

A History of Knowledge

Oldest Knowledge

What the Sumerians knew

What the Babylonians knew

What the Hittites knew

What the Persians knew

What the Egyptians knew

What the Indians knew

What the Chinese knew

What the Greeks knew

What the Phoenicians knew

What the Romans knew

What the Barbarians knew

What the Jews knew

What the Christians knew

Tang & Sung China

What the Japanese knew

What the Muslims knew

The Middle Ages

Ming & Manchu China

The Renaissance

The Industrial Age

The Victorian Age

The Modern World

What the Romans knew

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"We declare, proclaim and define that subjection to the Roman authority is absolutely necessary for the salvation of every human creature"

(Pope Boniface, 1302)

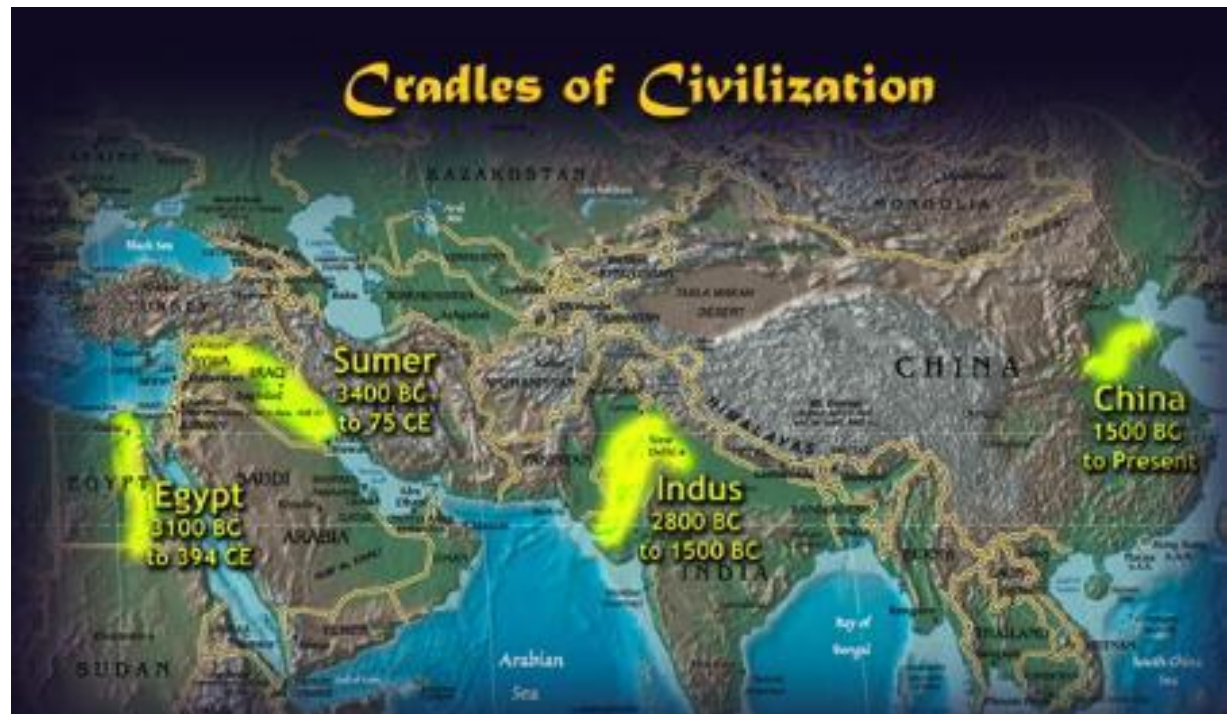
What the Romans knew

- **Bibliography**
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 - **David Abulafia: The Mediterranean in History (2003)**
 - **Duby & Perrot: A History of Women in the West vol 1 (1992)**
 - **John Norwich: A short history of Byzantium (1995)**
 - **Kevin Butcher: Roman Syria (2003)**
 - **Tomlinson: Greek And Roman Architecture (1995)**
 - **Giovanni Becatti: The Art of Ancient Greece and Rome (1968)**
 - **Marvin Tameanko: Monumental Coins (1999)**
 - **Will Durant: Caesar and Christ (1944)**

Cereal Civilizations

Wheat and rice

- Large scale irrigation projects, i.e. social organization
- Pottery
- Tool-making



Seafaring Civilizations

Trade

- Pottery for transportation
- Shipbuilding
- Language for communication



The Villanovans

- **1000 BC: Iron civilization lives in northern Italy, probably not Indo-European**
- **Cremation of the dead, and urns for ashes**
- **1000 BC: Indo-Europeans invade northern Italy**

The Etruscans

- **850 BC: Middle-eastern people (Villanovans?) settle inTuscany**
- **750 BC: first Etruscan inscriptions**
- **Only one manuscript survives**
- **Not Indo-European**
- **Confederation of city states**
- **Elevated status of women**
- **Cremation and house-like urns (9th-8th c)**
- **Monumental cemeteries modeled after cities (8th on): Cerveteri (7th c - 4th c), Tarquinia (150 painted tombs 550BC-450BC)**

The Etruscans

- **6th c: Etruscan expansion in the Po Valley (Celts)**
- **540 BC: Naval battle of the Sardinian Sea (Greeks of Massalia/Marseilles against Etruscans and Carthage)**
- **474 BC: Syracuse defeats the Etruscans at Cumae**
- **283 BC: Rome conquers all of Etruria**



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Cerveteri





Norchia

The Etruscans



Riva di Puglia

Etruria: the Middle-eastern influence



Hut-shaped funerary Urn
(9th c BC, Tarquinia Museum)



Gold bracelets
(7th c BC, Vatican Museum)

What the Etruscans knew

- **Sculpture:**
 - **Apollo of Veii (500 BC)**
 - **Marte di Todi (380 BC)**



(Musei Vaticani, Roma)



(Villa Giulia, Roma)

What the Etruscans knew

- Importance of women
- Public life of Etruscan women scandalizes the Greeks



(Villa Giulia, Roma)



Sarcophagus from Vulci, 300 BC
(Boston Museum of Fine Arts)

What the Etruscans knew

- Sex
 - Most Greek vases with explicit sex scenes were found in Etruria
 - Sex scenes common on Etruscan funerary monuments



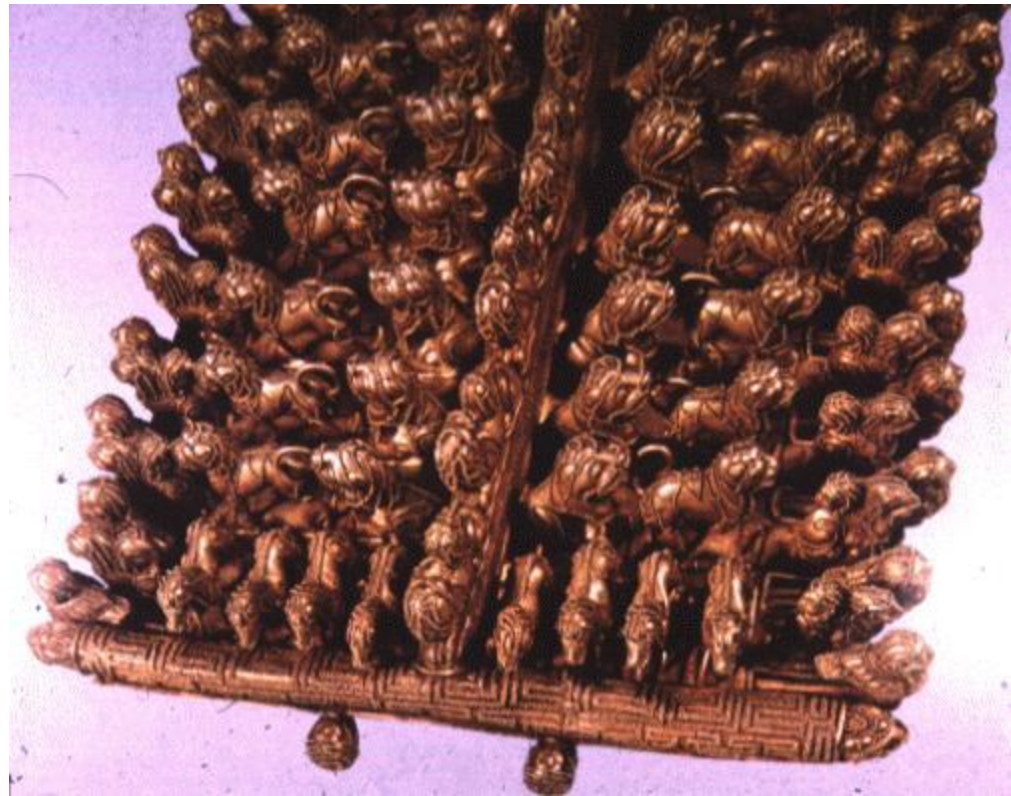
Tarquinia: Tomb of the Bulls

Sarcophagus of 330 BC
(Boston)



What the Etruscans knew

- Gold:
 - Fibula (from Palestrina's Bernardini tomb, 660 BC)

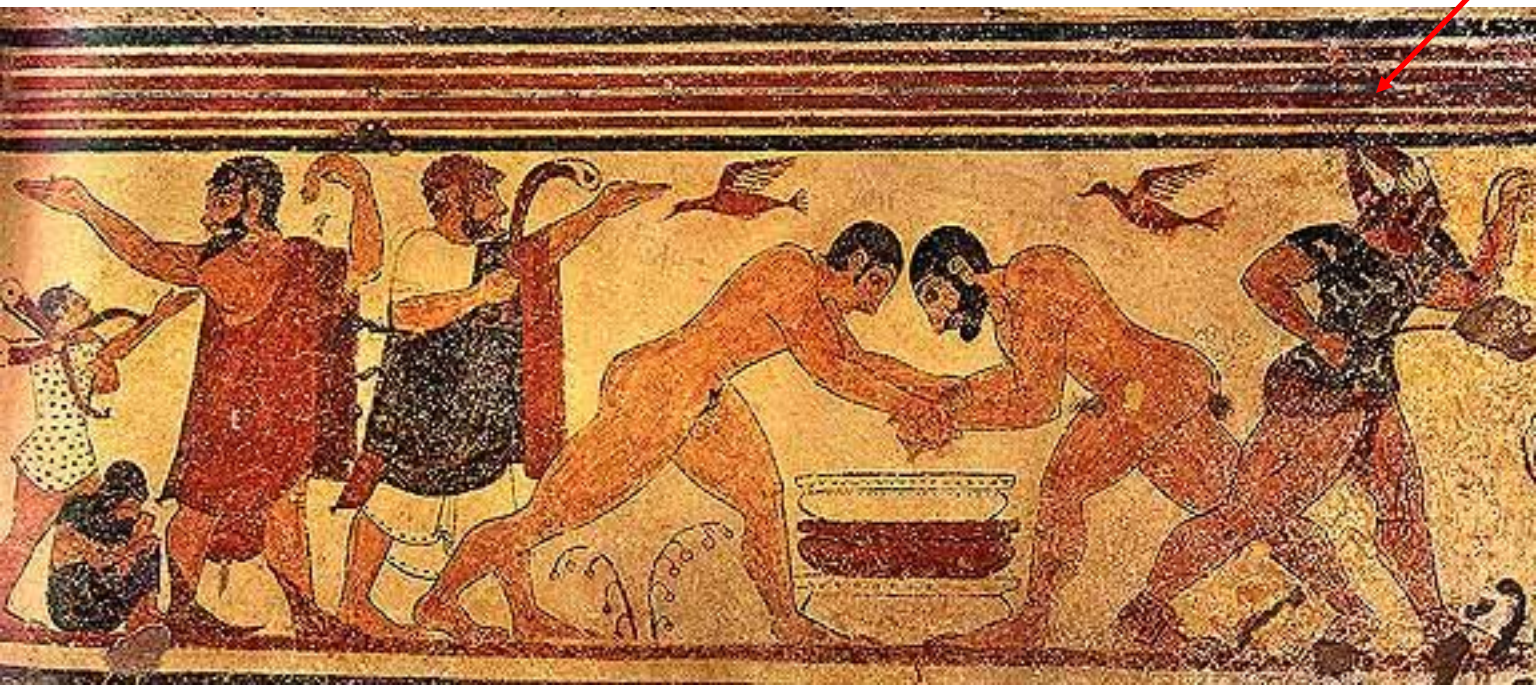


What the Etruscans knew

- Painting:
 - Tomb of the Leopards (Tarquinia, 480 BC)
 - Tomb of the Baron (Tarquinia, 510 BC)



- Painting:
 - Tomb of the Augurs (Tarquinia, 480 BC)



What the Etruscans knew

- Alphabet

Archaic Etruscan alphabet (7th-5th centuries BC)

A	C	E	F	I	⊞	⊗		K	L	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ	Ⓢ	Ⓣ
a	g	e	v,f	dz	ch	th	i	k	l	m	n	p	sh	q	r	s
T	V	X	Ⓠ	Ⓝ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	8									
t	u	ks	ph	kh	f											

Neo-Etruscan alphabet (4th-3rd centuries BC)

A	C	E	F	I	⊞	⊗	⊙		K	L	Ⓜ	Ⓝ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	Ⓡ	Ⓢ
a	g	e	v,f	dz	ch	th		i	k	l	m	n	p	sh		
P	D	Ⓢ	Ⓣ	V	Ⓠ	Ⓝ	Ⓟ	Ⓠ	8							
r	s	t	u	ph	kh	f										

- Etruscan was written from right to left
- Latin (like Greek) was written left-to-right

What the Etruscans knew

- Alphabet



(Metropolitan museum, 700–650 BC)

The Roman Republic

753 BC: Roma (Rome) is founded by Romulus

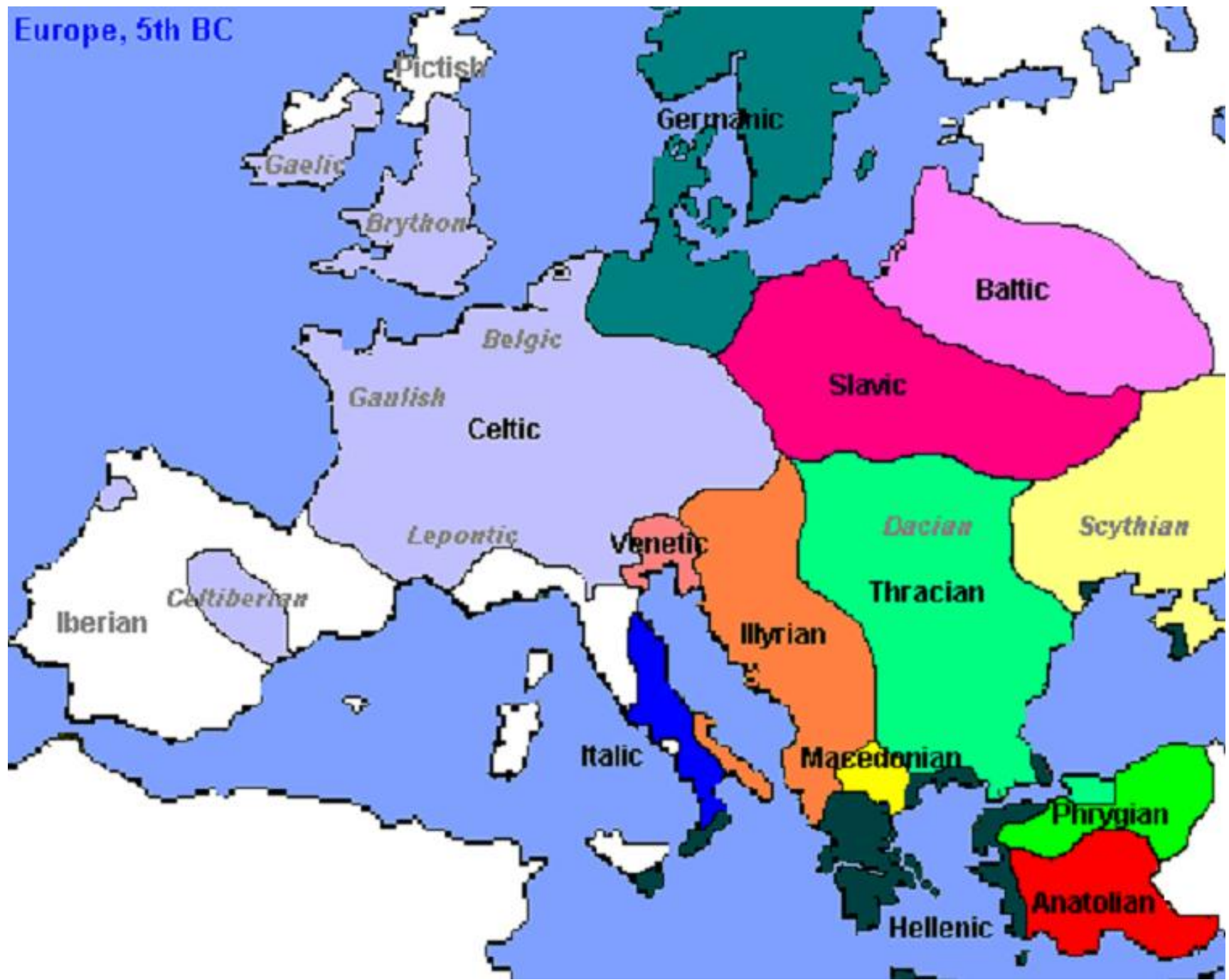
616 BC: Tarquinius I becomes an Etruscan king of Rome

600 BC: the Forum is built

600 BC: oldest Latin inscriptions

509 BC: the last king is expelled: republic

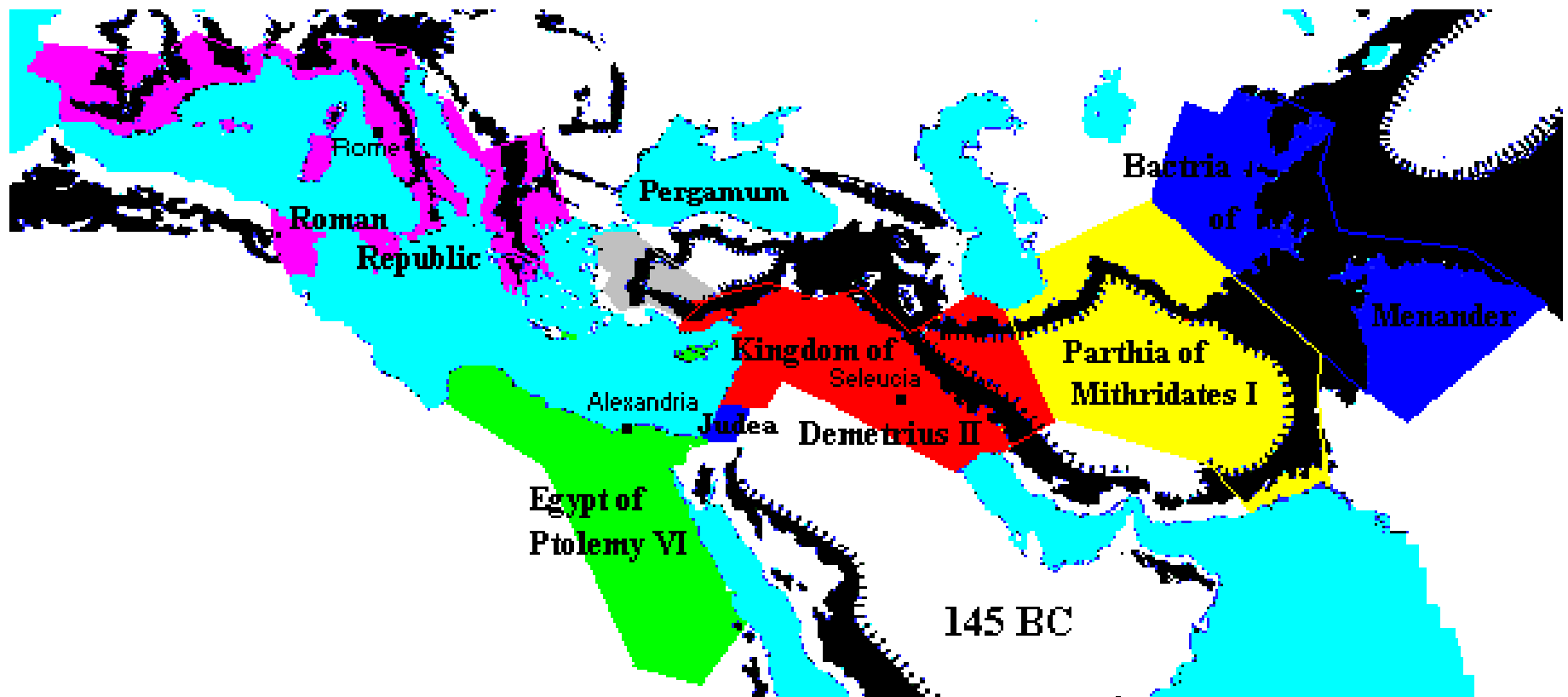
Europe, 5th BC



The Roman Republic

- 450 BC: the Twelve Tables of the Roman law
- 390 BC: the Gauls/Celts sack Rome
- 326 BC: the Circus Maximus opens
- 312 BC: the Via Appia is opened
- 295 BC: Rome defeats the Celts of northern Italy
- 275 BC: Rome conquers southern Italy (Greek colonies)
- 202 BC: Scipio defeats Carthage and Rome annexes Spain
- 146 BC: Rome conquers Greece at the battle of Corinth

The Roman Republic



The Roman Republic

- 64 BC: Syria becomes a Roman province (end of Seleucid empire)
- 63 BC: Pompeus captures Jerusalem and annexes Palestine
- 53 BC: the first war against Persia (Parthia)
- 49 BC: Julius Caesar becomes dictator
- 47 BC: Caesar invades Egypt and appoints Cleopatra queen
- 44 BC: Caesar is killed
- 31 BC: Octavianus (Augustus) becomes the first emperor
- 13 BC: Augustus expands the borders to the region of the Danube

The Roman Empire

- Julius Caesar
 - Raided 800 cities
 - Killed one million people
 - Took prisoner one million more



GROWTH OF ROMAN DOMINIONS UNDER THE EMPIRE



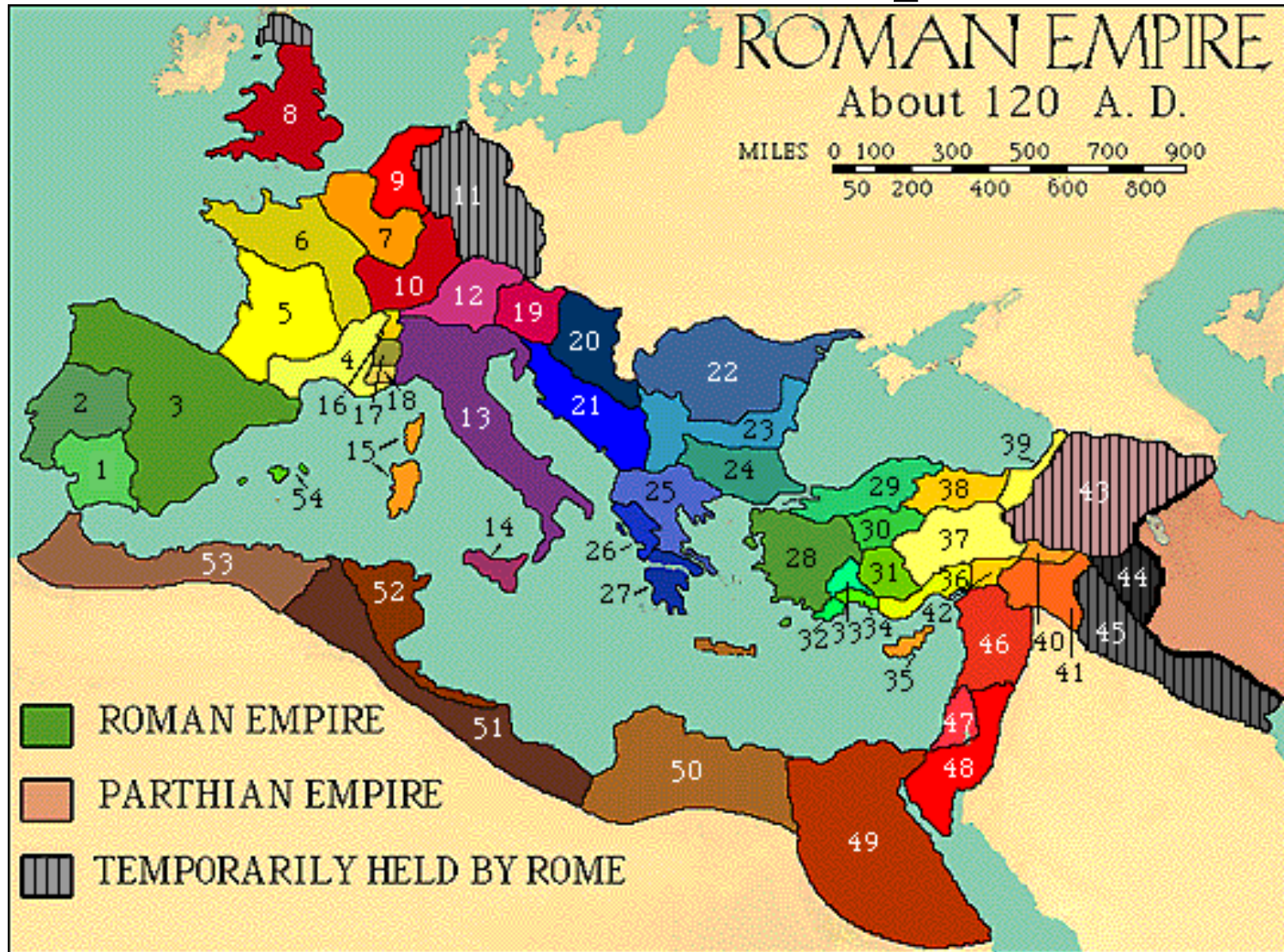
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The Roman Empire

- 6 BC: Jesus is born in Palestine
- 43 AD: Claudius invades Britain
- 70 AD: Tito destroys Jerusalem
- 79 AD: the Vesuvius erupts and Pompeii is buried under ash
- 79 AD: the Colosseum is inaugurated
- 1st c AD: Hippalos in Greece discovers the Arab secret of sailing in the monsoon regions (increase in voyages to India)
- 116: Trajan conquers Mesopotamia and the Parthian capital

The Roman Empire



The Roman Empire

- 0-300 AD four empires in Eurasia:
 - Han (Buddhist and Taoist)
 - Roman (Christian)
 - Parthian (Zoroastrian)
 - Kushan (Buddhist)

The Roman empire



Ancient Roma

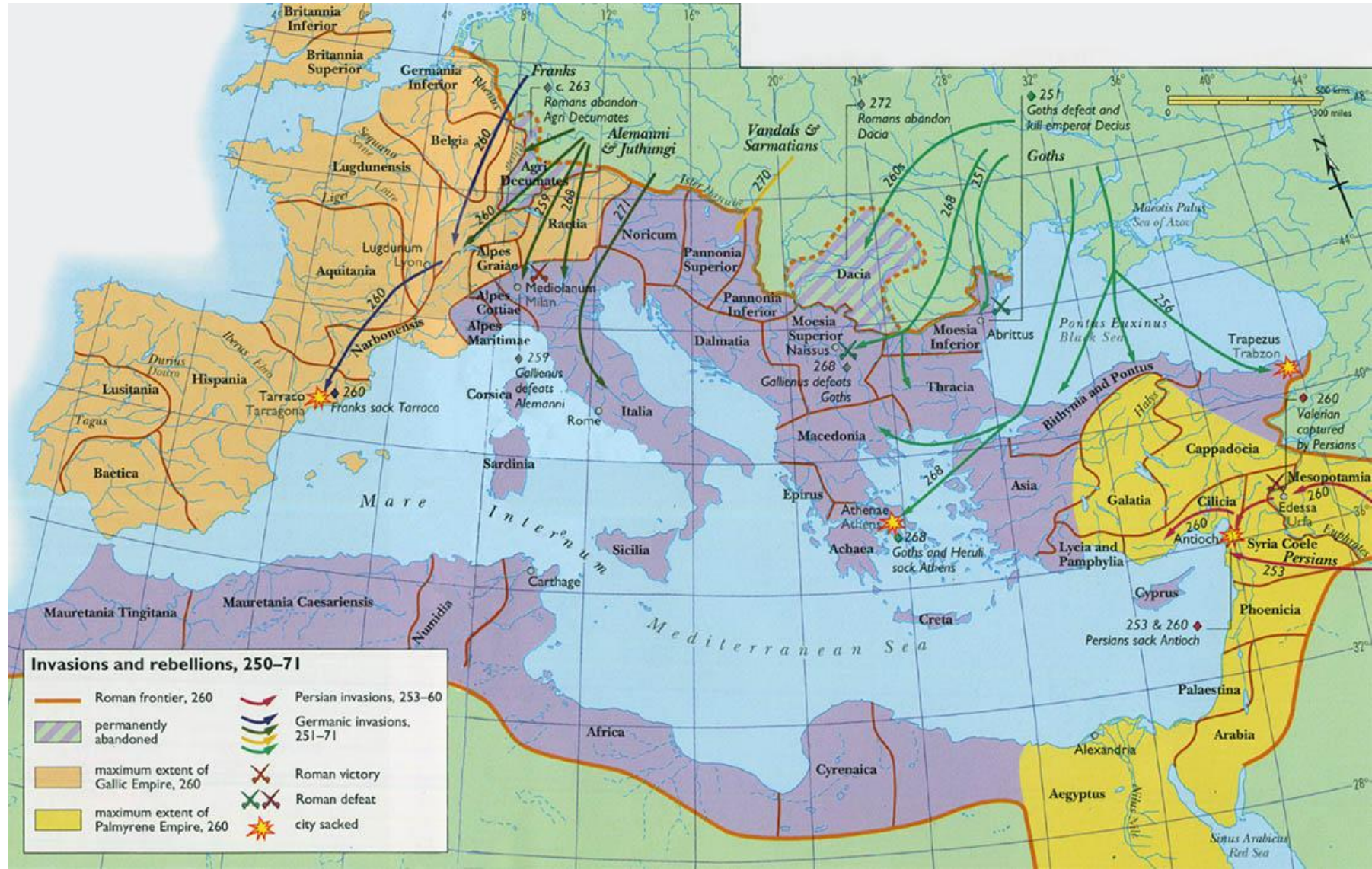


The Roman Empire

- 136: emperor Hadrian definitely crushes a Jewish rebellion, forbids Jews from ever entering Jerusalem, and changes the name of the city to Aelia Capitolina
- 212: Caracalla grants Roman citizenship to all free people who live in the Roman Empire
- 250: Decius orders the first empire-wide persecution of Christians
- 284: Diocletian becomes emperor ruling from Nicomedia (Thrace)
- 313: Constantine recognizes the Christian church
- 330: Constantine rebuilds Byzantium and renames it Constantinopolis
- 360: pagan (Mithraist) general Julian (the "apostate") is declared emperor by his German troops

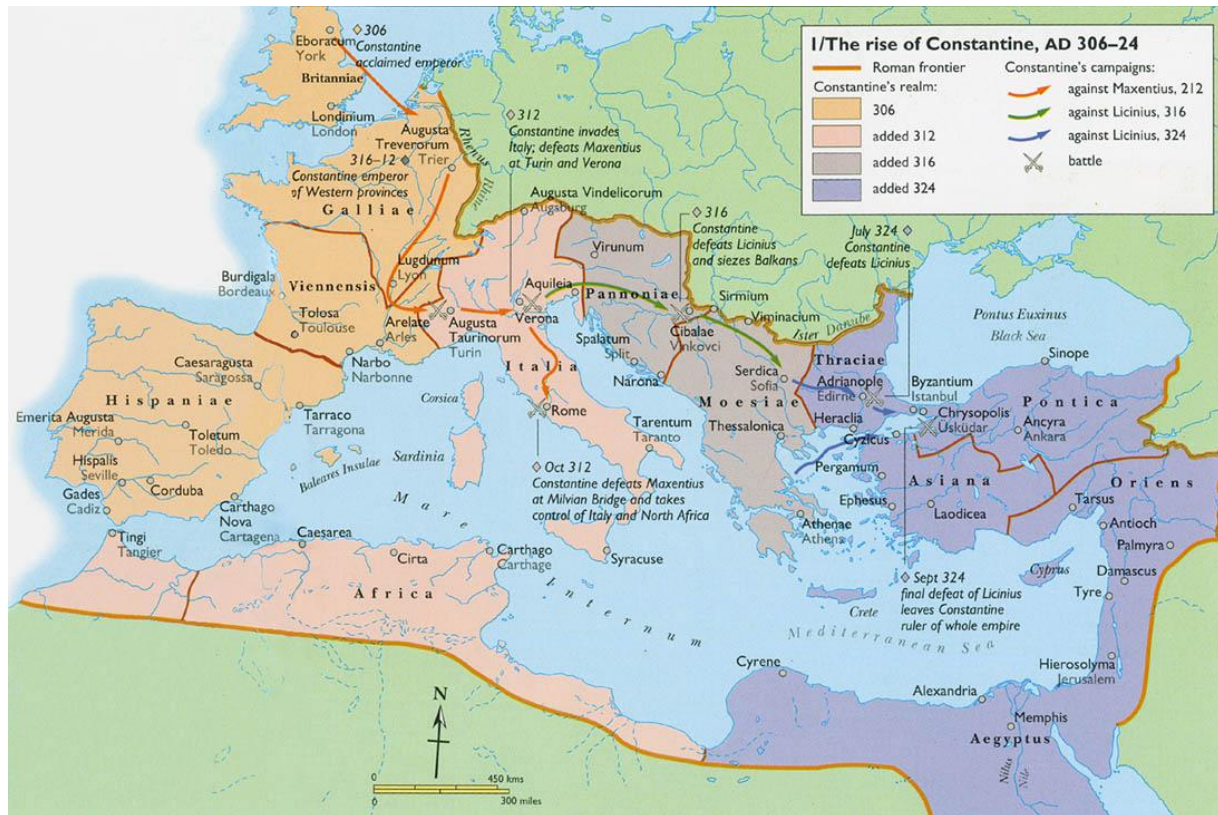
What the Romans Knew

Civil wars (193-285)



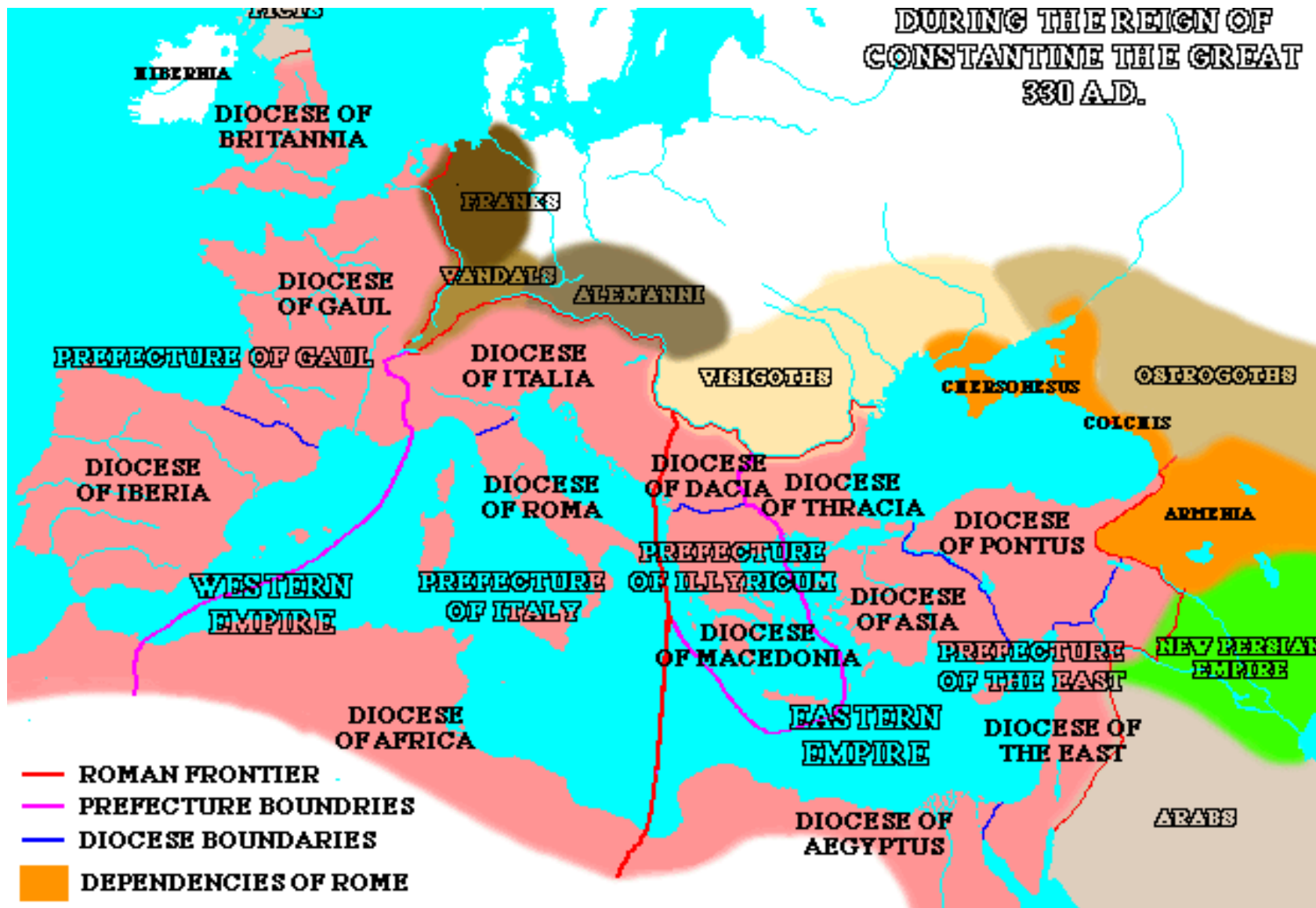
What the Romans knew

- Flavius Constantinus (306–337 AD)
 - Edict of Milan (313) ends persecution of Christians



Constantine and his mother Helena

The Roman empire



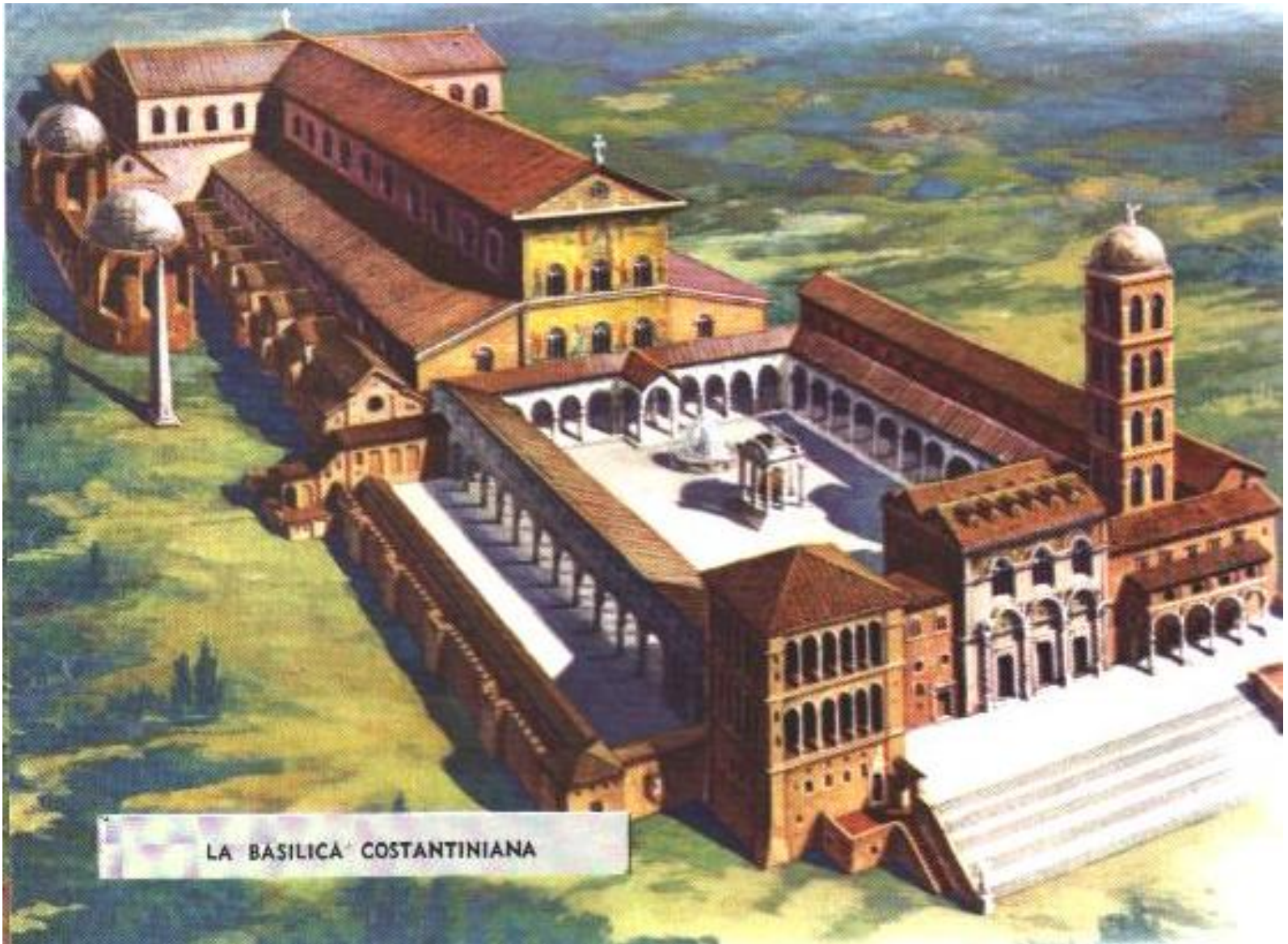
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Ancient Roma



The Palatino

Ancient Roma



LA BASILICA COSTANTINIANA

The Roman Empire

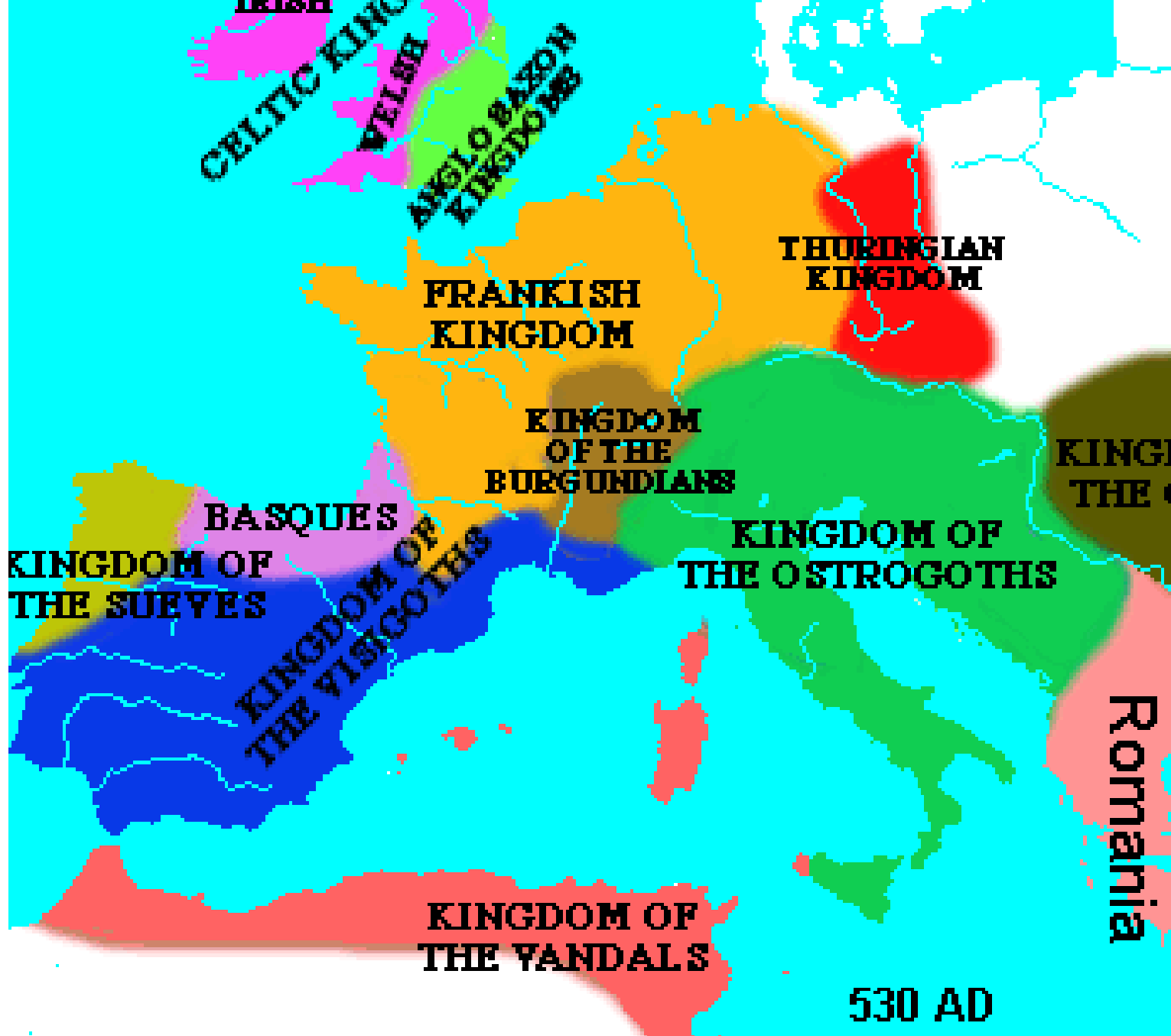
- 380: Theodosius I proclaims Christianity as the sole religion of the Roman Empire
- 393: Theodosius forbids the Olympic Games
- 395: Theodosius divides the Roman empire in the Western and Eastern Empires (Milan and Constantinople)

The Roman empire on the last year before it was split in two



The Roman Empire

- 402: the western empire moves its capital to Ravenna
- 410: the Visigoths sack Rome
- 450: Marcian is the first Roman emperor to be crowned by a religious leader (the patriarch of Constantinople)
- 452: the Huns invade Italy
- 455: the Vandals sack Rome
- 476: Odoacer, a mercenary leader of the Germanic soldiers in the Roman army, deposes the western Roman emperor and thereby terminates the western Roman empire



The Roman Empire

- 529: Eastern Roman emperor Justinian shuts down the Academia of Plato
- 533: Justinian's code of law ("Corpus Juri Civilis")
- 534: Justinian's general Belisarius destroys the Vandals and reconquers southern Spain and northern Africa
- 540: Belisarius reconquers Italy
- 600: Constantinople (Byzantium) has 500,000 inhabitants
- 602: the Persians (Sassanids) attack the eastern Roman empire in Asia Minor
- 627: the Sassanids are defeated
- 636: the Arabs invade the southern provinces
- 800: Charlemagne, king of the Franks, is crowned emperor by Pope Leo III and founds the Holy Roman Empire

Roman empire 800



The Roman Empire

- 509BC-264 BC: Roman republic
- 264BC-49BC: Phoenician and Greek annexions
- 49BC-313: Roman Empire
- 313-406: Christian Rome
- 406-476: Barbarian invasions
- 527-602: Byzantine expansion
- 602-627: Persian wars
- 636-1038: Arab wars
- 1064-1099: Seljuk wars
- 1099-1204: Crusades
- 1204-1261: Latin empire
- 1261-1461: Greek empire

What the Romans knew

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