

- Christian West emerges
 - Germanic tribes control
 - Didn't become "savage" land
 - New masters learn from conquered
 - Germans admired Roman culture
 - "Rome" has last laugh
 - Conquering tribes convert to Christianity
 - Conversion process straightforward
 - Result = Roman church continues
 - Visigoths, Ostrogoths, & Vandals convert prior
 - Franks = 1st Catholics
- How did religious Rome survive?
 - Bishop of Rome emerges
 - Leo I, the Great
 - Personally intervenes
 - Promotes *Petrine* Theory
 - Rome's influence spreads
 - By Gregory I, Church of Rome = universal
 - NOTE: Christendom remains divided
- Early churches

- Liturgy originally = plain; simple

- Church would proclaim official dogma
 - Church fathers define

 - Influenced by Neo-Platonism & Stoicism

 - Result = Christianity both religion & philosophy

- In the West, three church fathers stood out.
 - St. Jerome

 - St. Ambrose

 - St. Augustine

- Boosted Christian faith, but didn't unify

- Attempt systematization of beliefs

- Theological disputes contribute to division of Christendom

- Differences cause "controversies"
 - Ex. Arianism
 - Devised by Arius

 - Constantine convenes Niceae Council

 - NOTE: Nicene Creed

 - NOTE: Byzantine patriarchs

- Some sects went their own ways
 - NOT "in communion" with Rome

— Most significant early difference= Iconoclasm

- It = objection to veneration of icons

- Islam fully embraces

- Emperor Leo III

— Issues Iconoclastic Decrees

- Pope Gregory III rejects

— Orders ordainment of icons & images