

1. Why is this period in European history (500-1200 AD) often referred to as the middle ages?
2. Identify three examples that help to illustrate the living conditions of the common person living in this era.
3. Describe the daily challenges of peasants.
4. Explain why most of Europe in this period is in a constant state of warfare.
5. Identify and describe three aspects of medieval life that you would find intolerable.
6. Describe the role of the church in medieval life.

A knight in full plate armor, including a crown, holding a sword. The knight is the central figure of the image, set against a dark, smoky background. The armor is highly detailed, showing various plates and joints. The knight's face is visible through the helmet's visor, and he has a serious expression. The sword is held in front of his chest, with the hilt visible. The overall tone is dramatic and historical.

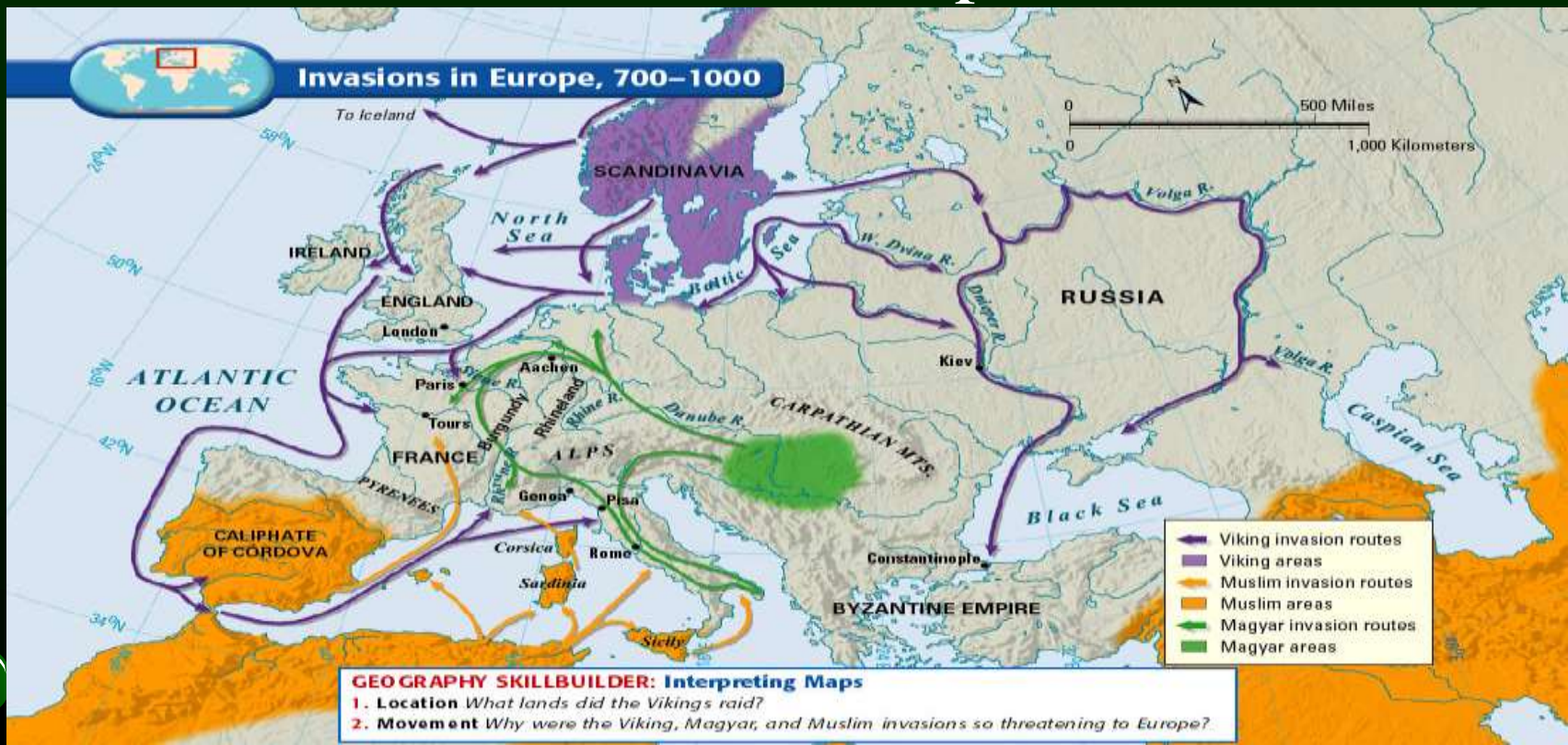
# European Middle Ages

500-1200

#1

# Why the Middle Ages

- Charlemagne's three feuding grandsons broke up the kingdoms of Western Europe.
- Lead to development of small kingdoms
- Invaders attack Western Europe –decentralization



# Decentralization

- Outside attacks
  - Vikings from the north
  - Muslims from the south
- Widespread disorder

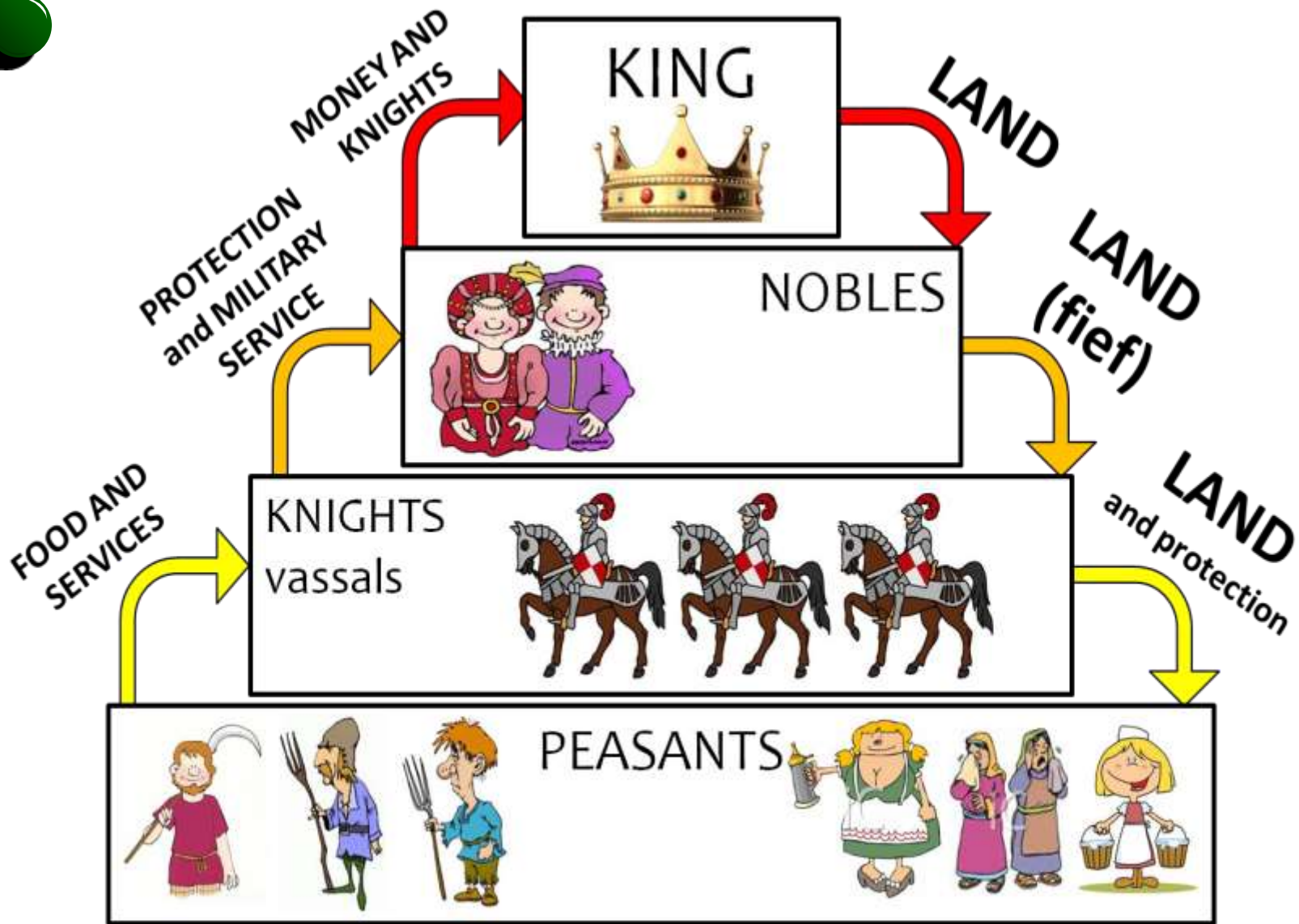


# Feudalism

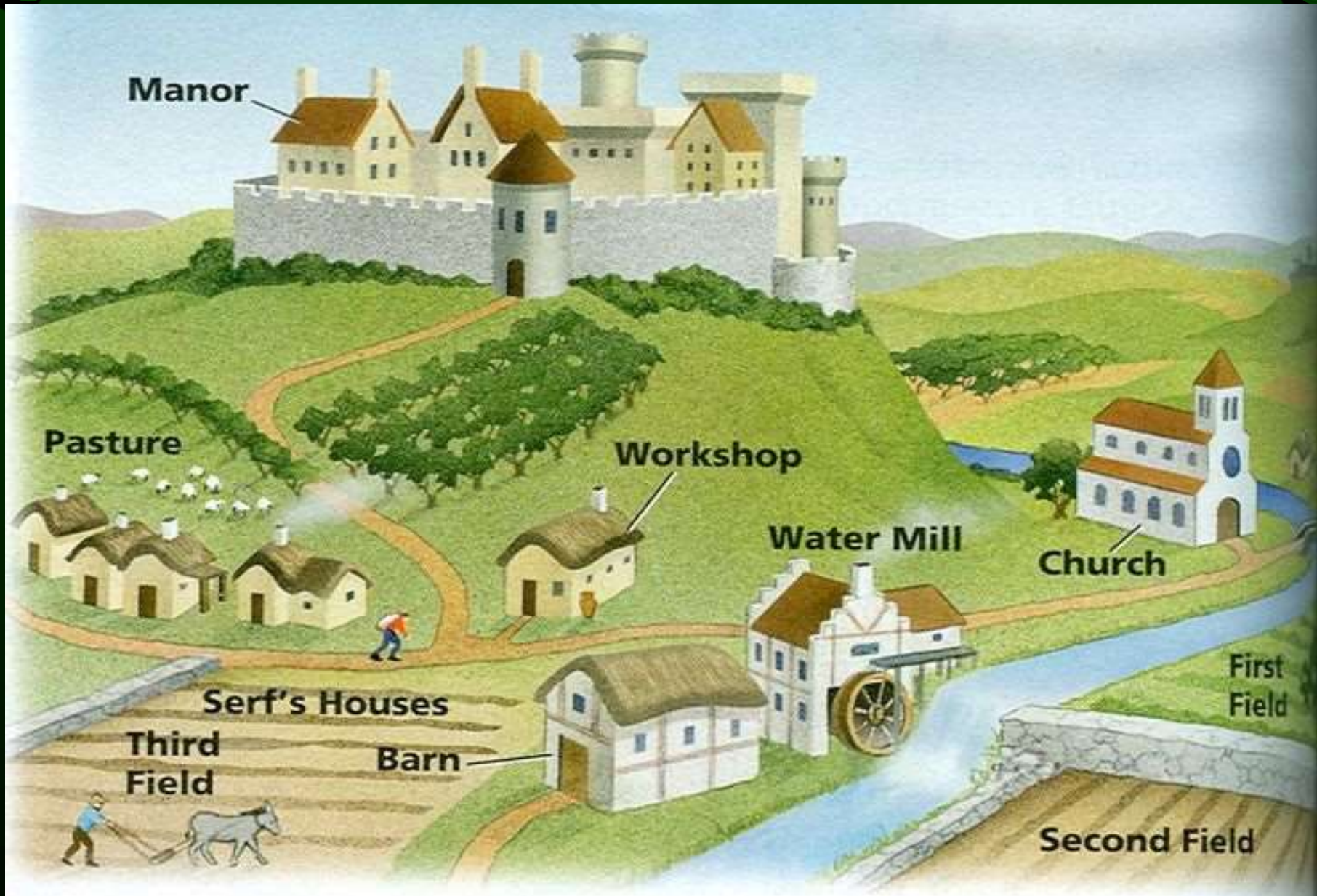
## Feudalism

- Based on rights and obligations in exchange for military protection and other services.
- Status determined power and prestige.  
Social class inherited
- Lords(landowner)granted fiefs (land) to vassals (receiver of land)
- Manor- lords estate
- Knights – mounted horsemen who defended lord's land in exchange for fiefs.
- Serfs- by law couldn't leave the place they were born. Bound to land.  
Peasants.
- Three groups – Those who fought (nobles and knights), prayed (church people), and those who worked (peasants).
- Chivalry – knightly code of conduct





Feudal Pyramid of Power



Manor

Pasture

Workshop

Water Mill

Church

Serf's Houses

Third Field

Barn

First Field

Second Field

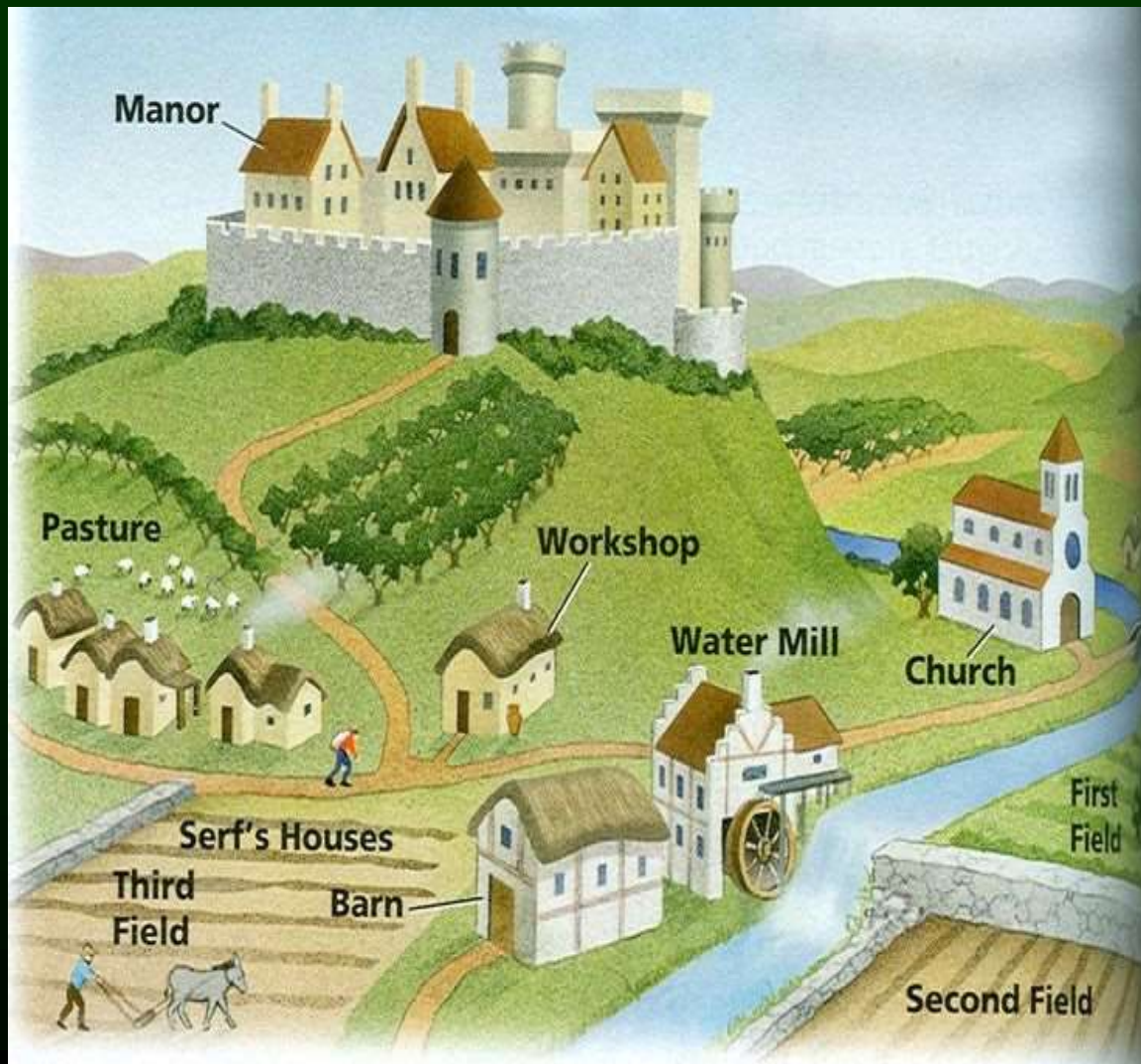




# Medieval Manor

- Step 1- King/ Queen  
decide kingdoms name

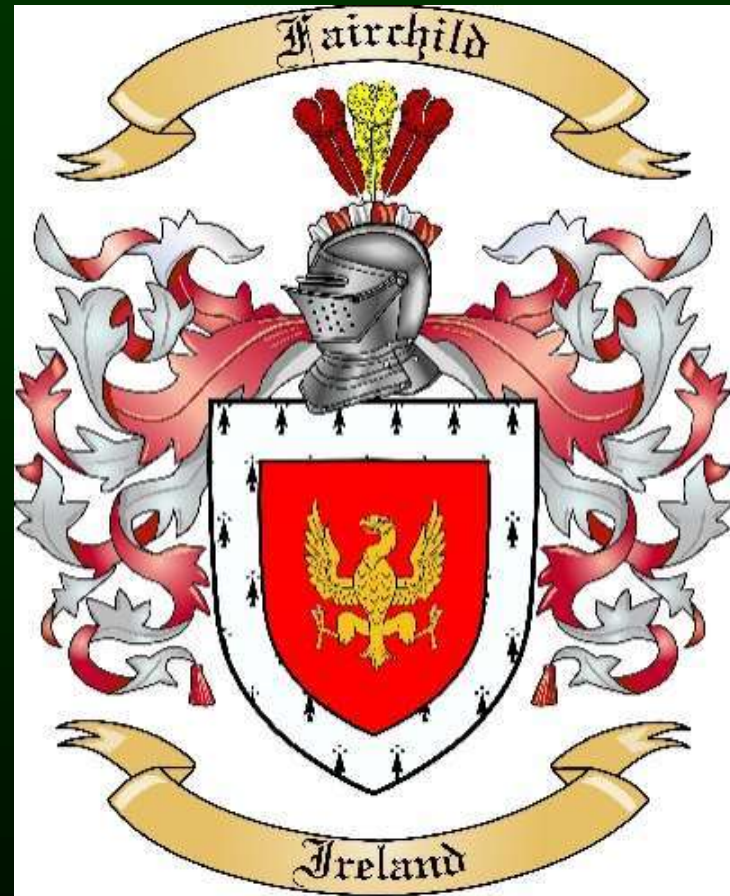
# Step 2 - Sketch Manor As a Group



Step 2- as a group sketch out design of manor. Needs to include: Castle, fields, lords houses, peasants houses, church, workshops, defense system.

Peasants will draw design on larger scale on butcher paper.

# Step 3 - Family Crescent King/Queen, Lords



# Step 3 - Knights Shield



Read the passage and answer the following questions. Use the magic red book to define any words you do not understand.

- *“I make homage and fealty with hands and with mouth to thee my said lord abbot Leo and to thy successors, and I swear upon these four gospels of God that I will always be faithful to his lord, and I will defend thee, my lord, and all thy successors, and said monastery and the monks present to come and the castles and manors and all your men and possessions against all malefactors and invaders, at my request and that of my successors at my cost...And if I or my sons or their successors do not observe to thee or to thy successors each and all things declared above, and should come against these things, we wish that all the aforesaid fiefs should be by that very fact handed over to thee and to the said monastery of St. Mary of Grasse and to thy successors.”*

-“Feudalism: An Oath of Homage and Fealty,” Bernard Atton, viscount of Carcassonne.

1. Describe what the author promised to do as part of his oath.
2. Besides the individual who else is implicated in his oath?
3. Describe the consequences of not upholding his oath.

“Whereas we wish to have a conference and discussion with the earls, barons, and other nobles of our realm concerning the provision of remedies for the dangers that in these days threaten the same kingdom...we command and firmly enjoin you that without delay you cause two knights, of the more discreet and more capable of labor, to be elected from the aforesaid county, and two citizens from each city of the aforesaid county, and two burgesses from each borough, and that you have them come to us...to do whatever in the aforesaid matters may be ordained by common counsel.”

-King Edward I, letter to sheriffs in England.

1. Why is the king calling a meeting of Parliament?

- a. He wants to raise taxes.
- b. He wants to select new knights.
- c. He wants to discuss threats to the kingdom.
- d. He wants to give advice to the leaders.

2. How will the representatives be chosen?

- a. They will be selected by the sheriff.
- b. They will be elected by the people.
- c. They will be selected by the lords.
- d. They will be elected by the knights.

# The Age of Chivalry 1100's

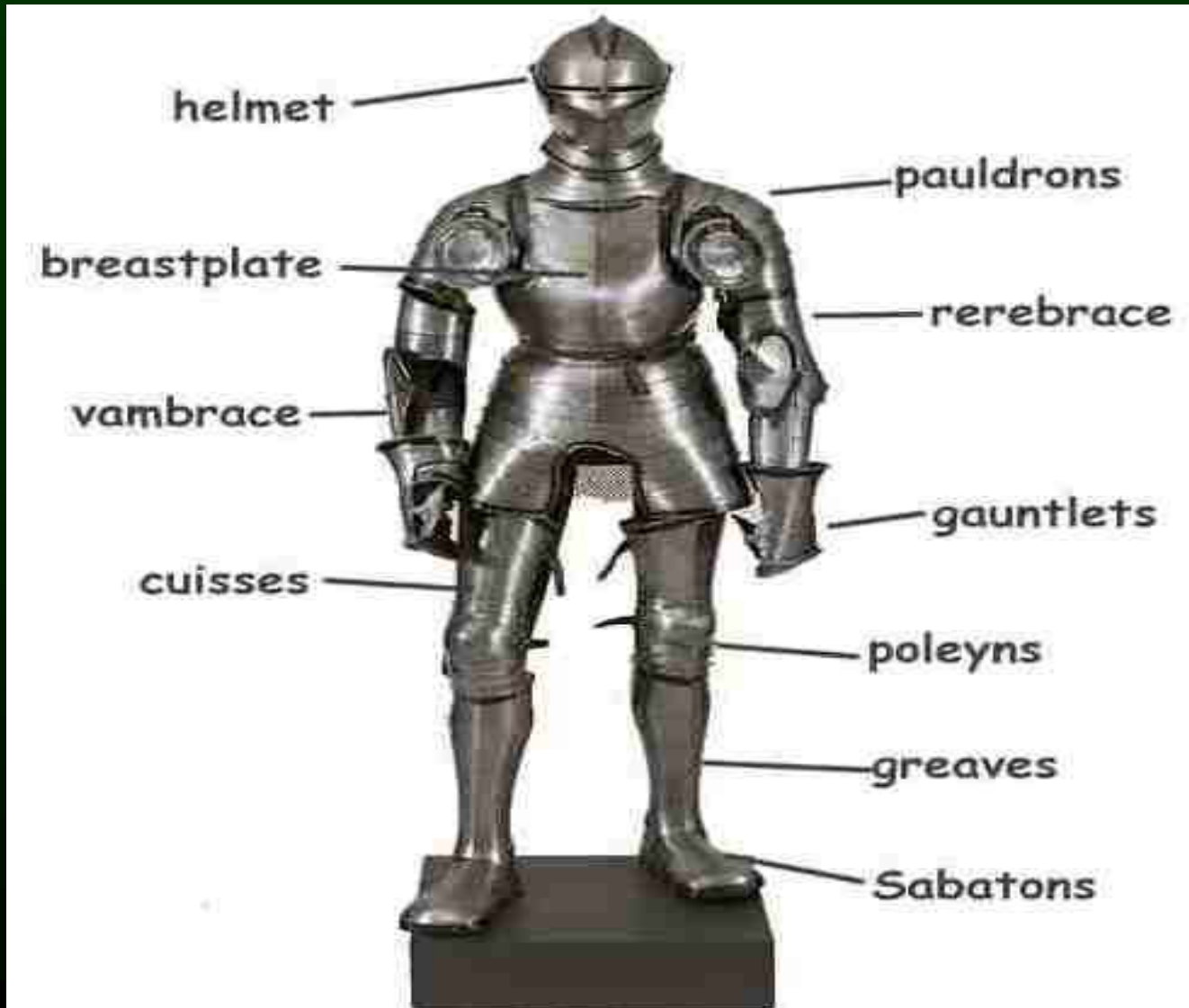
# 2

# Technology Changes

- Middle Ages time of fighting for land, territories, and wealth.
- Armored horseman's or knights became valuable.
- Leather saddles and stirrups- kept warrior seated and secure on a moving horse.
- Private armies of knights to defend lords.
- Knights rewarded with land, money, and time to practice for battle.



# Knights Armor



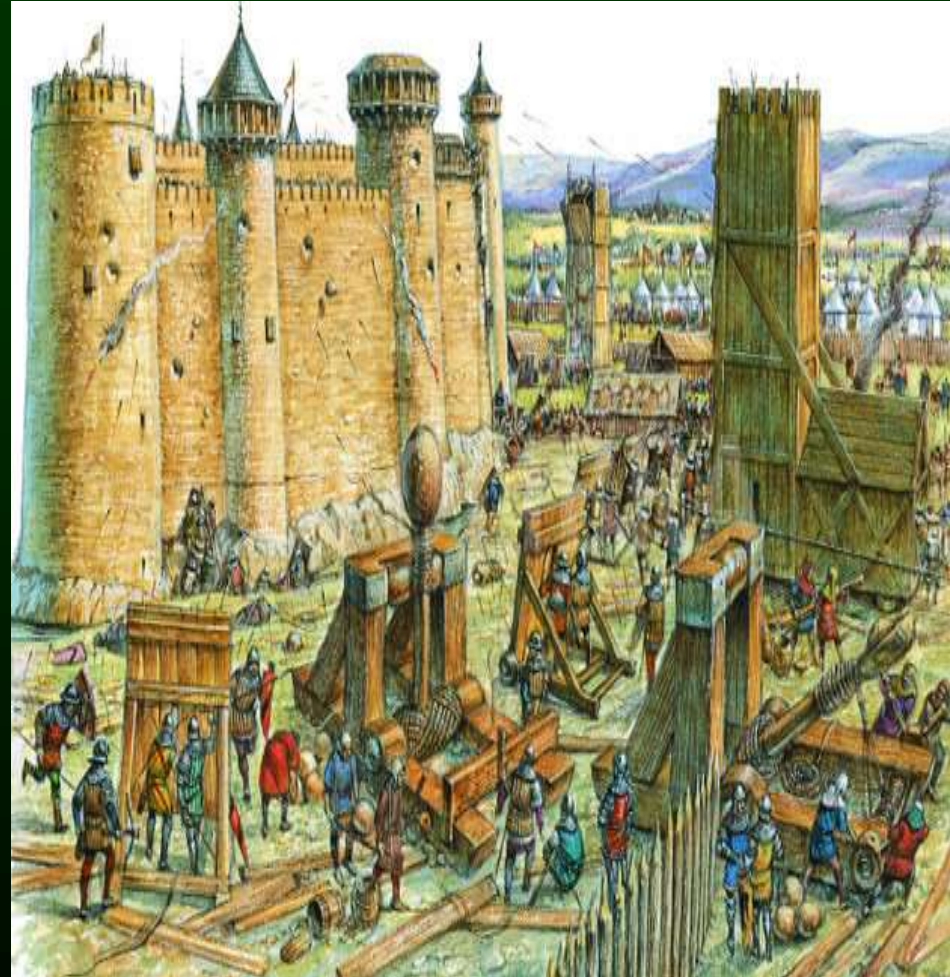
# Knighthood

- Knights expected to display courage and loyalty.
- Code of chivalry = devoted himself to his lord, heavenly Lord, and his CHOSEN lady.
- Training = 7 boys would be sent off to the castle to learn waiting and fighting skills. 14 rank of squire (servant to the knight). 21 = fully knighted.



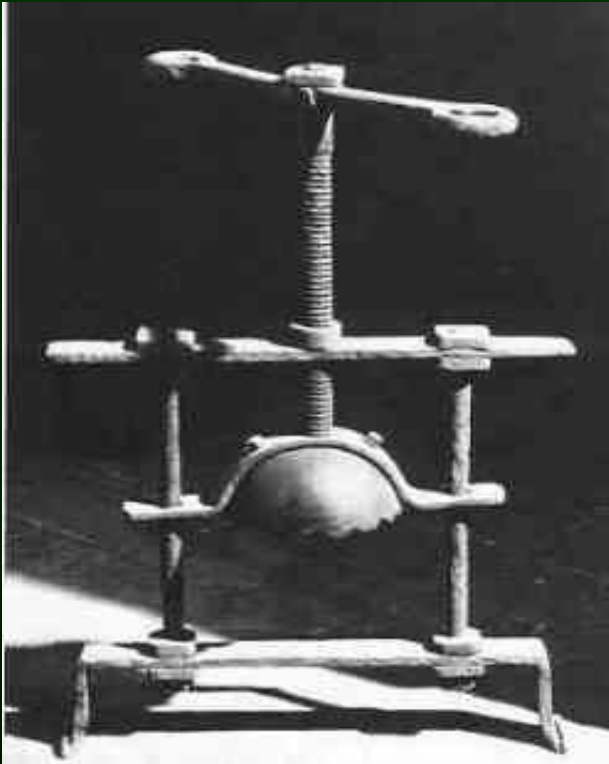
# After being knighted...

- Travel to gain experiences in local wars.
- Participate in tournaments- 2 armies of knights charge each other. Fierce and bloody competitions. Winners earn a ransoms from their defeated knight.
- Castles under siege- defenders poured hot boiling water, oil or molten led on enemy.  
Archers on castle roof fire into crowd.





# TOURTURE DEVICES



HEAD CRUSHER



CHAIR OF SPIKES



THE RACK  
TOURTURE

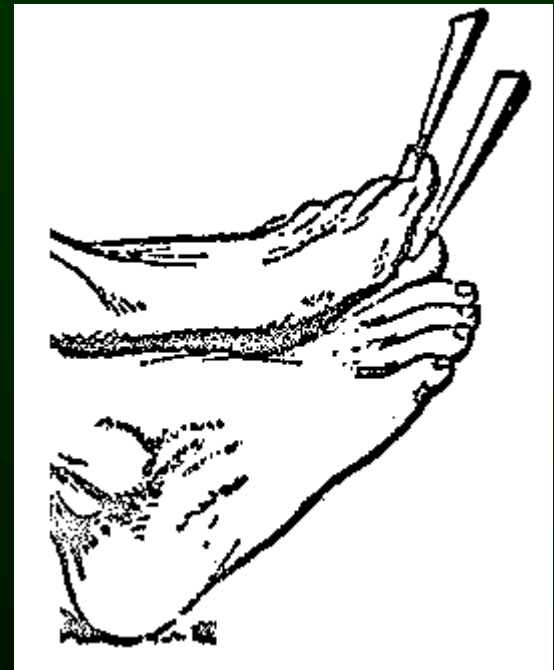


FOOT ROASTING



HERTICS FORK

- **COPPER BOOT** – placed around victims foot and filled to the brim with molten lead
- **WOODEN WEDGES**- placed underneath the toenails to help urge a confession
- **CAT'S PAW**- short pole with a pitch fork at one end and used to tear the flesh of the victim



# The Crusades and The Plague

## #3





# The Crusades

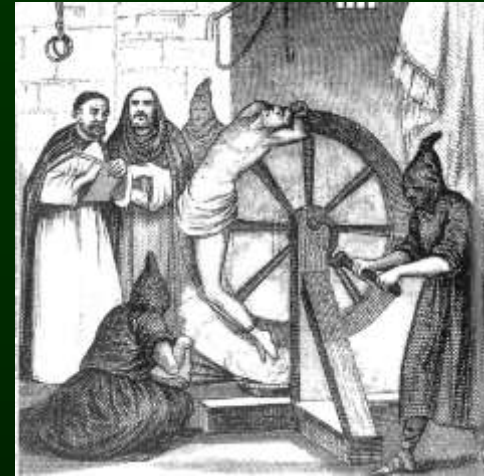
- Religious devotion and reverence to God, popes begin to reform the church.
- Muslims controlled Palestine
- Pope Urban II calls for a holy war. Social, political, economic and religious goals.

## Three Crusades 300 years

- First – 1099
- Second – 1144
- Third – 1187, Jerusalem stayed under Muslim control.



- The Spanish Inquisition
  - Used to unify and strengthen the church
  - Punished heretics

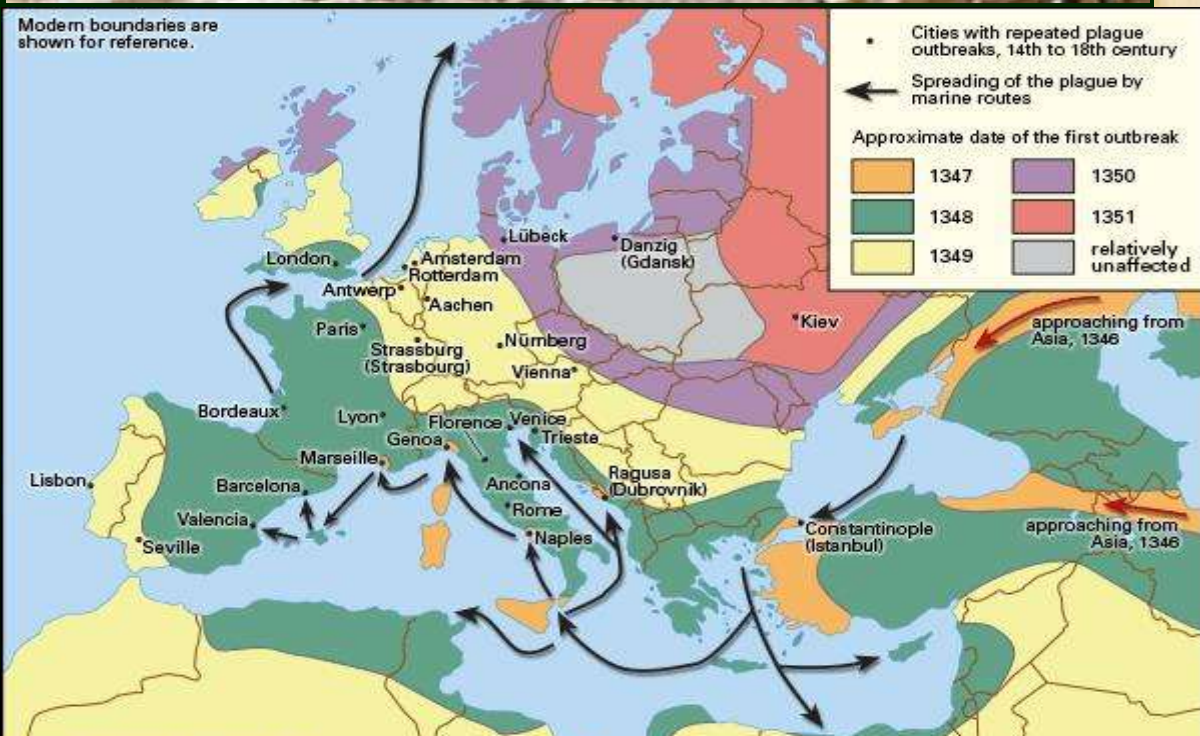


- Effects of the Crusades
  - Increase in trade
  - Increased persecution of Jews in Europe



# The Bubonic Plague

- 1300's an epidemic struck Asia, North Africa and Europe.
- Killed 1/3 of its population
- Asian trading ships carried the plague on rats. Rats had lice and fleas. Multiply and people didn't shower.
- Killed 25 million Europeans.
- Effects- town populations fell, trade decline, revolts, blamed Jews for the plague, disruption of society.
- Symptoms- swellings buboes (armpits and growing), purplish and blackish spots on the skin.
- high fever, chills and death.



# A New Europe Emerges

- Commercial Revolution
  - Sparked by trade
  - Money economy – banking
  - Guilds
- Revival of Learning
  - Muslim libraries housed copies of works by Greek philosophers
  - Scholasticism combined the logical teachings of Aristotle with basic faith concepts
    - Thomas Aquinas-



- Gothic style replaced the old Roman style of design



- England develops
  - William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings
    - Attacked from Normandy
    - Unified England and laid foundation for centralized gov't
  - English common law developed over hundreds of years
  - The Magna Carta
    - Guaranteed certain basic political rights

- The Hundred Years' War

- England vs. France

- Fought for control of the French throne

- The longbow

- End of chivalry, knights

- Death of the Middle Ages?

- Collapse of religious authority

- The Plague

- Display of wealth

