High and Late Middle Ages

Section 4



Learning Objectives

- Explains the causes and effects of the Crusades
- Explain why feudalism declined.
- Draw conclusions about what led to the rise of nations in Western Europe.
- Analyze the reasons trade and cities grew.

Bell Activity

Think about the relationship between peasants and landowners in feudal society? Predict what would happen if peasants heard about jobs that paid wages. What would peasants do? How might the landowners respond?

Vocabulary Section 4

- Crusades
- Reconquista
- Guild
- Magna Carta

High Middle Ages

- By 1000 feudalism stabilizes Europe
 - Populations grew
 - Universities formed
 - Merchants gained power
 - Farming improved.



Farming Improves

- Gained more land by draining swamps and clearing forests.
- Developed the horse collar which allowed speedier plantings/harvestings compared to the oxen.
- People had more food supply, food to sell and health improved.
- Peasants were able to buy their freedom from their lord.

Technologies improved

- Clocks
- Eyeglasses
- Windmills
- Armor
- Cannons
- With these increasing technologies came strong buildings and towers.

Commerce Begins

- New Merchant class
 - Peasants learned special skills as craft workers and sold these goods in shops, local markets or at trade fairs.
 - Merchants sold these goods along trade routes throughout Europe and Asia
 - Guilds are created to protect the merchants and crafts people and set prices and wages.
 - Weekly market stalls are replaced by permanent shops
 - Two to three story are built as people needed more living space.
 - Cathedrals formed in the center of the city
- Commerce expanded by banks being set up and loans being issued.

Italian Trade Centers

- Ships arrived from Constantinople to Venice loaded with gold, silk, and spices.
- Traders would load mules with these goods and set out on trade routes and to markets throughout N. Europe.
- Venice was a city-state and a new commerce center for present-day Italy.

It was all great until early 1300's (Late Middle Ages)

- Feudal system weakened and collapsed due to...
 - Disease
 - Wars
 - famine

The Crusades – Why did they start?

1081, Seljuk Turks took over much of the Byzantine empire.

- The Turks migrated rom Central Asia into the Middle East and converted to Islam along the way.
- As they conquered new lands, they converted people to Islam
- The Turks took over Palestine, a sacred place to Muslims, Jews and Christians.
 - Many Christians objected to this take over because they saw Palestine the Holy Land



Holy Wars Begin

- 1095, Pope Urban II urged Church leaders to organize the Crusades to free the Holy Land from Muslim rule.
- At the Council of Clermont in France, Pope Urban II urged all people to unite to take back Jerusalem in a holy war.
- 1096, a large European army headed towards the Holy Land, capturing Jerusalem and dividing Palestine into four states.

 European leaders sent a second Crusade to the Holy Land but it was weak and failed to the Muslims.

• 1187, Muslim leader Saladin recaptured Jerusalem.

Further Crusades were attempted and failed leaving bitterness

between Christians and Muslims.



Crusades Lasting Effects

- Trade increased, bringing back spices and fabrics from the Middle East.
- Money was used for this trade vs. bartering.
- New ideas were discovered, broadening peoples ideas.
- Sailors learned to use magnetic compasses and astrolabes.
- Gunpowder and paper was introduced

Assessment

- 1. Read Descriptions of the Black Death.
- 2. Write a public service announcement telling people what to do if someone they know catches the plague.