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This LightUnit goes with pages 194-277 of
Church History – Resurrection to Reformation

Key Concepts

The power of the pope increased across Europe as the Roman emperor, living in far-off Constantinople, lost control of Western Europe.

Regional barbarian kings across Europe tended to respect Roman Christianity and found it to their advantage to work with the church in ruling their people.

Term

Christianize – The medieval church’s process of teaching pagans, leading them to profess belief in Christ, refrain from pagan worship, attend occasional church services, and live under Christian rulers.



Read pages 204-210 in Chapters 18 and 19. Begin at the bold heading on page 204 and read to the bold heading on page 210.

Do these exercises.

1. As barbarians displaced former Roman inhabitants and rulers across Western Europe, what happened to the role of Christian bishops and priests? _____

2. Give two reasons the practice of Germanic kings passing on their rule to their sons caused fighting and instability.

3. Although people in the state church were baptized as infants, some groups were “rebaptizing” adults, and in the year 413 the Eastern emperor decreed that _____

4. During the Dark Ages, the church considered barbarians to be Christianized if they did these. (Circle four letters.)

a. Professed belief in Christ.	e. Went on a pilgrimage to Rome.
b. Lived under a Christian ruler.	f. Attended church services occasionally.
c. Gave testimony of a new birth.	g. Refrained from worshipping pagan gods.
d. Witnessed regularly to their neighbors.	h. Lived an upright life and obeyed the New Testament.
5. Because “progressive” barbarian rulers saw Christianity as part of _____ culture that was more developed than theirs, they were inclined to adopt it in their kingdoms.

6. Roman Christianity spread over Europe by the year 1000 in the following ways:
 - a. Groups of _____ left their monasteries and evangelized extensively.
 - b. _____ who converted led their people to Christianize and sometimes spread Christianity by _____.
 - c. The _____ authorized and sent missionaries.
 - d. Local _____ and _____ served as pastors in newly Christianized areas.
7. The monk Columba and his disciples founded many monasteries in _____, _____, and _____.
8. In the centuries following 600, groups of monks from Irish, Scottish, and English monasteries traveled across _____ establishing new monasteries.
9. _____ Irish-founded monasteries differed from the previous Roman-founded monasteries in that they were
 - a. located near cities.
 - b. located in rural areas.
 - c. often very family-oriented.
 - d. mostly inhabited by celibate monks.
10. How did rich patrons of a monastery benefit from
 - a. the abbot? _____
 - b. the monks' prayers? _____
 - c. the monks' education? _____
11. The Irish monk _____ fearlessly denounced paganism and immorality and established monasteries in France and in Italy.

Write *true* if the sentence is *true* and *false* if the sentence is *false*.

12. _____ By the time Rome fell, Christianity had become the prevailing religion of both the common people and of the nobles and ruling class.
13. _____ By the 400s, to be a Roman was also to be considered a Christian.
14. _____ In the waning years of the Roman empire, church leaders became accustomed to working closely with rulers and influencing state affairs.
15. _____ The pagan barbarians had no respect for the Roman Catholic Church.
16. _____ As the Roman government's power decreased in Europe, the centralized structure of the Roman Church enabled its influence to become stronger.
17. _____ As barbarian kings gained power across Europe, the pope began working more closely with them.
18. _____ By the year 1000, vast areas of Europe had still not been Christianized.
19. _____ Many new monasteries across Europe were started by groups of monks sent out from other monasteries.

Lesson 3

20. _____ Rich European landowners typically reaped huge financial profits from the monasteries they helped support.
21. _____ The development of new monasteries had a Christianizing effect.
22. _____ As the barbarians overran Europe, the pope increasingly sought the support of the Roman emperor in Constantinople for help.

Review

Complete the sentences.

23. The words *polite* and *civil* were originally associated with “city behavior” because the Romans equated civilization with _____.
24. During the Dark Ages, many formerly prosperous Roman _____ fell into decay.
25. The _____ languages that developed in Europe were based on the Latin spoken by the Romans.
26. Two limits on population growth in Europe during the Dark Ages were _____ and _____.

Underline the correct choice.

27. The religion of most of the barbarian conquerors settling in western Europe was some form of **Christianity, paganism**.
28. During the Dark Ages, life for the common people continued to be **relatively easy, a struggle for survival**.
29. Knowledge of making **concrete, asphalt** the way the Romans did was lost during the Dark Ages.
30. Barbarian settlers discovered that the crops and methods of farming they had used in their homelands **usually produced well, often did not produce well in Europe**.

Circle the letters of the correct answers.

31. Four changes that occurred as Europe entered the Dark Ages.
 - a. Paganism revived.
 - b. Education and literacy declined.
 - c. Cities and towns fell into decay.
 - d. Power shifted from Rome to Paris.
 - e. The climate turned colder and wetter.
 - f. The common people practiced a more biblical Christianity.
 - g. For many people, life became more of a struggle for survival.
 - h. The ruling barbarians began building many new market towns.

32. Which five are Romance languages?

- | | | |
|---------------|------------|-------------|
| a. Italian | d. French | g. Romanian |
| b. Slavic | e. Chinese | h. English |
| c. Portuguese | f. Greek | i. Spanish |

Write the letter of the correct answer.

33. _____ The Pantheon in Italy, built around A.D 126, is famous for having the world's largest

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| a. sanctuary | c. wooden dome. |
| b. glass dome. | d. unreinforced concrete dome. |

34. _____ Why did Europeans often use rivers for travel during the Dark Ages?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| a. River travel was tax free. | c. Roads were poor and in disrepair. |
| b. Rivers could carry larger loads. | d. Highwaymen and bandits lurked along roads. |

35. _____ Barbarian people who settled across Europe

- | |
|---|
| a. continued to use their own languages. |
| b. were quick to adopt Latin as their language. |
| c. used their own languages but adopted some Latin too. |

Key Concepts

Popes such as Gregory the Great sent missionaries across Europe to Christianize Europeans and consolidate the power of the Roman church.

Charlemagne enlarged his kingdom and forced his subjects to become Christian or face execution.

Term

Europeans – By A.D. 800, the barbarian tribes that had overrun Europe had intermixed with the previous Roman inhabitants and could be considered to be truly Europeans.



Read this summary of pages 210-212.

Irish monks worked mostly in western, north-central Europe. Roman missionaries, coming from England, worked in northeastern Europe—the areas that are now the Netherlands and Germany.

The English monk Willibrord went to Frisia (part of present-day Netherlands) in 690 and worked to promote Roman Christianity for nearly a half-century. He worked with the approval of the Frankish king and received support from the pope. The pope made him archbishop of the Frisian church.

The English monk Boniface worked in the early 700s in Germany to promote Roman Christianity after the pope ordained him as bishop. On one occasion he publicly defied the German god Thor by cutting down the god's sacred oak. The Frankish king supported his work, and the pope eventually made him an archbishop.



Read pages 212-220. Begin at the bold heading on page 212.

Do these exercises.

1. Why did Christian kings who set out to conquer neighboring tribes often take monks or priests along with them? _____

2. Charlemagne gave conquered Saxons the choice of either being baptized into Christianity or _____ .
3. What benefits did a missionary enjoy if he was ordained as bishop by the Roman pope? _____

4. What did one Christian bishop do to stop the people's pagan practice of throwing their offerings into a lake as offerings to their god? _____

5. Three examples of ways the church replaced pagan practices with Christian ones:
 - a. A pagan spring feast was altered to become a celebration of _____.
 - b. A winter solstice celebration was replaced with _____.
 - c. Since people were used to coming to pagan temples for religious purposes, they could easily be converted to _____.
6. By the 800s, the descendants of the barbarian tribes that had overrun Europe had mixed with the former inhabitants and could be considered _____.

Write the letter of the correct answer.

7. _____ Which of these is *not* true of Willibrord?
 - a. He was an English monk.
 - b. He worked to Christianize Frisia.
 - c. He worked in Northeastern Europe.
 - d. He was a Celtic Christian, not a Roman Catholic one.
8. _____ Which is *not* true of Boniface?
 - a. He was an Irish monk.
 - b. He cut down the sacred oak of Thor, a German god.
 - c. He was an English monk who worked to Christianize Germany.
 - d. He worked with the support of the pope and the Frankish king.
9. _____ The pagan Germanic king Clovis and 3000 of his men were baptized after
 - a. Clovis heard the story of Jesus's crucifixion.
 - b. he learned he needed to be baptized to get the pope's support.
 - c. Clovis's army won a battle after he had cried out to Jesus for help.
 - d. Clovis's child was miraculously healed after he allowed it to be baptized.
10. _____ The newly Christianized Franks tended to view Jesus primarily as a
 - a. king to establish just laws for the land.
 - b. warlord to lead them to victory in battle.
 - c. saviour to free them from sin and its guilt.
 - d. god to provide good luck, good weather, and bountiful crops.
11. _____ The main change mass conversions brought to the barbarians' lives was
 - a. the adoption of Roman culture.
 - b. the addition of new religious rituals
 - c. the putting away of immoral practices.
 - d. adopting Biblical ethics in their daily behavior.

Lesson 4

12. _____ How did Pope Gregory advise nobles in Sardinia to convince their tenants to convert?
- Offer them lower rent if they did not convert.
 - Increase their rent until they gave in and converted.
 - Threaten them with eviction if they would not convert.
 - Provide more opportunities for them to be taught by priests.

Circle the letters of five correct answers.

13. From the maps on page 219 and the explanations on page 218, we can see that
- the earliest missionary activity in northern Europe was initiated by the pope sending men from Rome.
 - Scotland was first evangelized by missionaries moving north from England.
 - Irish missionaries spread across large parts of Europe before Roman missionaries.
 - Roman missionaries began working on the Continent later than the Irish missionaries.
 - as Roman missionaries spread across Europe, they would find some people already influenced by the work of Irish missionaries.
 - the work of Irish missionaries ended before any missionaries were sent from Rome.
 - much missionary activity in the later 600s originated from bases in Northern Europe rather than by missionaries being sent directly from Rome.
 - Norway and Sweden were Christianized by Irish missionaries.
 - Denmark, Norway, and Sweden were Christianized later than the rest of Europe.

Write *true* if the sentence is *true* and *false* if the sentence is *false*.

14. _____ When he converted, Clovis gained the support of the Roman church and the former Roman Christians in the territories he ruled.
15. _____ The modern nation of France traces its origins to Clovis's success in establishing the Franks as a powerful group in western Europe.
16. _____ Frankish rulers usually refused to support the work of Roman bishops who attempted to Christianize their subjects.
17. _____ The baptism of King Recared of Spain into Roman Christianity benefited him politically by unifying his people.
18. _____ To enhance trade relationships with the Holy Roman Empire, both Denmark and Sweden became Christianized by the 800s.
19. _____ In 995, King Olav Trygvesson postponed the Christianization of Norway for many years by sacrificing a group of prominent men at a heathen festival.
20. _____ Everyone living within the parish of a Christianized town was considered to be part of its priest's flock.
21. _____ Clovis received political benefits from identifying with Christianity.

22. _____ Most people in this era believed that one became Christian by baptism, regardless of whether it was voluntary or forced.

Review

Write the letter(s) of the correct answer(s).

23. _____ Which of these was *not* a benefit a rich landowner in Europe received by supporting a monastery on his property?
- a. The blessing of the monks' prayers.
 - b. The pope's blessing on his family finances.
 - c. Having his children educated by the monks.
 - d. Support from the abbot that he had appointed.
24. _____ In the year 413, the Eastern emperor made a decree that anyone who was rebaptized as an adult would be punished by
- a. death.
 - b. banishment.
 - c. heavy fine.
 - d. imprisonment.
25. _____ Columba and his disciples founded monasteries in
- a. Ireland, France, Italy.
 - b. France, Italy, Germany.
 - c. Scotland, England, Norway.
 - d. Ireland, Scotland, England.
26. _____ As the Roman emperor ruling from Constantinople lost power and control over Western Europe, the pope in Rome and Roman church leaders
- a. also lost much of their influence.
 - b. found themselves nearly overwhelmed by pagan religions.
 - c. began exercising more influence in relation to the people of Western Europe.
 - d. found themselves at a loss to know how to relate to Rome and to the barbarians.
27. _____ _____ The new barbarian rulers in Western Europe tended to look favorably toward Roman Christianity because
- a. they were tired of their inherited pagan religions.
 - b. the common people were pressuring rulers to adopt Christianity.
 - c. they viewed Christianity as a more progressive religion than paganism.
 - d. they respected the developed Roman civilization with which it was associated.
 - e. they received financial support from the church if they adopted Roman Christianity.