

CHURCH HISTORY LITERACY

Constantine – Part One

Lesson 18

Biblical-Literacy.com

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Constantine the Great



Constantine the Great



“No ruler in all of history has ever more fully merited his title of ‘the Great’ than Constantine.”

Lord John Norwich

Constantine the Great



The fourth most influential man in human history behind Christ, the Buddha and Mohammed

Lord John Norwich

Made Constantinople Capital





Made Christianity the state religion



Julian Line



Julian Line



Julius Caesar

Julian Line

Julius Caesar

Caesar Augustus
31 BC - 14 AD

Julian Line

Julius Caesar

Caesar Augustus
31 BC - 14 AD

“In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.”
Lk 2:1

Julian Line

Julius Caesar

Caesar Augustus
31 BC - 14 AD

Tiberius Caesar
14 - 37 AD

Julian Line

Julius Caesar

Caesar Augustus
31 BC - 14 AD

Tiberius Caesar
14 - 37 AD

“In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar -- when Pontus Pilate was governor of Judea... He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” Lk 3:1

Julian Line

Julius Caesar

Caesar Augustus
31 BC - 14 AD

Tiberius Caesar
14 - 37 AD

Caligula Caesar
37 - 41 AD

Julian Line

Julius Caesar

Caesar Augustus
31 BC - 14 AD

Tiberius Caesar
14 - 37 AD

Caligula Caesar
37 - 41 AD

Claudius Caesar
41 - 54 AD

“There he met a Jew named Aquila ... who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome.” Acts 18:2

Julian Line

Julius Caesar

Caesar Augustus
31 BC - 14 AD

Tiberius Caesar
14 - 37 AD

Caligula Caesar
37 - 41 AD

Claudius Caesar
41 - 54 AD

Nero Caesar
54 - 68 AD

Julian Line

Julius Caesar

Caesar Augustus
31 BC - 14 AD

Tiberius Caesar
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Caligula Caesar
37 - 41 AD

Claudius Caesar
41 - 54 AD

Nero Caesar
54 - 68 AD

Flavian Line

Julian Line

Julius Caesar

Caesar Augustus
31 BC - 14 AD

Tiberius Caesar
14 - 37 AD

Caligula Caesar
37 - 41 AD

Claudius Caesar
41 - 54 AD

Nero Caesar
54 - 68 AD

Flavian Line

Vespasian
69 - 79 AD

Julian Line

Julius Caesar

Caesar Augustus
31 BC - 14 AD

Tiberius Caesar
14 - 37 AD

Caligula Caesar
37 - 41 AD

Claudius Caesar
41 - 54 AD

Nero Caesar
54 - 68 AD

Flavian Line

Vespasian
69 - 79 AD

Titus 79 - 81 AD

Julian Line

Julius Caesar

Caesar Augustus
31 BC - 14 AD

Tiberius Caesar
14 - 37 AD

Caligula Caesar
37 - 41 AD

Claudius Caesar
41 - 54 AD

Nero Caesar
54 - 68 AD

Flavian Line

Vespasian
69 - 79 AD

Titus 79 - 81 AD

Domitian
81 - 96 AD

Golden Age



Golden Age

Nerva 96 - 98



Golden Age

Nerva 96 - 98

Trajan 98 - 117

Golden Age

Nerva 96 - 98

Trajan 98 - 117

Hadrian 117 - 135

Golden Age

Nerva 96 - 98

Trajan 98 - 117

Hadrian 117 - 135

Antoninus Pius
135 - 161

Golden Age

Nerva 96 - 98

Trajan 98 - 117

Hadrian 117 - 135

Antoninus Pius
135 - 161

Marcus Aurelius
161 - 180

Golden Age

Nerva 96 - 98

Trajan 98 - 117

Hadrian 117 - 135

Antoninus Pius
135 - 161

Marcus Aurelius
161 - 180

Commodus
180 - 192

Golden Age

Nerva 96 - 98

Trajan 98 - 117

Hadrian 117 - 135

Antoninus Pius
135 - 161

Marcus Aurelius
161 - 180

Commodus
180 - 192

Severian Emperors
193 - 235

Golden Age

Nerva 96 - 98

Trajan 98 - 117

Hadrian 117 - 135

Antoninus Pius
135 - 161

Marcus Aurelius
161 - 180

Commodus
180 - 192

Severian Emperors
193 - 235

25 Barrack
Emperors 235 - 284

Golden Age

Nerva 96 - 98

Trajan 98 - 117

Hadrian 117 - 135

Antoninus Pius
135 - 161

Marcus Aurelius
161 - 180

Commodus
180 - 192

Severian Emperors
193 - 235

25 Barrack
Emperors 235 - 284

Diocletian
284 -

Empire Problems under Diocletian

Empire Problems under Diocletian



Empire Problems under Diocletian



- Out of control inflation

Empire Problems under Diocletian



- Out of control inflation
- Military Overextended

Empire Problems under Diocletian



- Out of control inflation
- Military Overextended
- Massive bureaucracy

Empire Problems under Diocletian



- Out of control inflation
- Military Overextended
- Massive bureaucracy
- Deep class divisions

Diocletian's Solutions

Diocletian's Solutions

First:
Reorganize
the Empire

Diocletian's Solutions

First:
Reorganize
the Empire

Second:
Deal with the
Church

Reorganizing the Empire

Jr. Caesar
Constantius



Western Empire



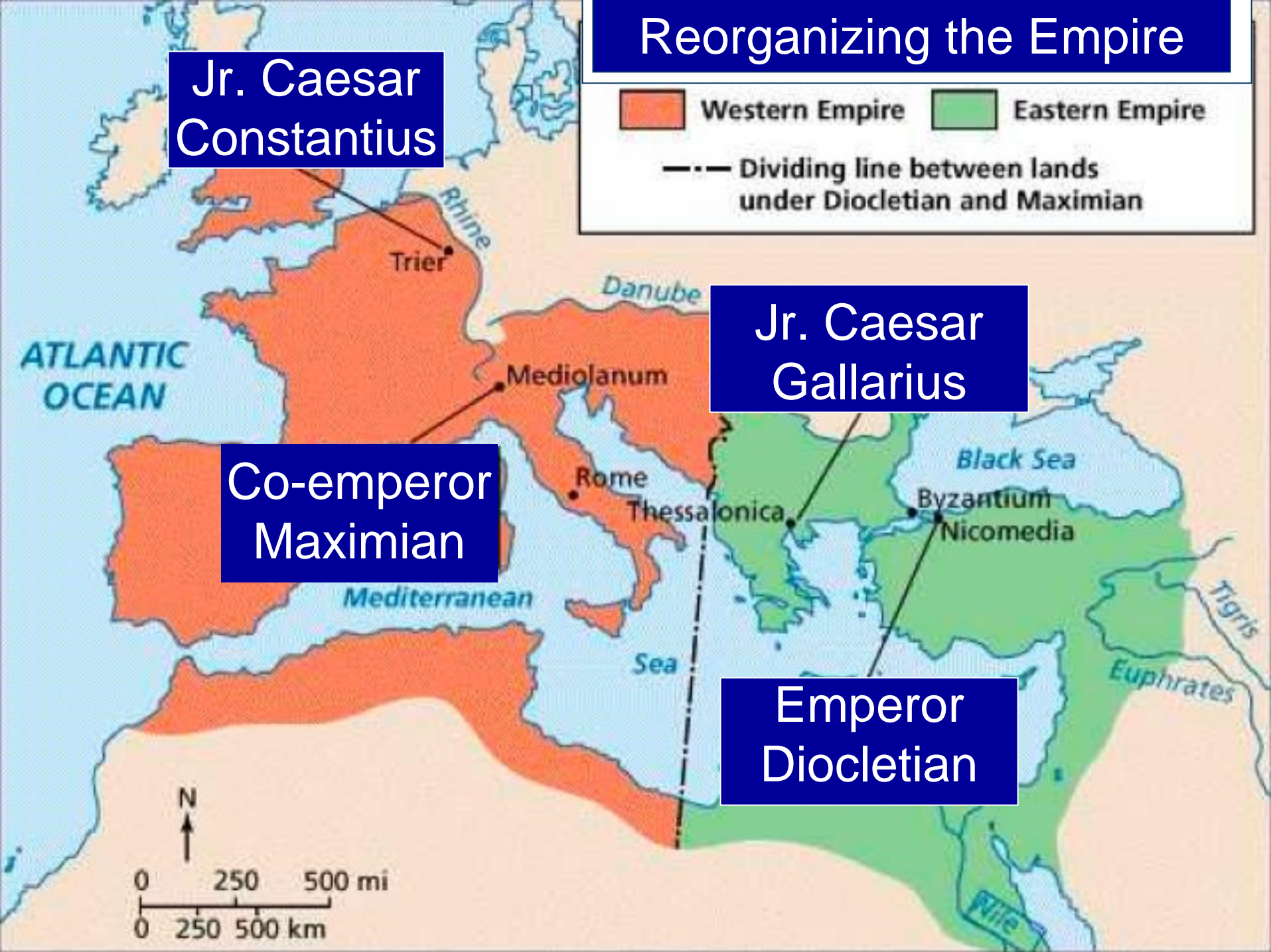
Eastern Empire

--- Dividing line between lands
under Diocletian and Maximian

Jr. Caesar
Gallarius

Co-emperor
Maximian

Emperor
Diocletian



Reorganizing the Empire

Jr. Caesar
Constantius

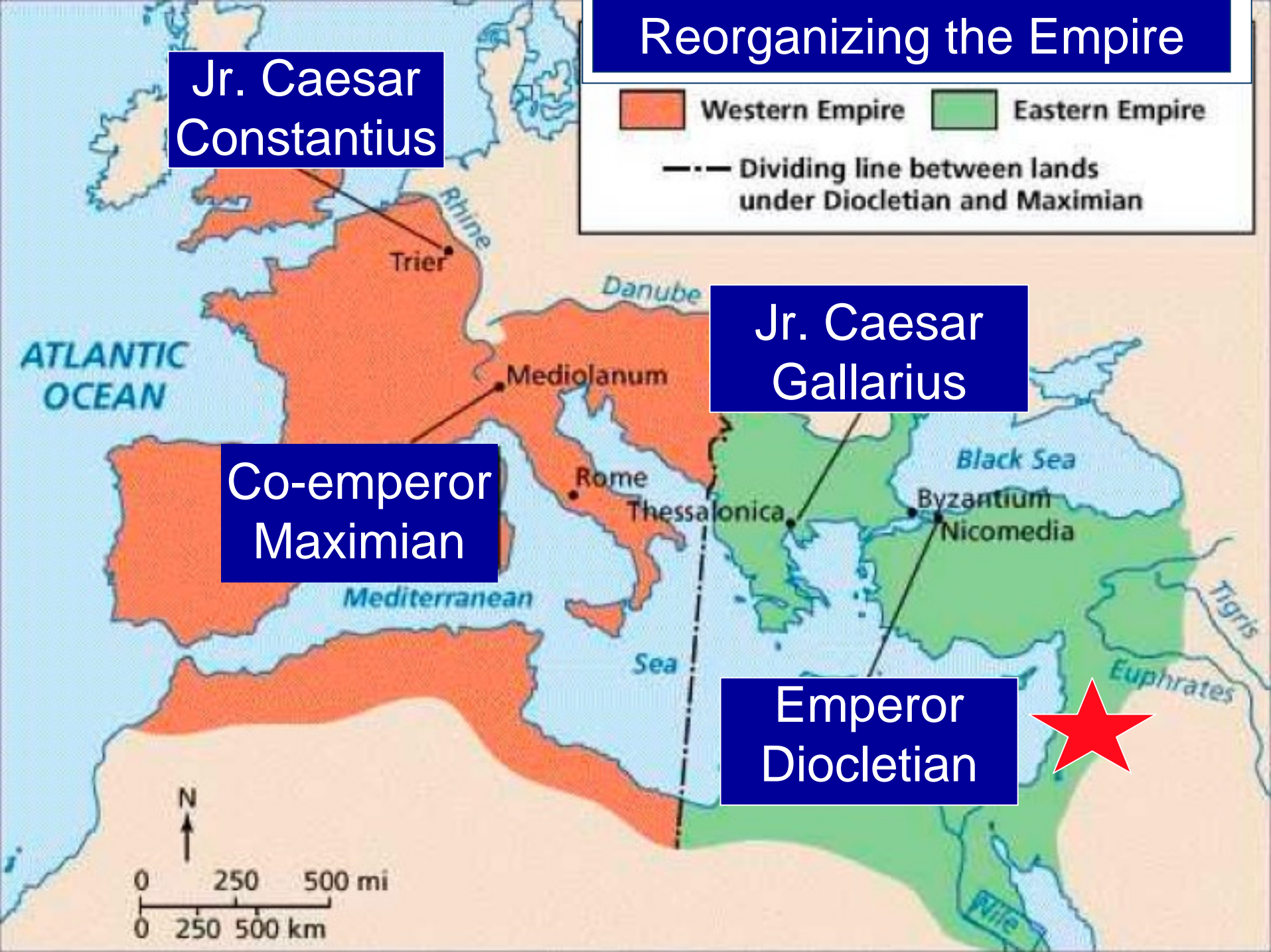
Western Empire Eastern Empire

--- Dividing line between lands
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Jr. Caesar
Gallarius

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Reorganizing the Empire

Jr. Caesar
Constantius



Western Empire



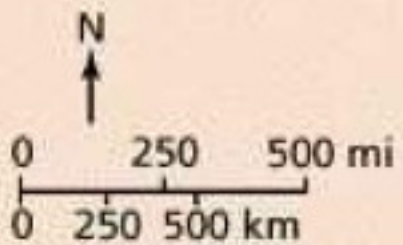
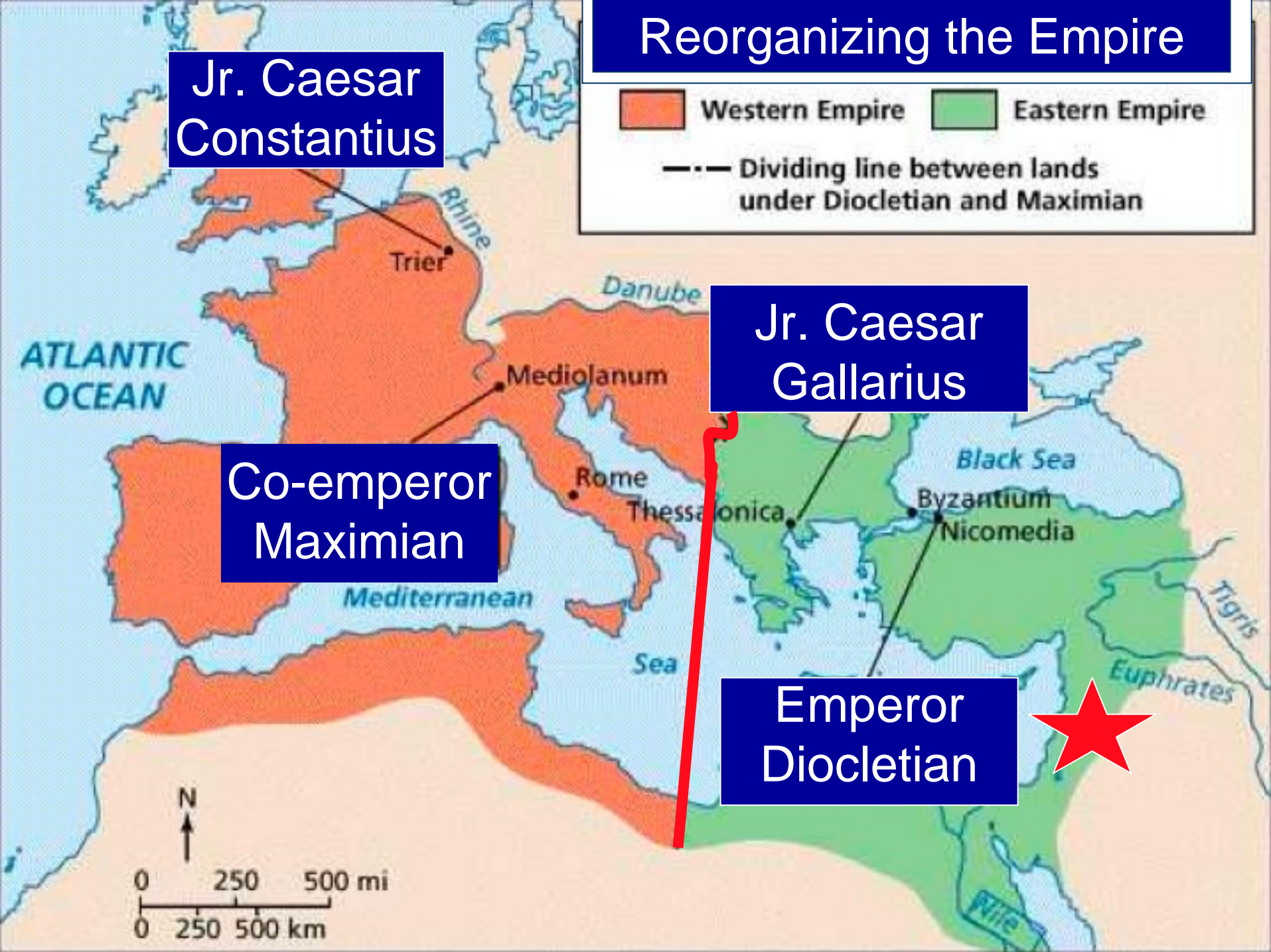
Eastern Empire

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Gallarius

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Maximian

Emperor
Diocletian



Reorganizing the Empire



Western Empire



Eastern Empire

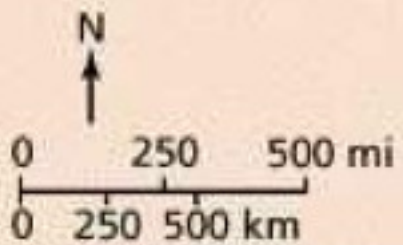
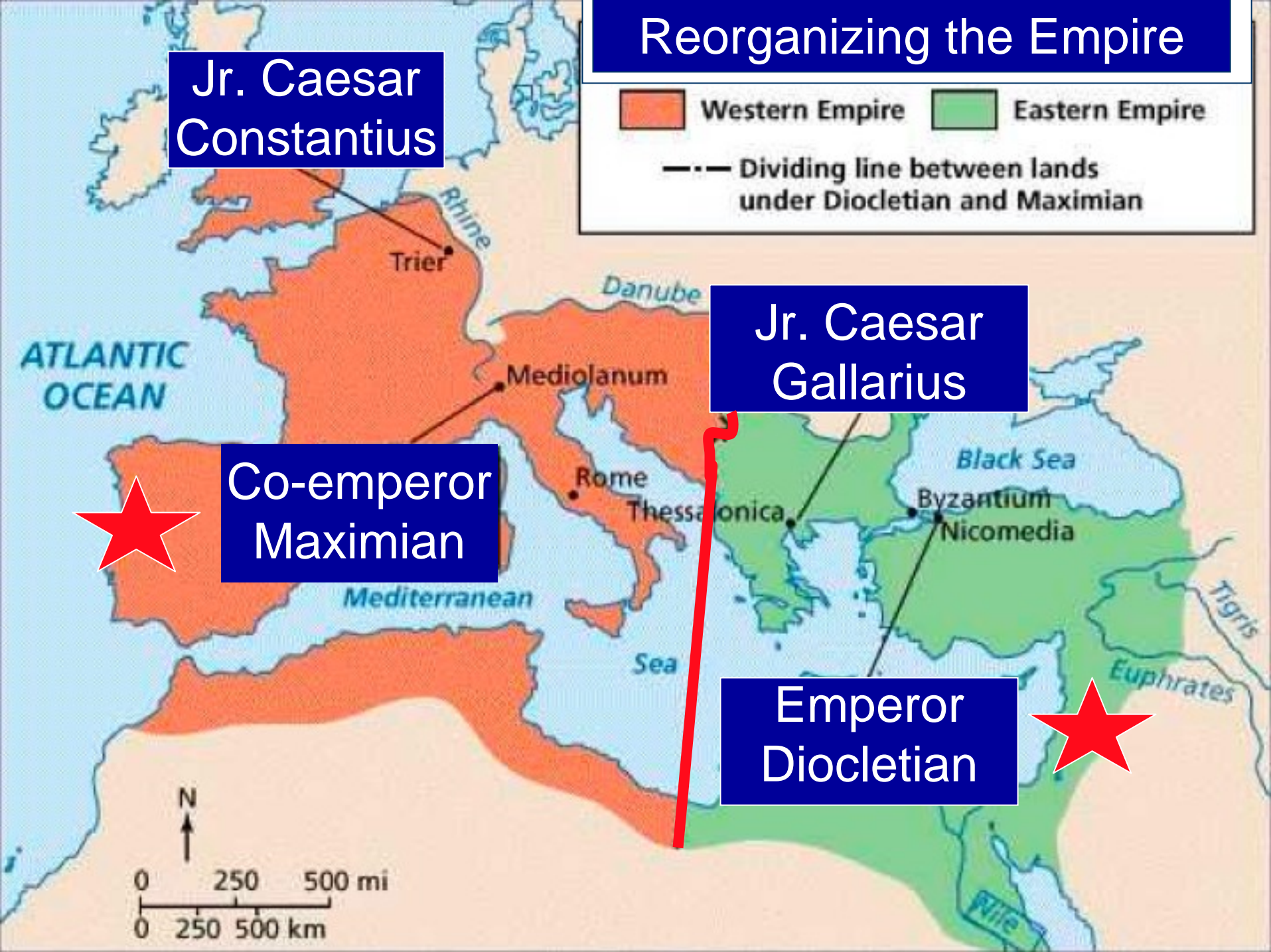
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Constantius

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Gallarius

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Maximian

Emperor
Diocletian



Reorganizing the Empire



Western Empire



Eastern Empire

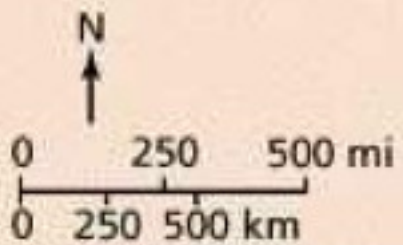
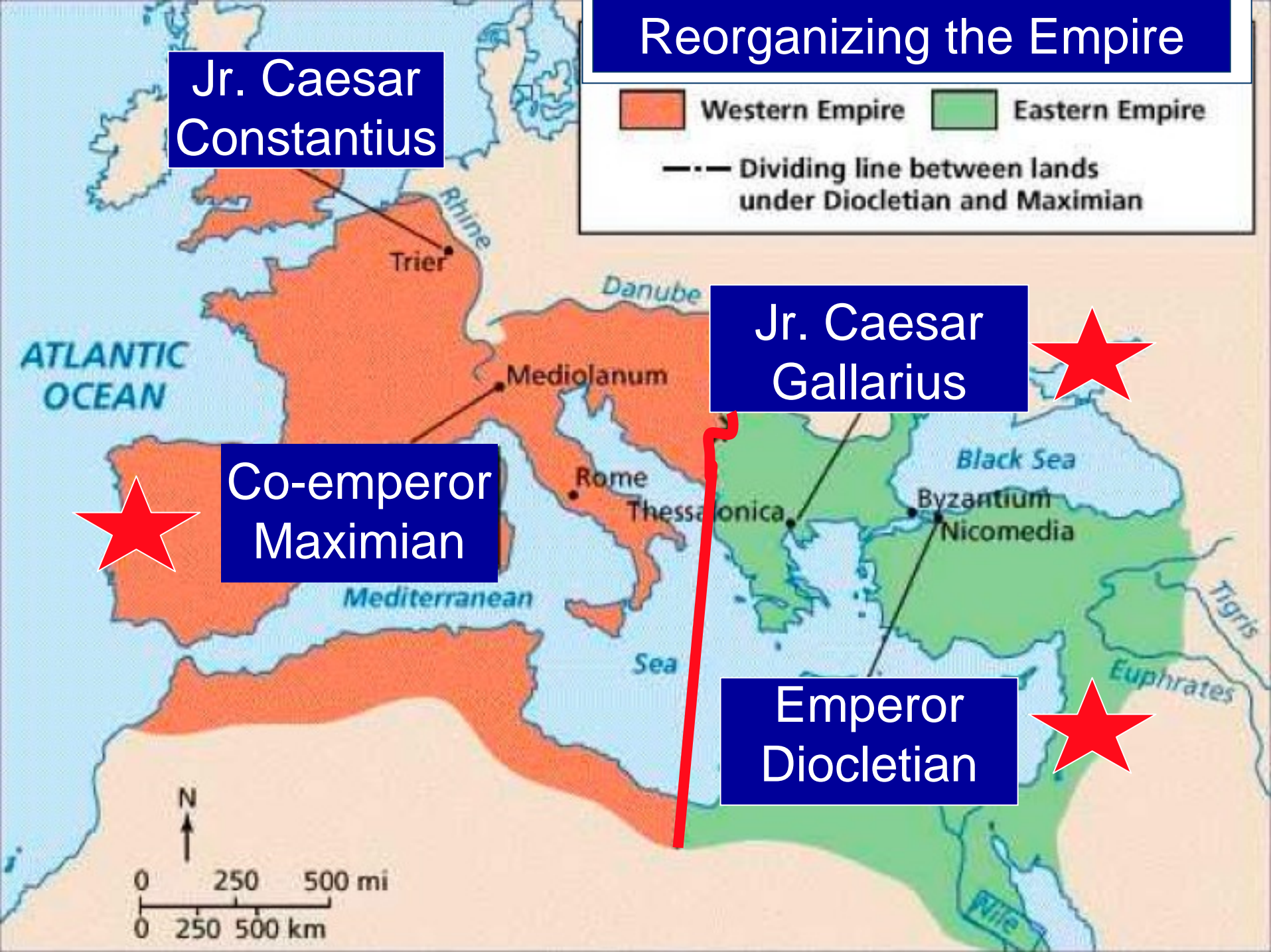
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Constantius

Jr. Caesar
Gallarius

Co-emperor
Maximian

Emperor
Diocletian



Reorganizing the Empire



Western Empire



Eastern Empire

--- Dividing line between lands under Diocletian and Maximian

Jr. Caesar
Constantius



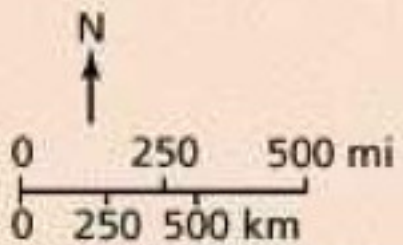
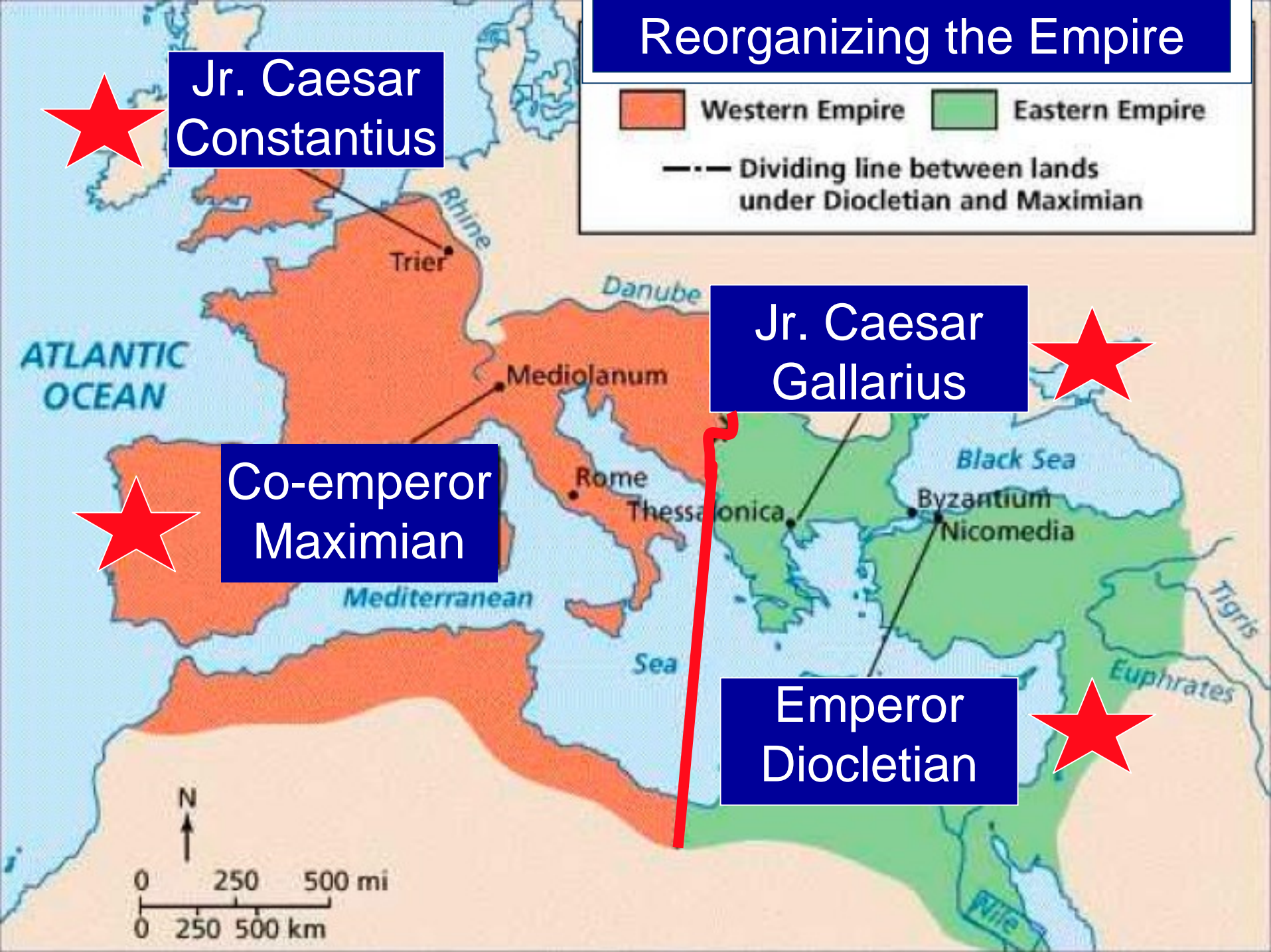
Jr. Caesar
Gallarius



Co-emperor
Maximian



Emperor
Diocletian



Dealing with the church

Dealing with the church



Arrest Bishops

Dealing with the church



Arrest Bishops



Destroy
Churches

Dealing with the church



Burn Scriptures

Reorganizing the Empire

Jr. Caesar
Constantius



Western Empire



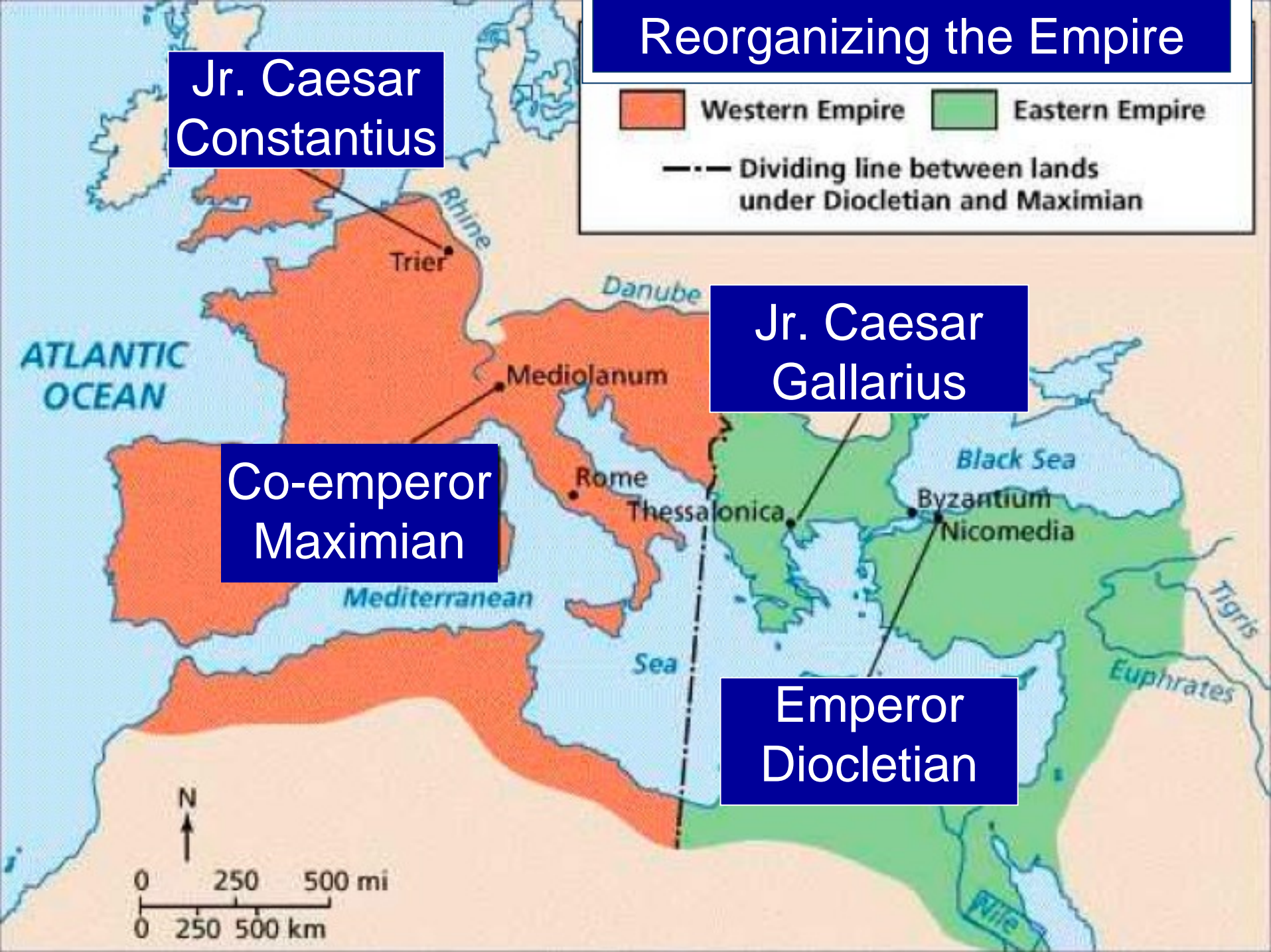
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Gallarius

Co-emperor
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Emperor
Diocletian



Reorganizing the Empire

Jr. Caesar
Constantius



Western Empire



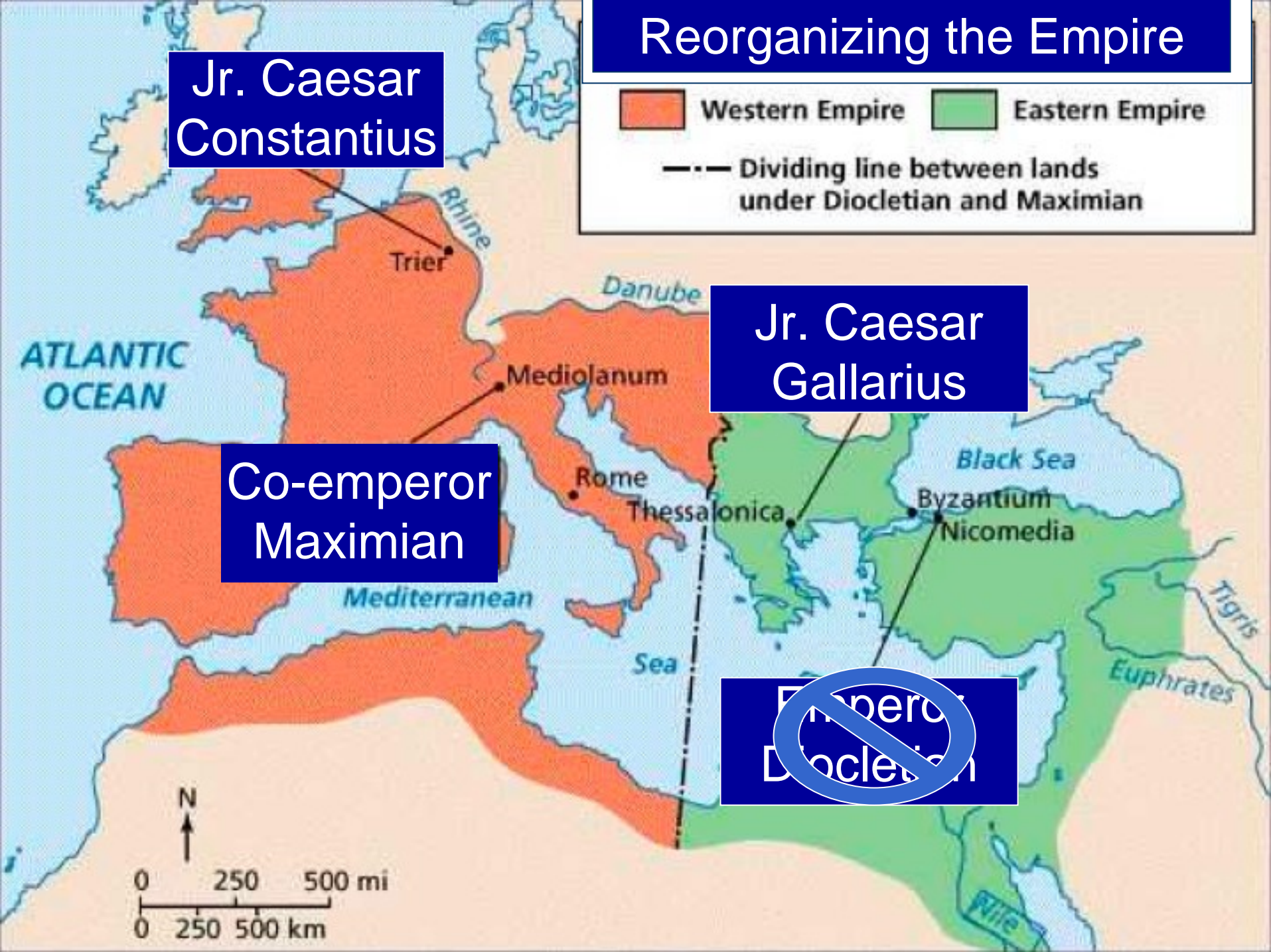
Eastern Empire

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under Diocletian and Maximian

Jr. Caesar
Gallarius

Co-emperor
Maximian

~~Emperor
Diocletian~~



Reorganizing the Empire

Jr. Caesar
Constantius

Western Empire Eastern Empire

--- Dividing line between lands
under Diocletian and Maximian

Jr. Caesar
Gallarius

~~Co-emperor
Maximian~~

~~Emperor
Diocletian~~

ATLANTIC
OCEAN

Trier

Rhine

Danube

Mediolanum

Rome

Thessalonica

Black Sea

Byzantium

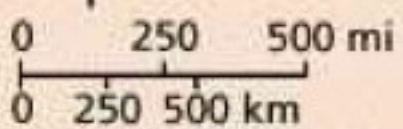
Nicomedia

Mediterranean

Sea

Tigris

Euphrates



Reorganizing the Empire

Jr. Caesar
Constantius



Western Empire



Eastern Empire

--- Dividing line between lands
under Diocletian and Maximian

Emperor
Gallarius

Gallarius

~~Emperor
Maximian~~

~~Emperor
Diocletian~~

ATLANTIC
OCEAN

Trier

Rhine

Danube

Mediolanum

Rome

Thessalonica

Black Sea

Byzantium

Nicomedia

Mediterranean

Sea

Tigris

Euphrates



0 250 500 mi
0 250 500 km

Reorganizing the Empire

Emperor

Constantius



Western Empire



Eastern Empire

--- Dividing line between lands under Diocletian and Maximian

Emperor

Gallarius

~~Emperor
Maximian~~

~~Emperor
Diocletian~~

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Trier

Rhine

Danube

Mediolanum

Rome

Thessalonica

Black Sea

Byzantium

Nicomedia

Mediterranean

Sea

Tigris

Euphrates



0 250 500 mi
0 250 500 km

Reorganizing the Empire



Western Empire



Eastern Empire

--- Dividing line between lands under Diocletian and Maximian

Emperor

Constantius

Emperor

Gallarius

~~Co-emperor
Maximian~~

New Junior

~~Emperor
Diocletian~~

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Trier

Rhine

Danube

Mediolanum

Rome

Thessalonica

Black Sea

Byzantium

Nicomedia

Mediterranean

Sea

Tigris

Euphrates

Nile



0 250 500 mi
0 250 500 km

Reorganizing the Empire



Western Empire



Eastern Empire

--- Dividing line between lands under Diocletian and Maximian

Emperor

Constantius

Emperor

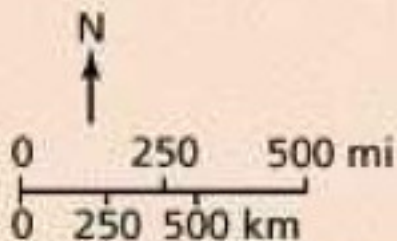
Gallarius

~~Co-emperor
Maximian~~

New Junior

New Junior

~~Emperor
Diocletian~~



Reorganizing the Empire



Western Empire



Eastern Empire

--- Dividing line between lands under Diocletian and Maximian

Emperor

Constantius

Emperor

Gallarius

Co-Emperor
Maximian

New Junior

New Junior

Emperor
Diocletian

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Rhine
Trier

Danube

Mediolanum

Rome

Thessalonica

Black Sea

Byzantium

Nicomedia

Mediterranean

Sea

Tigris

Apurates

Nile



0 250 500 mi
0 250 500 km

Reorganizing the Empire



Western Empire



Eastern Empire

--- Dividing line between lands under Diocletian and Maximian

~~Emperor~~

~~Constantine~~

Constantine

Emperor

Gallarius

~~Co-emperor~~

~~Maximian~~

New Junior

New Junior

~~Emperor~~
~~Diocletian~~

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Rhine
River

Danube

Mediolanum

Rome

Thessalonica

Black Sea

Byzantium

Nicomedia

Mediterranean

Sea

Tigris

Apurates

Nile



0 250 500 mi
0 250 500 km

Milvian Bridge 312 AD



The Vision

The Vision

EN TONTO MIKA



The Vision





Constantine conquers Rome



Constantine gives the Lateran Palace And builds the basilica



Constantine gives the Lateran Palace And builds the basilica



Constantine gives the Lateran
Palace And builds the basilica

313 Edict of Milan

I, CONSTANTINE...GRANT
BOTH TO THE CHRISTIANS
AND TO ALL THE FREE
CHOICE OF FOLLOWING
WHATEVER FORM OF
WORSHIP THEY PLEASE.

EDICT OF MILAN

Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

313 Edict of Milan

I, CONSTANTINE...GRANT
BOTH TO THE CHRISTIANS

Full restoration of
Church property

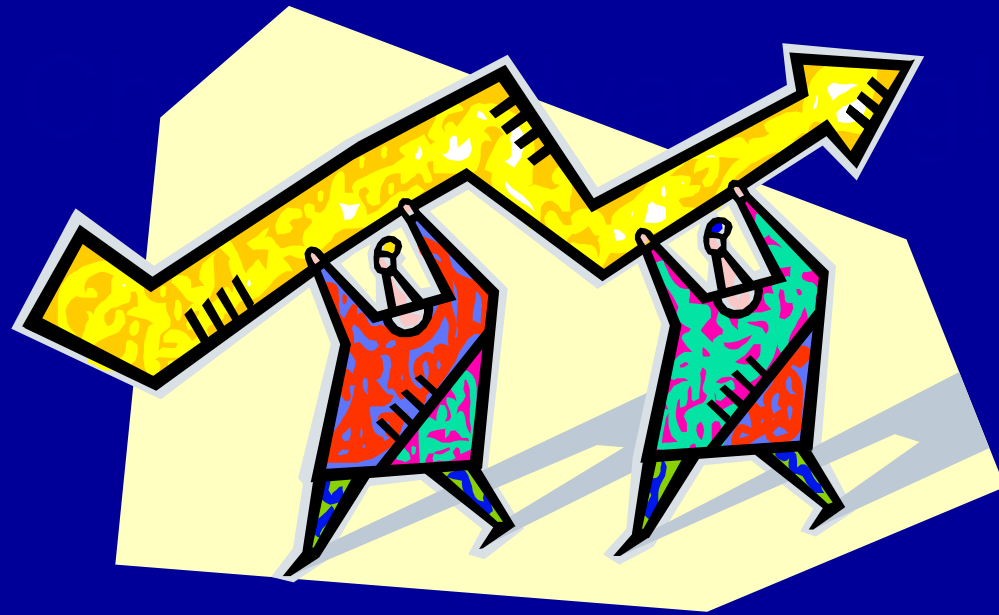
WHATSOEVER FORM OF
WORSHIP THEY PLEASE.

EDICT OF MILAN

Eusebius, *Ecclesiastical History*



What do we
do with
these guys?



Going up with Christ!



Canceled
Sunday
Commerce

Points for Home

1. Earthly Kingdoms come and go. “The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of God lives forever.” Is 40:8

Points for Home

1. Earthly Kingdoms come and go. “The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of God lives forever.” Is 40:8
2. God does NOT rely on Kings. He works through them. “The authorities that exist have been established by God.” Rom 13:2

Points for Home

3. Watch out for the convenient Christian!
“Not everyone who says to me ‘Lord Lord’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.” (Mt. 7:21)

Points for Home

3. Watch out for the convenient Christian!
“Not everyone who says to me ‘Lord Lord’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.” (Mt. 7:21)
4. How will people see our lives?