

## Rome - largest western world state

- Founders appeared ~1000BC
- Profited from high quality grain
- Trade allowed for cultural exchange
  - From the Greeks
  - From Phoenicians/Carthaginians
  - Etruscan influence
    - Native of Tuscany region
    - Controlled abundance of natural resources
    - By 700BC, had settled towns
    - Cities ruled by kings
    - Etruscans never formed unified nation
      - Quarreled about land & water; warfare common
- Latin civilization appears 753BC
  - Tradition: villages of Latium formed single town 15 miles inland from coast
  - Mythic foundations = 2 legends
  - Rome soon economic threat to Etruscans
    - Rome seized
    - Controlled by Etruscan kings
    - Etruscan overlords influence
    - Most significant Etruscan work = the *Forum*

- Built by Tarquin “the Proud”
- Etruscans also erected Temple of Jupiter
- Abolition of old system of conscription
- ~509BC *patricians rebel*
- Creation of the *res publica*
  - Separation of power
    - *Imperium* – divided
      - 2 Consuls
      - Dictators
      - Quaestors
      - Praetors
      - Censors
  - Centuriate Assembly
  - Senate
  - Rex Sacrorum
- New state = embodiment of opposition to kings
  - *Res publica* = public realm
  - Source of power = *iure sociati*
  - Patricians dominate
  - Plebeians = majority

- 5<sup>th</sup> Cen – Rome faces social breakdown
- Conflict With Orders
  - Lasts 3 centuries
  - Council of the Plebs
    - Result = state within a state
  - Tribunes of the Plebs
    - Protected by *lex sacer*
  - Plebeians pressure Senate = Codes of Law
    - Twelve Tables (449BC)
    - *Licinian-Sextian* Laws (367BC)
    - *Lex Hortensia* (287BC)
  - Other reforms
  - Understanding of “Conflict” vital to understand Roman mind
    - Separate but equal in all things
- Roman Expansion
  - Social differences @ home didn't prevent united front
  - Conquest began 5<sup>th</sup> cen BC
  - 493BC conquers Volscians
  - 396BC conquest of Veii
  - Military success from Roman Legions

- Legions = preeminent force
  - Patricians = cavalry
  - Plebeians = infantry
  - Legions divided into centuries; led by *Centurian*
  - Originally used Greek phalanxes
- 390BC Celtic Invasion = change in military organization
- Celts almost wiped out Rome
  - Almost resulted in complete destruction of Rome itself
  - 6 of 7 hills burned; almost entire gov't murdered
  - Rome rebuilds & army remodeled
- Post invasion, expansion renewed
- 338BC seize all Latium & Etruria
  - 295BC ruled as far as Po Valley
  - 265BC absorbed Hellenistic cities of south Italy
  - Conquest benefits patricians & plebeians
- Success from treatment of “conquered” populations
- Citizenship = coveted prize
- Not extended to all
  - Most defeated states = allies
- Only Carthage remains

— Carthage

- Founded by Phoenicians
- More than match for Rome

— First Punic War

- Neither side achieved striking victory
- BUT, Rome subdues Carthage

— Second Punic War

- Rome establishes military presence at Saguntum
- 218BC, Hannibal attacks Saguntum
- Result = Rome declares war
- Rome tried to stop Hannibal for 15yrs
- Recalled when Roman proconsul – Scipio Africanus – invades North Africa
- War ends in 202BC

— Rome next turns eastward in 200BC to deal w/ Hellenistic Greek states

- Philip V of Macedonia allied w/ Hannibal in 2<sup>nd</sup> Punic War
- Rome answers appeal from Pergamum & Rhodes
- Philip soundly defeated @ Cynoscephalae
- Rome declares Greece “independent”
- Antiochus IV of Seleucid Empire suffers same fate
- Legions fight in Spain & Gaul

- 168BC Seleucids again on move
  - Rome “checks”
  - Sends ultimatum to Antiochus
  - FYI: Antiochus in middle of invasion of Egypt
  - Fears Roman fury
  - Antiochus submits; Syria = “protectorate”
- Third Punic War = end of Republic’s expansion
  - Carthage rebuilds army after war with Numidia
  - At same time – Greek cities assert autonomy
  - Rome declares war; response = swift
  - Cato the Elder declares “*Ceterum censeo Carthaginem esse delendam*”
  - Result = Carthage leveled
- By 150BC Republic controls empire
- No exact model for empire
  - Some = Oligarchs take control
  - Some = client states
  - Others = ruled directly as provinces
  - Examples: Jerusalem & Syria
- Effects of Roman expansion
  - Two themes thru 133BC

- 1) Gradual extension of equal rights for all citizens
- 2) Expansion of domination over Mediterranean world

— BUT, Rome faces critical problems

- Biggest problem = decline of small landowners
- New class appears = *Proletariat*
- Agricultural revolution
- Expansion brings \$\$\$, yet also dependency
- Policy mistakes increases problems
- Corruption in gov't grows
- Gov't by few
- Old Roman traits gradually decay
- Republic on the brink

— Efforts to Reform

- Tiberius Gracchus
  - Attempts reforms
  - Violates constitution
  - Result = Tiberius assassinated
- Gaius Gracchus
  - Revives brother's reforms
  - Also violates constitution

- Avoids assassination with suicide
- Anarchy soon rocks Republic
  - Widespread riots break out in Rome
  - Chaos erupts in Numidia
  - Southern Gaul overrun
  - Private legions formed
  - Result = first series of civil wars
- First Civil War
  - Gaius Marius emerges
  - Lucius Cornelius Sulla aids
  - Both = “heroes”, but
    - Marius = *popularis*
    - Sulla = *optimas*
  - Both selected to suppress rebellion by King Mithridates VI of Pontus
  - Result = first series of civil wars
    - Pro-Sulla gangs fought pro-Marius gangs
    - Sulla 1<sup>st</sup> to march on Rome
      - Senate declares Marius & allies = *hostes*
    - Marius does same
      - Counsel of Plebs declares Sulla & allies = *hostes*



— But Marius dies

- Sulla returns to Rome
- Battle erupts @ gates of Rome
- Sulla rewarded w/ dictatorship

— Implements pro-*optimas* reforms

- Second Civil War

— Erupts from power-sharing effort

— Gnaeus Pompeius Magnus

- Elected consul in 70BC
- From 68-61BC, string of victories = “*Magnus*”

— Marcus Licinius Crassus

- Led suppression of Spartacus’s revolt
- Elected co-consul in 70BC, later censor in 65BC
- NOTE: served as patron for Caesar

— Gaius Julius Caesar

- Politician of *populares* tradition
- Elected tribune, later quaestor & Pontifex Maximus

— 61BC - Pompey, Crassus, & Caesar = most powerful men

- Secretly formed *Triumvirate*

— Marcus Tullius Cicero

- Was “new” man
- Elected quaestor, praetor, & consul
- Devoted to Republic, constitution & tradition
- Tensions begin to mount
  - Caesar left Rome for Gaul
  - Pompey takes Hispania; Crassus takes Syria
    - But Crassus murdered by Parthian general
  - Pompey elected dictator; associates w/ Senate
- 49BC Caesar returns
  - Crosses Rubicon - “And now the die has been cast”
- Senate appoints Pompey to stop advance
  - But forced to abandon Rome
  - Caesar pursues
- 48BC Battle of Pharsulas
- Pompey flees to Egypt
  - 10yr Ptolemy XIII caught & killed Pompey
  - In Egypt, Caesar becomes involved in civil war
  - Ptolemy vs. older sister-bridge Cleopatra VII
- *Veni, Vidi, Vinci*
- Caesar the Dictator

- Caesar = “*popularis*”
- *Ides of March*
  - Leaders = Brutus & Cassius
  - Caesar assassinated in Senate - *Et tu Brute?*
  - Conspirators called out Cicero’s name
- Third Civil War
  - Erupts during vacuum of power
    - Rome divided;
    - Conspirators = *optimates* vs. Mark Antony = *populares*
  - Marcus Antonius
    - brutal/ruthless military commander
    - Served as Caesar’s Master of the Horse
    - Cicero has Antony elected consul
      - Hoped for truce w/ conspirators
    - Antony uses Caesar’s funeral
      - Mob unleashed
  - Gaius Julius Caesar Octavianus
    - Heir of Caesar
    - Emerged claiming his inheritance
    - Aided by Cicero

- Creation of 2<sup>nd</sup> triumvirate
  - Cicero arranges
  - Power to shared by Antony, Octavian & & Marcus Aemilius Lepidus
  - Enemies purged 43BC
  - Brutus & Cassius defeated @ Philippi
  - Triumvirate divides Roman world
  - Lepidus dropped in 36BC
  - Antony conducts unsuccessful campaign against Parthians
  - Forced to depend on Cleopatra VII
- Third Civil War
  - War between Roman West & “oriental” East
  - Octavian defeats Antony & Cleopatra @ Actium
- Pax Romana
  - The Roman Peace
  - Octavian announces restoration of Republic
    - Implements reforms along lines of Sulla
    - Announces intent retire
    - Senate begs him to remain
      - Grants power for life
      - Bestows titles – *Augustus* and *Princeps*

- Grants powers of proconsul & tribune (re: *imperium*)
  
- Augustus gave Rome – good government
  - Drew from every class – based on merit
  - Solved numerous problems
  
- Three failures
  - 1) move Roman border in Gaul - Battle of Teutoburg Forrest
  - 2) attempts major “social” reforms
  - 3) Succession scheme
  
- Augustus = father to countrymen
  
- Dies 14AD @ 76
  
- Age of Augustus
  - Saw disintegration of classical social cohesiveness
  - Influence & power of patricians gone
  - New influential groups: equestrians, *proles*, & *praetorian*
  - Women = independent
  
- Roman literature came of age
  - New men rose by abilities
  - Writing = political weapon
  - Ability to write also recognized as significant political weapon
  - Virgil, Horace, Ovid, Livy & Tacitus

- Followed Hellenistic models
- Period = Rome's greatest period
  - Empire grew
  - Capable rulers: Tiberius, Cladius, Vespasian, Hadrian, & Marcus Aurelius
  - Worst – Caligula, Nero, Commodus
  - Citizens welcomed peace & prosperity
  - Slavery declined; new laboring class = *coloni*
- *Iēsoûs Christos* = Coming of the Messiah
  - Joshua Ben Joseph aka Jesus
  - Who was he?
    - Gospels of Matthew & Luke
    - Born during reign of Herod
    - Joseph & Mary fled “Massacre of Innocents”
  - Jesus becomes public minister
    - Baptized by John the Baptist
    - Establishes ministry
  - 3 years = wandering minister
    - Performs miracles & preaches about Kingdom of God
    - Caiaphas opposes
    - Pontius Pilate intervenes

- Jesus scourged & crucified
- Resurrection & Ascension
- Peter forms Christ's church
  - New members initiated thru baptism
  - Share "communion"
- Paul of Tarsus
  - Receives "revelation"
  - Christianity = perfected Judaism
  - Christianity meant for whole world
  - Elaborates Christian beliefs via 13 "letters"
  - Faith = means to God's salvation
- Later additions
  - Ex. Eucharist, Holy Trinity
- Spread = initially slow
  - Social unrest helps spread
- End of Pax Romana
  - Augustus's constitutional monarchy gone
  - Transformation foreshadowed Commodus
    - Murdered by praetorians
    - Replaced by Pertinax; reign = short

- Replaced by Didius Julianus; reign = short
- Military control turns into nightmare
  - 192-284AD = 80 emperors
  - Civil war erupts
  - Prolonged period of economic decline
  - Result = massive decrease in suppliers
  - By 3<sup>rd</sup> cen, gov't refuses own money for taxes
  - Foreign threats appear
- Empire's Last Gasp
  - Army selects Diocletian in 284AD
    - Adopts titles – *dominus & Iovius*
    - Divides empire; selects Maximian = co-emperor
    - Selects capital = Nicomedia
    - Completes shift to autocracy
    - Develops succession scheme – *Tetrarchy*
      - Emperor = *Augustus*; successors = *Caesar*
    - Stabilize economy
    - Targets Christians
      - initiates Great Persecution
  - 305AD establishment of precedent for succession



- Both Augusti – abdicated thrones for respective Caesars: Galerius & Constantius
- Transfer of power soon turns chaotic
- Constantius dies; Severus selected by Galerius
- Soldiers proclaim Constantine as emperor
- Maxentius stakes own claim
- Struggle for control of West = civil war
- Severus dies; Licinius selected by Galerius
- 308AD imperial conference called - Galerius, Maximian, & Diocletian
  - Declare Licinius = Augustus; Constantine = Caesar
- Didn't last - war broke out & problem solved
  - Constantine murders Maximian
  - Galerius died
  - Maxentius at the Battle of the Milvian Bridge
  - Maximinus committed suicide
  - Licinius marries Constantine's sister
  - Empire split = 313AD Constantine = East; Licinius = West
- Milvian Bridge = opportunity for Christianity
  - Constantine has vision =
- 311AD Edict of Toleration
- 313AD Edict of Milan

- 324AD End of Tetrarchy
  - Constantine defeats Licinius; reunites Empire
  - “Old” Rome declines in importance
- Constantine continues Diocletian’s economic reforms
  - Creates basis for European feudal serfdom
- First baptized ruler
- 337AD splits empire between sons
- Germanic Migrations
  - Germans did not burst in
  - Visigoths
    - Allowed in by Valens
  - 376AD – Visigoths rebel
  - 378AD – Battle of Adrianople
  - Visigoth’s lay siege to Constantinople
  - Theodosius (r. 379-395)
    - Enlists Visigoths as *foederati*
    - Makes similar agreement with Ostrogoths
    - With peace, focuses on religion
    - Declared Christianity = official state religion in East
    - Gratian drops title *potifex maximus*; removes Alter of Victory

— NOTE: was assassinated

- Brief civil war erupts; Theodosius reunites empire
- Prosecution of pagans
- Fall of Rome
  - 5th century = “eternal city” suffers
  - Imperial residence moved to Ravenna
  - Vandals seize territory
  - Visigoths, under Alaric, renounce allegiance
    - Initially contained; but push west
  - Burgundians cross Rhine
  - 410 -Visigoths sack Rome
  - Barely holds off Attila the Hun
    - Resistance led by Pope Leo I (p. 440-461)
    - Attila defeated at Chalons 451
  - Vandal, under Geiseric, sack Rome
  - 476 - Formal administration of Rome ends
    - Odoacer deposes Romulus Augustulus
    - Acts as *patrician* for Zeno
    - Odoacer deposed by Theodoric)
    - Ostrogoths turn Italy into Germanic kingdom

- Why little Roman resistance?