

The Byzantine Empire and the East Slavs

I. Byzantine Empire

A. Aspects of Byzantine Life

1. Constantinople — The City = 15
 - a. Hagia Sophia
 - b. Hippodrome (Blues and Greens)
 - c. Greek fire
2. Prosperous Trade
3. Harmony of Church and State
 - a. state administration (basileus)
 - b. external administration of the Church (basileus + patriarch)
 - c. religious doctrine (patriarch)
4. Successor of Rome

B. The Kingdom of Christ on Earth

1. Basileus (Emperor) (chooses patriarch)
2. Patriarch of Constantinople (advises basileus)

C. Byzantine Achievements

1. Codified Roman Law
2. Preserved Much of Ancient Greek Culture
3. Fostered Art and Architecture

II. Split between Eastern Church and Western Church

A. Reflects Division within the Roman Empire

1. Administration
2. Language: Greek vs. Latin
3. Trade

B. Major Points of Disagreement

1. Language of Liturgy
2. Ritual
3. Two Swords Theory vs. Harmony of Church and State
4. Clerical Celibacy vs. Married Priests
5. Unleavened Bread vs. Leavened Bread
6. Statues vs. Icons
7. Role of Pope (i.e., bishop of Rome)
8. Filioque Clause
9. Calendar
10. Relationship of Reason to Faith

III. Early Rus' Principalities (9th through 13th centuries)

A. Normanists vs. Anti-Normanists

B. The River Routes (Dnepr and Volga)

1. Route from the Varangians to the Greeks
2. Trade vs. Agriculture

C. Significance of Vikings in European History

1. Vikings, Varangians, Normans, and the Re-establishment of Trade
2. Westward Expansion
 - a. Eric the Red (Iceland)
 - b. Leif Erikson (Greenland)
 - c. William the Conqueror: 1066 — Battle of Hastings
3. Eastward Expansion — The Rus' (Varangian warriors)
 - a. Rorik of Jutland (Rurik)
 - b. Novgorod (New Town), Kiev
 - c. Volodimir — Christianization of Rus' (988)
 - d. Iaroslav the Wise (1015–1054)

D. Significance of Steppe Nomads (Pechenegs, Polovtsians)

1. Lateral System of Succession
2. Symbiotic Trade Relationship
3. Diplomatic Relations and Intermarriage

E. Kievan Rus' Represents Four-Way Synthesis

1. Indigenous Slavic Agriculturalists
2. Viking Commercial Interests
3. Steppe Political Arrangements
4. Byzantine Religious Culture

IV. Byzantine Influence on Later Rus' Principalities (14th through 17th centuries)

A. Religion and Written Culture

B. Relationship Between Grand Prince (Tsar) and Metropolitan (Patriarch)

1. Principle of harmony
2. Division of responsibilities

C. Rus' as New Israel or Third Rome?