St. Xavier's school , Purulia (west Bengal)

CLASS-7   SUBJECT- HISTORY/CIVICS   CHAPTER-2   SPREAD OF CHRISTIANITY   DATE-27/5/20

KEY POINT ;

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*The spread of Christianity was a major development during the medieval period.

*The Bible is the holy book of the Christians.

*It has two parts; the old Testament and the New Testament.

*After Jesus died , his teachings were spread by his followers, notably St. John and St. Paul.

* The spread of Christianity in the Roman Empire invited the wrath of the rulers.

* The persecution of the Christians ended in around fourth century CE when Emperor Constantine become the first Roman ruler to embrace Christianity. He took several steps to help spread Christianity. 1. He granted Christians the freedom to worship.   2.He gave important jobs to Christians.   3. He declared Sunday a public holiday so that people could attend church. 4. He also built many churches.

* In 330 CE, Emperor Constantine shifted the capital from Rome to the ancient city of Byzantium.

*The new capital was named Constantinople(modern day Istanbul).

* Constantinople would later become the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire which would be knows as the Byzantine Empire.

* In 391 CE, one of Constantine's successors, Emperor Theodosius, made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire.

* The medieval period in Europe witnessed a number of events such as;- 1.the decline of the ancient Roman Empire, 2.The rise of feudalism. 3. The rise of church as the most important institution. 3.the rise of Islam.   4. The Crusades and so on.

* Around 200 CE the roman Empire began to decline .There were causes for the decline of the Empire such as corrupt rulers, frequent outbreak of civil wars, infighting among soldiers and so on.

* The   final blow came in 476CE when a barbarian chief called Odoacer made himself of Italy.

* As Christianity spread   in Europe , many monasteries were built .These become the residence of monks.

* Some famous Christian monks were St. Francis, St. Benedict and St. Augustine.

ANSWER THE FOLOWING QUESTIONS . (write down in your class work copy

1. Discuss the reasons for the decline of the Roman empire.

ANSWER- The barbarian invasions penetrated deep into the Roman territory and plundered and ravaged it. Even the magnificent city of Rome was not soared. These the magnificent city of Roman was not spared .These tribes gradually settled down and assumed control of the western part of the Roman empire which lead to its decline.

2 . What is Feudalism ? Who were the serfs?

Answer-A system of granting land by a lord to a vassal in return for protection and loyalty. A serf is a worker bound to a certain piece of land who is loyal to a vassal above him, usually called a lord. Serfs are tied to the land they work ,perform the same menial tasks each day, and receive little or no benefit for their labour.

3. Write two points to show that monasteries played an important role in medieval Europe.

Answer-The monasteries played an important role in medieval Europe are-

1. Monasteries were centres from which Christianity spread to other regions .Monks travelled far and wide to spread the message of Jesus Christ. Gradually, many people accepted Christianity.

2.Monasteries served people .They were guided by the motto-'service to society'. The monks grew herbs in the monastery gardens and used them to treat people who were sick. Their real to serve people by tending the sick and giving food and shelter to tired travellers was widely appreciated. This helped to spread Christianity further.

4.How did the Emperor Constantine help to spread Christianity?

Answer- The persecution of the Christianity ended in around fourth century CE when Emperor Constantine became the first Roman ruler to embrace Christianity. He took several steps to help spread Christianity.

a. He granted Christianity the freedom to worship .
b. He gave important jobs to Christians.
c. He declared Sunday a public holiday so that people could attend church.
d. He also built many churches.

HOME WORK- A. Fill in the blanks .Textbook page no-15 (write down in your class work copy)