***Chapter 7***

**The Rise of Europe p. 214**

500-100A.D. – “The Dark Ages”

 -no longer unified, invaders enter Europe

 -trade declines, loss of learning, common language lost

 -land divided into small kingdoms instead of one big empire

 -largest was ruled by a family known as the Franks in Gaul (France)

 -called the Carolingian dynasty

 -greatest ruler was Charlemagne (Charles the Great)

 -accepted and spread Christianity as well as education

-added new lands, reunited much of Europe

 -empire collapses after his death, invasions from Vikings and Magyars also

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- 500-1500 AD - Medieval Time Period (Middle Ages)

-people needed protection from barbarian attacks

-they turned to local rulers with castles and their own armies for protection

-this leads to Feudalism

 -based on mutual obligations (agreements to do things for each other)

 -Lord (king) – owned most of the land (manor), had his own castle and army

 -Vassal – received fiefs (land grants) from the lord in exchange for military

Service

 -Aristocrats – wealthy landowners and bishops (church officials)

 -Knights – ride horses, wear armor, helped to protect a kingdom

 -trained beginning at age 7 as squires and pages

 -practiced warfare and gained experience in tournaments

 -followed the code of:

chivalry – brave, loyal and courteous, fight fairly, protect women

 -Peasants – worked the land for the lord in exchange for food, shelter and

protection (most of the population)

-most were serfs – peasants not able to leave their land

-suffered from hunger and disease at times

Manor – a lord’s castle and surrounding land

 -self-sufficient, produced everything that they needed

 -usually included a church, workshops, fields, cottages, pastures

 -troubadours – poets/musicians traveling around a manor

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-Christianity was most important in peoples’ lives

Sacraments – religious ceremonies, felt they would achieve salvation (soul saving,

eternal life with God)

-monks (men) and nuns (women) devoted their lives to Christianity and serving

others

-clergy – religious officials

-pope – the main leader of Christianity

-also became a secular (outside the area of religion) leader, could control

Kings using:

 -canon law – laws of the Christian church

 -excommunication - banished from the church

 -interdict – no sacraments/religious events on a person’s land

-some clergy members abused their power and were corrupt

Friars – travelling monks, gave up all of their possessions

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Improved farming techniques:

 -iron plows

 -use of livestock (horses, oxen)

 -three-field system (crop rotation)

 -results – more food, population grew

Improved trade:

 -fewer barbarian attacks, safer to travel

 -better roads built

 -more use of money instead of bartering (trading)

 -first cities form as people gather in areas to trade

 -usually surrounded by walls for protection

 -crowded, narrow streets, fire always a threat

 -no sanitation (garbage collection) or sewer systems

 -feudal system begins to break down as many people leave their

kingdom to move to cities

 -middle class is created from merchants and artisans (skilled workers)

 -earned money from new businesses

 -looked down upon by nobles and clergy

 -guilds – groups of workers with the same job or skill

 -set prices, ensured quality products

 -usually needed years of training as an apprentice

 -had to present a “masterpiece” to join