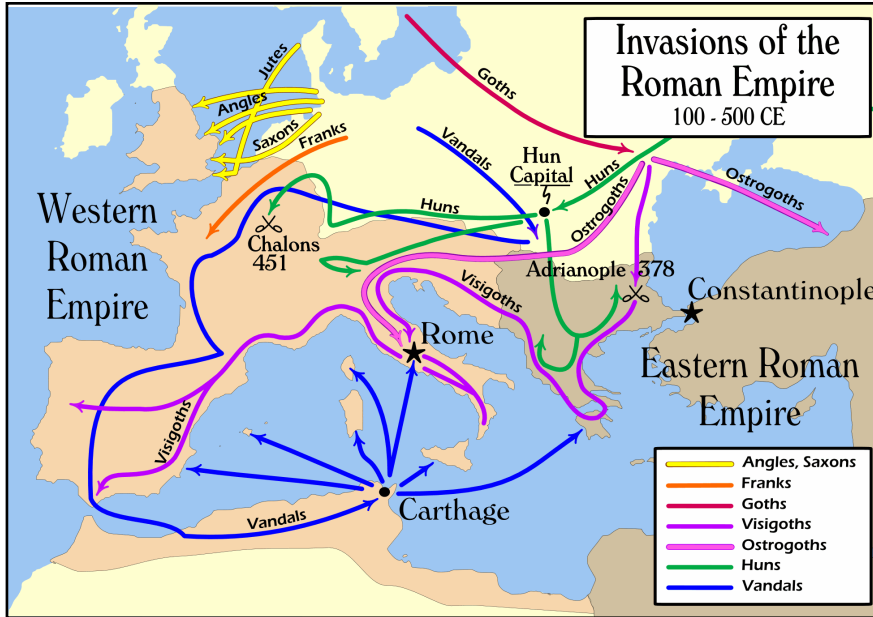




The Imperial

Who are the Hun?

Should you be worried? Read the latest updates below.



Barbarian tribes are threatening the stability of Rome. **The Huns**, a nomadic group of Central Asia, are **moving into Europe and destroying everything in their path**. As a result, many Germanic groups are pushing into Rome in order to escape the Huns.

In 444, the Huns united under **Attila the Hun** to try and destroy Rome. His army of over 100,000 terrorized the empire and plundered [robbed] over 70 cities. They did not capture the city of Rome but have severely weakened the empire and the Roman army.

What Happened to our Republic?

Feelings of loyalty are weak among Romans. We are no longer devoted to the empire or what Rome stands for. Our citizens **no longer want to participate in government and view political office as a burden rather than a reward**. What happened to our Roman work ethic?

Rome's New Capital City

In order to preserve the empire, emperor **Diocletian** split Rome into two parts- Eastern and Western in order to better control the territory.

Our current emperor, **Constantine**, wishes to move the capital city from Rome to Constantinople, located in modern day Turkey. The hope is that we can keep the empire together by shifting power to the east.

- Lucius Numerius

WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR CITIZEN-SOLDIERS?

Our **Roman soldiers** have become less disciplined and loyal. They now **pledge their allegiance** [loyalty] **to their generals and commanders**, not to Rome or the emperor. What's even worse is that military commanders are beginning to challenge the emperors for power.



To fight this threat, the emperors are beginning to recruit **mercenaries**, or soldiers who fight for money rather than honor and pride in Rome. Where are these leaders going to find the money to hire these men??



INFLATION RATES ON THE RISE

Roman money has never been worth this little. Our government continues to create coins, yet possesses less and less gold and silver. This **inflation, or decline in the value of money** is going to be a problem as our society faces higher prices. This may also contribute to a widened gap between the rich and the poor.

Our economy is also being put to the test by a number of other factors. **Barbarians and pirates are disrupting trade by making trade routes and roads unsafe.**

We Romans are also lacking new sources of gold and silver. Back in the old days, we could order our military to seek out new sources of wealth, but the

new mercenary armies do not seem willing to try. **To compensate, the government may decide to raise taxes**, which will likely hurt Romans, who are already having a difficult time keeping up with their expenses.



CHRISTIANITY: A UNIFYING FORCE FOR THE IMPOVERISHED

In the year 312, Roman Emperor Constantine was fighting against three rivals for leadership in the Roman Empire. Before an important battle, he prayed for help from the Gods and saw a vision of the cross. He was surprised to see this symbol of the Christians. Constantine was victorious in the battle and believed that it was the Christian God that helped lead his men to victory.

The next year, Emperor Constantine declared an end to the persecution of Christians. he issued the **Edict of Milan, which made Christianity an approved religion in the Roman Empire.** Christianity continued to spread along trade routes. By 380, Christianity was



the official religion of the Roman Empire.

Christianity's Appeal:

- Christianity accepted many people who were treated poorly in Rome, such as women, slaves, and the poor.

- Christianity and its teachings about the afterlife gave people hope.

- Christianity appealed to those who did not like the excess and wastefulness of Roman life and culture.

- Christianity offered a personal relationship with a loving God, rather than Roman gods and goddesses, who often sought out revenge against those who disobeyed them.

Many Romans believed that **Jesus**, the founder of Christianity, was a **revolutionary**, or someone who wanted to make big changes in society.



SAVING ROME'S FARMLAND

Roman agriculture is facing serious problems. Harvests in Italy and western Europe are becoming smaller and smaller because the soil is being overworked in order to support our large population. Years of warfare are also destroying our valuable farmland. We must put an end to this destruction or we will surely face a decline in population.