area of northern Gaul? \_\_\_\_\_

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# The Monastery

Christian monasteries were very popular and important during the Middle Ages. Define the following terms as they relate to monasteries of the time:

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Monk \_\_\_\_\_  
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Abbey church \_\_\_\_\_  
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