
CONTENTS



<i>Abbreviations and Conventions</i>	<i>xi</i>
<i>Biographical Sketches</i>	<i>xii</i>
<i>Medieval Myths</i>	<i>xiii</i>
<i>Timelines</i>	<i>xiv</i>
<i>Maps</i>	<i>xv</i>
<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>xvi</i>
<i>Preface</i>	<i>xix</i>

INTRODUCTION **1–3**

CHAPTER 1 *Romans, Christians, and Barbarians* **4–27**

The Early Middle Ages	4
The Roman Peace (31 B.C.E.–180 C.E.) and After	5
Christianity	8
Barbarians and the Western Empire	19
The Decline of the Western Empire	25
Conclusion	27

CHAPTER 2 *Early Western Christendom, c. 500–700* **28–50**

Introduction	28
Early Medieval Society	28
Early Medieval Politics	33
The Early Medieval Church	40
Intellectual Life	48
Conclusion	50

CHAPTER 3 *Neighbors: Byzantium and Islam, c. 500–1000* **51–79**

Introduction	51
From Eastern to Byzantine Empire	52
The Byzantine Centuries	59
The Ascent of Islam	65
The Islamic Empire	70
Islamic Culture	77
Conclusion	79

CHAPTER 4	<i>Carolingian Europe, c. 700–850</i>	80–101
Introduction		80
The Early Carolingians		82
Charlemagne (r. 768–814)		88
Intellectual Revival		95
Conclusion		100
CHAPTER 5	<i>Division, Invasion, and Reorganization, c. 800–1000</i>	102–130
Introduction		102
Division: The Later Carolingians		102
Invasion: Muslims, Magyars, and Vikings		104
Reorganization: New Polities		111
Conclusion		130
CHAPTER 6	<i>Economic Takeoff and Social Change, c. 1000–1300</i>	131–166
The Central Middle Ages		131
Agricultural Revolution		139
Rural Society		141
The Commercial Revolution		150
Urban Society		156
The Landholding Aristocracy		162
Feudal Society		163
Conclusion		166
CHAPTER 7	<i>Popes and the Papacy, c. 1000–1300</i>	167–189
Introduction		167
Papacy, Clergy, and Laity, c. 1000–1122		168
The Reformed Papacy and Its Church		175
Innocent III and the Papacy Ascendant		184
The Papacy after 1250		187
Conclusion		189
CHAPTER 8	<i>New Paths to God, c. 1000–1300</i>	190–210
Introduction		190
Judaism		190
The Evolution of Christian Piety		191
Orthodoxy and Heresy		197
Changes in Monastic Life		199
The Mendicant Orders		205
Conclusion		210

CHAPTER 9 *Conquests, Crusades, and Persecutions, c. 1100–1300*211–235
 Introduction 211
 Conquests and Territorial Expansion 212
 Crusades 221
 Persecutions 231
 Conclusion 235

CHAPTER 10 *States Made and Unmade, c. 1000–1300*236–268
 Introduction 236
 The Holy Roman Empire: Disintegration 237
 England: King and Parliament 248
 France: The Monarchy Triumphant 258
 Iberia: Some Consolidation 267
 The States of Northern and Eastern Europe 268
 Conclusion 268

CHAPTER 11 *Literature, Art, and Thought, c. 1000–1300*269–296
 Introduction 269
 Byzantine and Islamic Influences 270
 Intellectual Trends 271
 Literature 283
 Architecture and Sculpture 290
 Conclusion 296

CHAPTER 12 *Famine, Plague, and Recovery, c. 1300–1500*297–321
 The Later Middle Ages 297
 Economic Woes and Demographic Crisis (1300–1350) 301
 Adjustment and Recovery (1350–1500) 307
 Late Medieval Christianity 313
 Conclusion 321

CHAPTER 13 *Toward the Sovereign State, c. 1300–1500*322
 Introduction 322
 England, France, and the Hundred Years’ War 323
 England: Parliament, Civil War, and Tudor Monarchy 327
 France: Constitutional Crisis, War, and the Spider King 329
 The Iberian States: Consolidation through Homogenization 332
 New Powers on the European Periphery 335
 The Heritage of the Holy Roman Empire 338
 Conclusion 341

CHAPTER 14 *Diversity and Dynamism in Culture, c. 1300–1500* 344–362

Introduction 344

Literacy and Vernacular Languages 345

Humanist Education 347

Literature 350

Art and Architecture 352

Philosophy 354

Political Thought 359

Conclusion 360

GLOSSARY G-1–G-10

Photo Credits P-1

Index I-1