

**REASONS FOR THE
FALL OF THE
ROMAN EMPIRE**

MILITARY PROBLEMS



- Barbarian Invasions
 - Destroyed farmland
 - Fewer crops
 - Less trade goods
 - Decrease in Wealth
- Roman military decrease in power
 - Training, discipline, not enough \$\$
- Hiring Mercenaries
 - \$\$ // No patriotism
- Empire too large to protect

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS



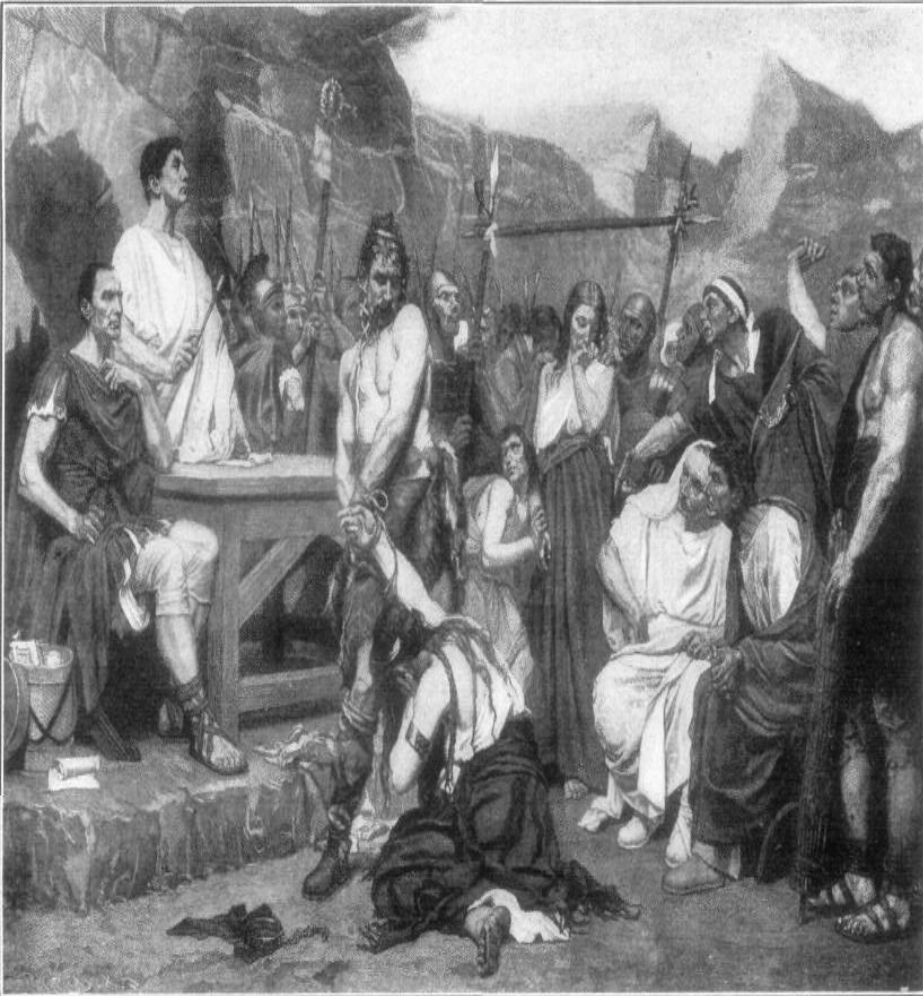
- Decrease in farming
 - Barbarian raids
 - Shortage of food
- Heavy taxation
- Decrease in Population
 - Fewer people to tax
- Inflation
- Increase in bartering

POLITICAL PROBLEMS



- No Set “**SUCCESSION METHOD**”
 - Emperor, Senate, Praetorian Guard, Army
- Poor leaders / “Power Fights” / Corruption
- Talented people chose not to serve due to the dangers involved with government and chose instead to live a life luxury
- Empire too large

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

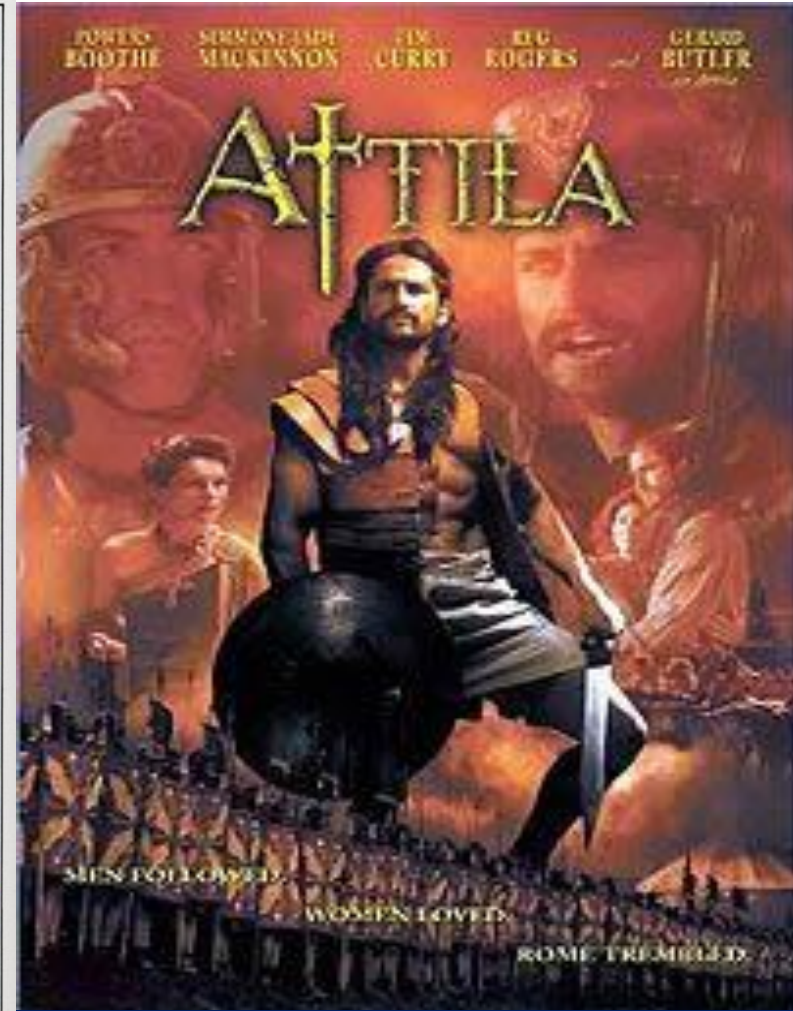
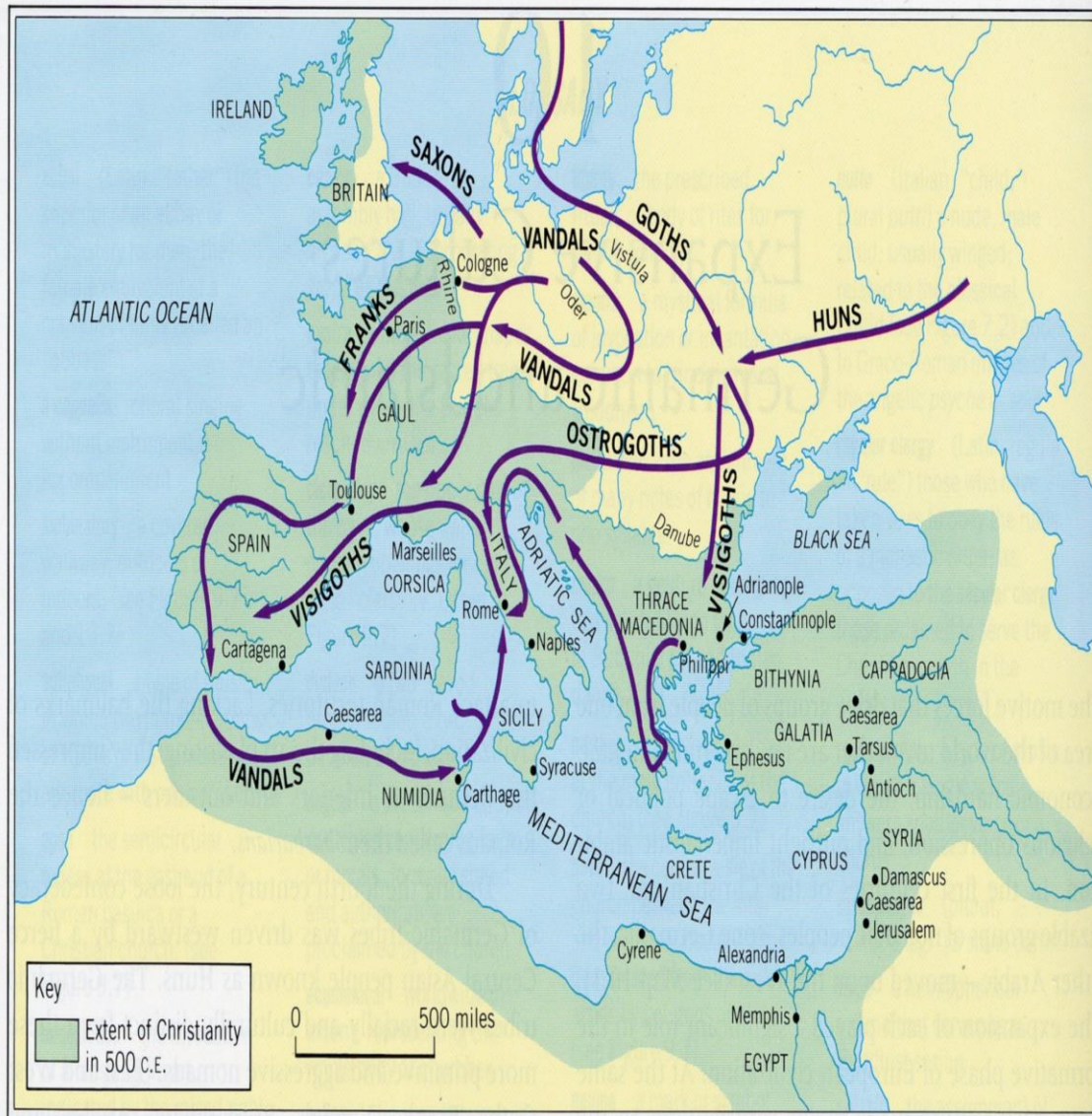


After the painting by R. Coghe

SALE OF SLAVES IN A ROMAN CAMP

- Loss of Patriotism, Discipline, and Devotion to Duty
- Loss of confidence in government
- Large number of slaves
- Plague
- Famine

BARBARIAN INVASIONS



“SCOURGE OF GOD”

Map 10.1 The Early Christian World and the Barbarian Invasions, ca. 500 C.E.

VISIGOTHS

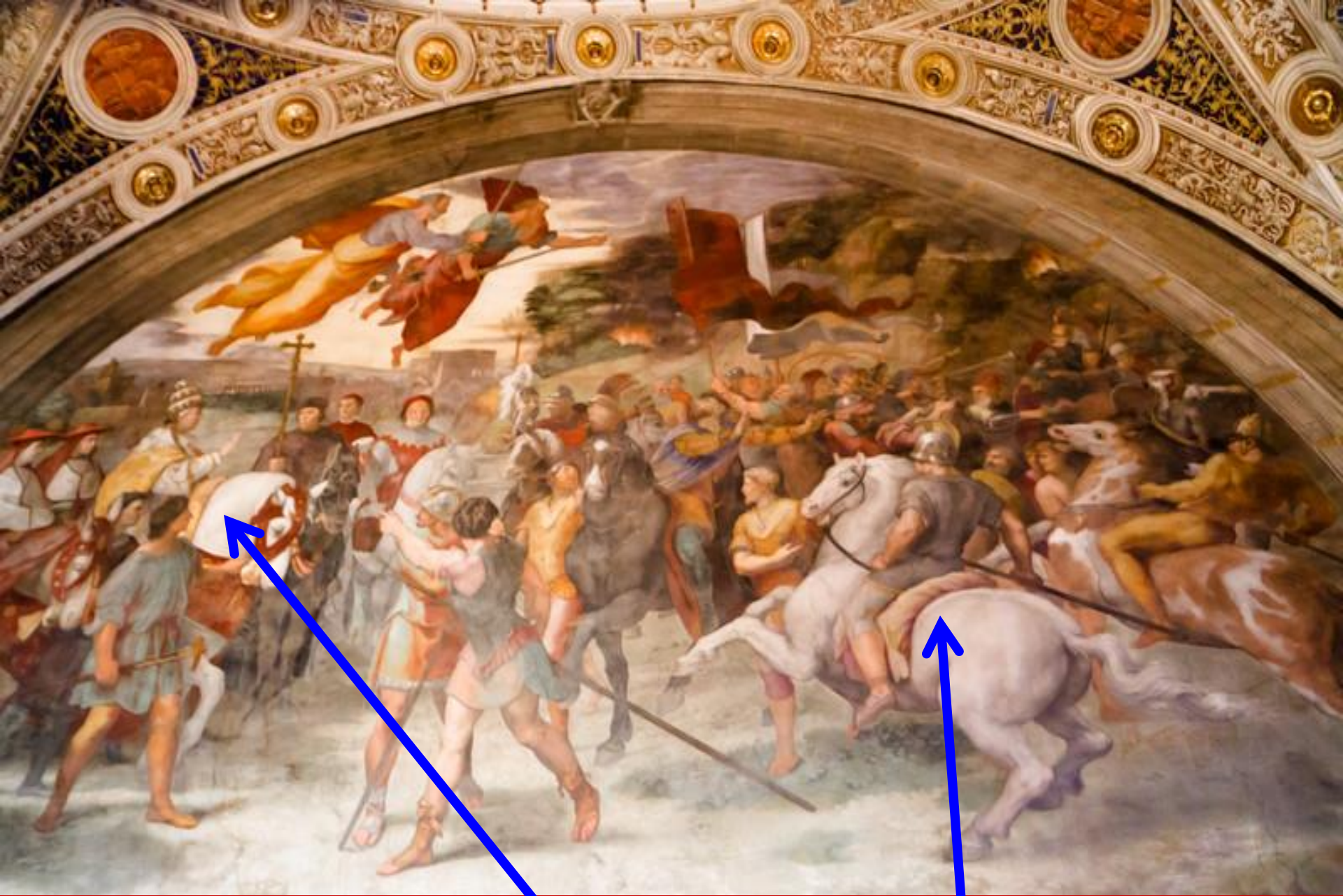


- Rome agreed to allow the Visigoths to live inside of Roman boundaries
- Romans treated Visigoths badly
- Visigoths rebelled and defeated the Romans
- 410 - Visigoth leader, Alaric captured Rome

Attila the Hun

452 -- “Scourge of God” met **Pope Leo I** who dissuaded him from destroying Rome

453 – Attila dies



Raphael - Pope Leo I meeting Attila the Hun

VANDALS

476

Odoacer defeats last
western Roman

Emperor, Romulus

Augustulus (475-576)

Surrender of Romulus Augustulus



ROMULUS AUGUSTULUS SURRENDERS TO ODOACER THE INSIGNIA OF EMPIRE.

When Rome Fell...

All knowledge, law, culture,
technology, and protection fell
with it



Eastern Roman Empire

BYZANTINE EMPIRE

- **Although the Western Empire fell in 476 CE, the Eastern Roman Empire did not fall until 1453**

