

CHURCH HISTORY LITERACY

Constantine #2 and The Council of Nicea

Lesson 19

Biblical-Literacy.com

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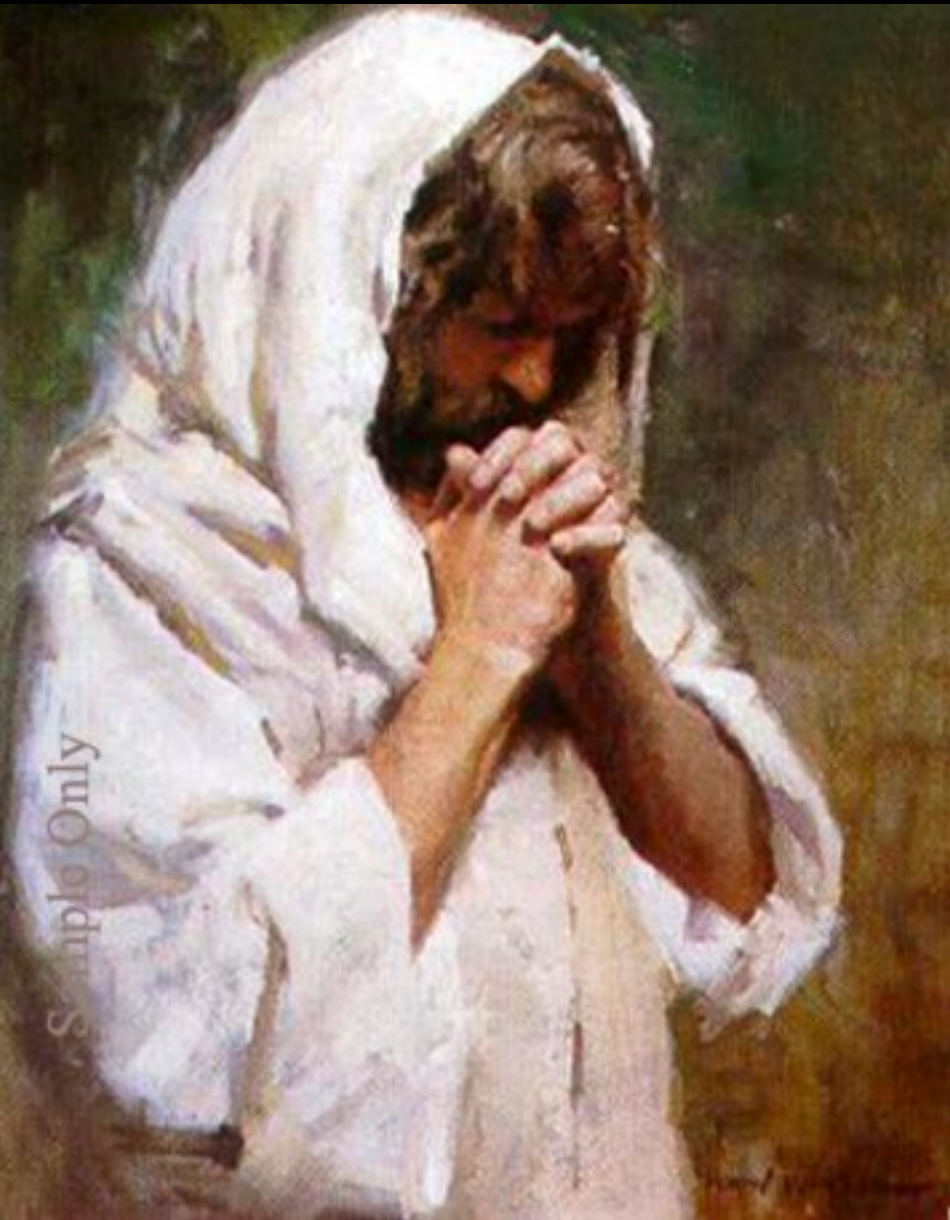
A still from a film showing Jesus on the left, with long brown hair and a beard, wearing a white robe. He is looking towards a group of men on the right. The men are dressed in traditional Middle Eastern attire, including various colored head coverings and robes. The background is slightly blurred, showing an outdoor setting with a stone wall.

Who do you say that I am?

A scene from a film depicting Jesus with a group of men in a crowd. Jesus is on the left, looking towards the right. The men are dressed in traditional Middle Eastern attire, including head coverings and robes. The background shows a crowd of people in a public setting.

Who do you say that I am?

**“You are the Christ, the Son of
the Living God”**



“This is eternal
life: that they
may know ...
Jesus Christ”





What does it
mean that
Jesus is the
Son of God?





Jehovah's Witnesses

WATCHTOWER

Official Web Site of Jehovah's Witnesses

"Happy are those conscious of their spiritual need."—Matthew 5:3



How Should We Pray?

Throughout the world many methods of approaching God are used by different religions. But is there a right and a wrong way to pray?

Article Available in ...

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- Franglais
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Additional Features



How to Find a Job and Keep It

In today's highly competitive job market, unemployment is a major problem. What steps can you take to find a job and keep it?



Can We Grow Enough Food?

Without food crops mankind would starve. Science has done much to enhance this vital resource. But has it done more harm than good?



Have you ever wondered . . .

How should a husband treat his wife?

Drug Abuse—There Is a Solution!

Knowing the solution to man's problems has given many the motivation and courage to break free from drug addiction.

Information in 265 Languages

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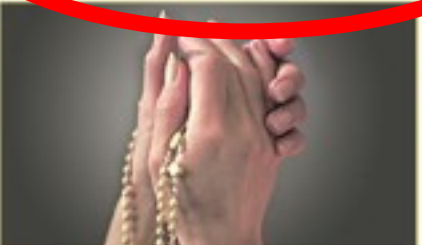
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Beliefs and Activities

Jehovah's Witnesses—What Do They Believe?

The very existence of the intricately designed wonders in the universe surrounding us reasonably argues that a supremely intelligent and powerful Creator produced it all.

Why Does God Allow Us to Suffer?

Finding a satisfying and truthful answer to this puzzling question is vital for our peace of mind and our relationship with God.

Does the Bible Have a Hidden Code?

Should a hidden code be the basis for believing that the Bible is inspired of God?

Child Molesting—You Can Protect Your Child

In this degenerating world, we must take definite steps to protect our children from sexual molestation.

Jesus' Miracles—History or Myth?

The Bible claims that Jesus' miracles were a manifestation of "the majestic power of God." Would such works be impossible for an almighty God?

2005 Worldwide Report

Magazines

- ▶ How to Solve Problems Peacefully
 - ▶ Mankind's Problems Soon to End!
 - ▶ Heed the Warning!
 - ▶ God Does Answer Prayers
- [More](#)

From Our Brochures

- ▶ God's Purpose Soon to Be Realized
- ▶ The God of the Bible
- ▶ Jehovah's Witnesses—Ways They Use to Share the Good News
- ▶ Family Life That Pleases God

Would you welcome a free home Bible study?

Bible Online

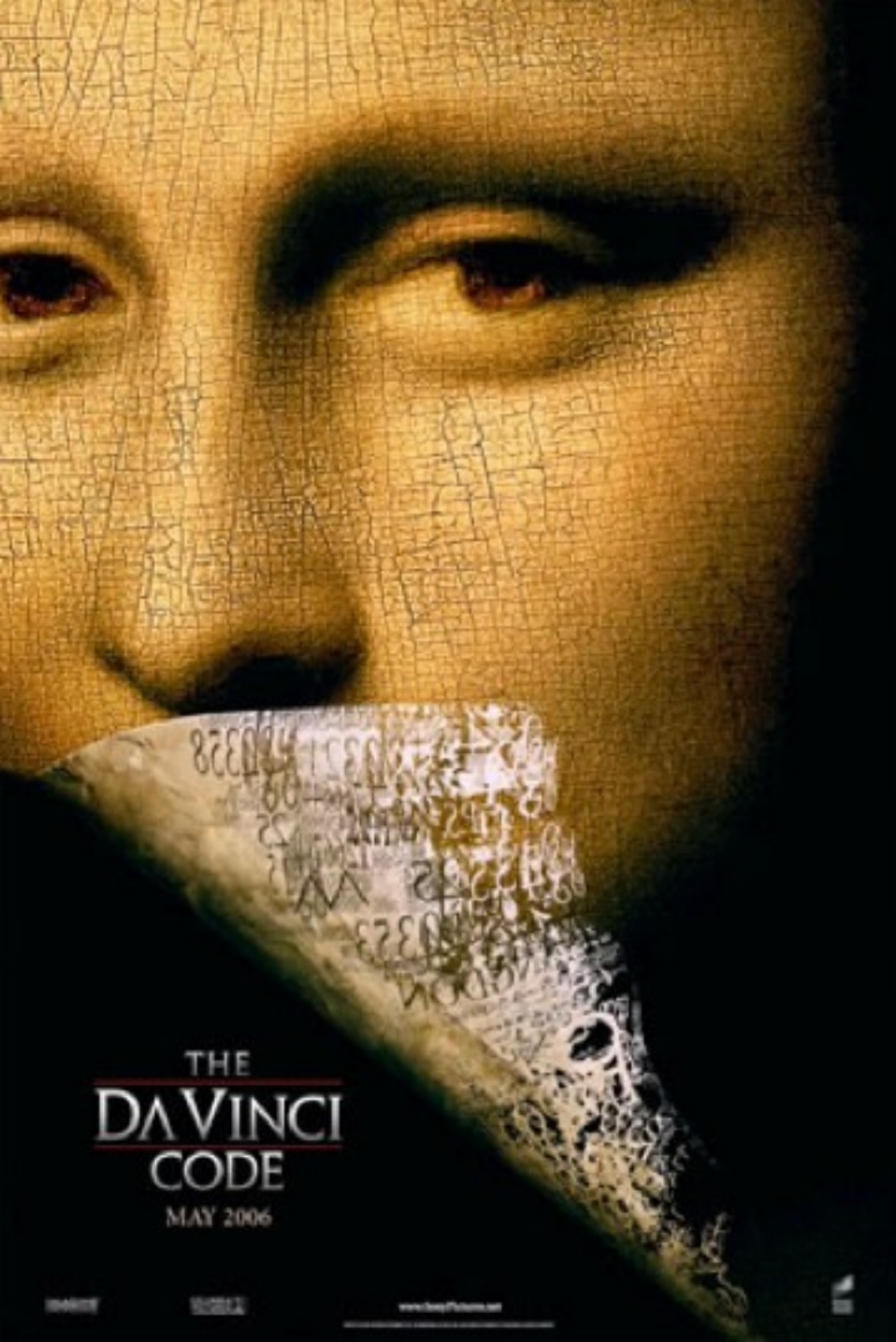


[Read the Bible Online](#)

Col 1:15 - "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all Creation." Father is greater than I am."

- Table of Contents
 - Who Are They?
 - Their Message
 - Growth
 - What Do They Believe?
 - The Good News
 - to Hear
 - Ways They Use to Share the Good News
 - Practical Ways to Live as Witnesses to Your Community
 - Their Work
 - Work
 - Questions Often Asked by Interested People
 - Our Invitation to You
- Print Page

God's name is Jehovah	Ps. 83:18 ; Isa. 26:4 ; 42:8 , AS; Ex. 6:3
Christ is God's Son and is inferior to Him	Matt. 3:17 ; John 8:42 ; 14:28 ; 20:17 ; 1 Cor. 11:3 ; 15:28
Christ was first of God's creations	Col. 1:15 ; Rev. 3:14
Christ died on a stake, not a cross	Gal. 3:13 ; Acts 5:30
Christ's human life was paid as a ransom for obedient humans	Matt. 20:28 ; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6 ; 1 Pet. 2:24
Christ's one sacrifice was sufficient	Rom. 6:10 ; Heb. 9:25-28
Christ was raised from the dead as an immortal spirit person	1 Pet. 3:18 ; Rom. 6:9 ; Rev. 1:17, 18
Christ's presence is in spirit	John 14:19 ; Matt. 24:3 ; 2 Cor. 5:16 ; Ps. 110:1, 2
We are now in the 'time of the end'	Matt. 24:3-14 ; 2 Tim. 3:1-5 ; Luke 17:26-30
Kingdom under Christ will rule earth in righteousness and peace	Isa. 9:6, 7 ; 11:1-5 ; Dan. 7:13, 14 ; Matt. 6:10
Kingdom will bring ideal living conditions to earth	Ps. 72:1-4 ; Rev. 7:9, 10, 13-17 ; 21:3, 4
Earth will never be destroyed or depopulated	Eccl. 1:4 ; Isa. 45:18 ; Ps. 78:69



Before the Council of Nicea, “Jesus was viewed by his followers as a mortal prophet ... a great and powerful man, but a man nonetheless.”

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Church History Literacy
Council of Nicea
(Constantine Part 2)

Reorganizing the Empire

Jr. Caesar
Constantius



Western Empire



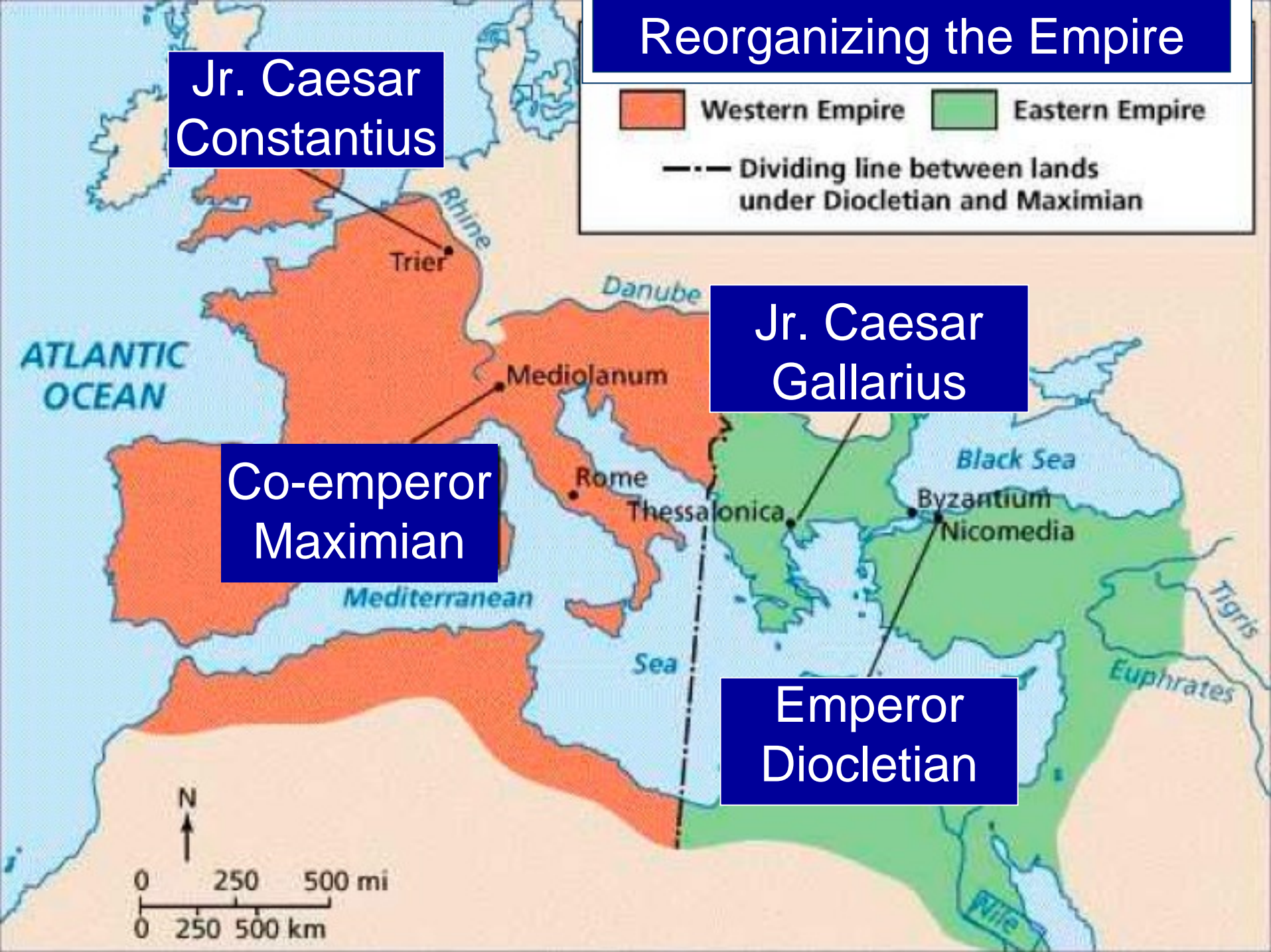
Eastern Empire

--- Dividing line between lands
under Diocletian and Maximian

Jr. Caesar
Gallarius

Co-emperor
Maximian

Emperor
Diocletian



Reorganizing the Empire

Jr. Caesar
Constantius

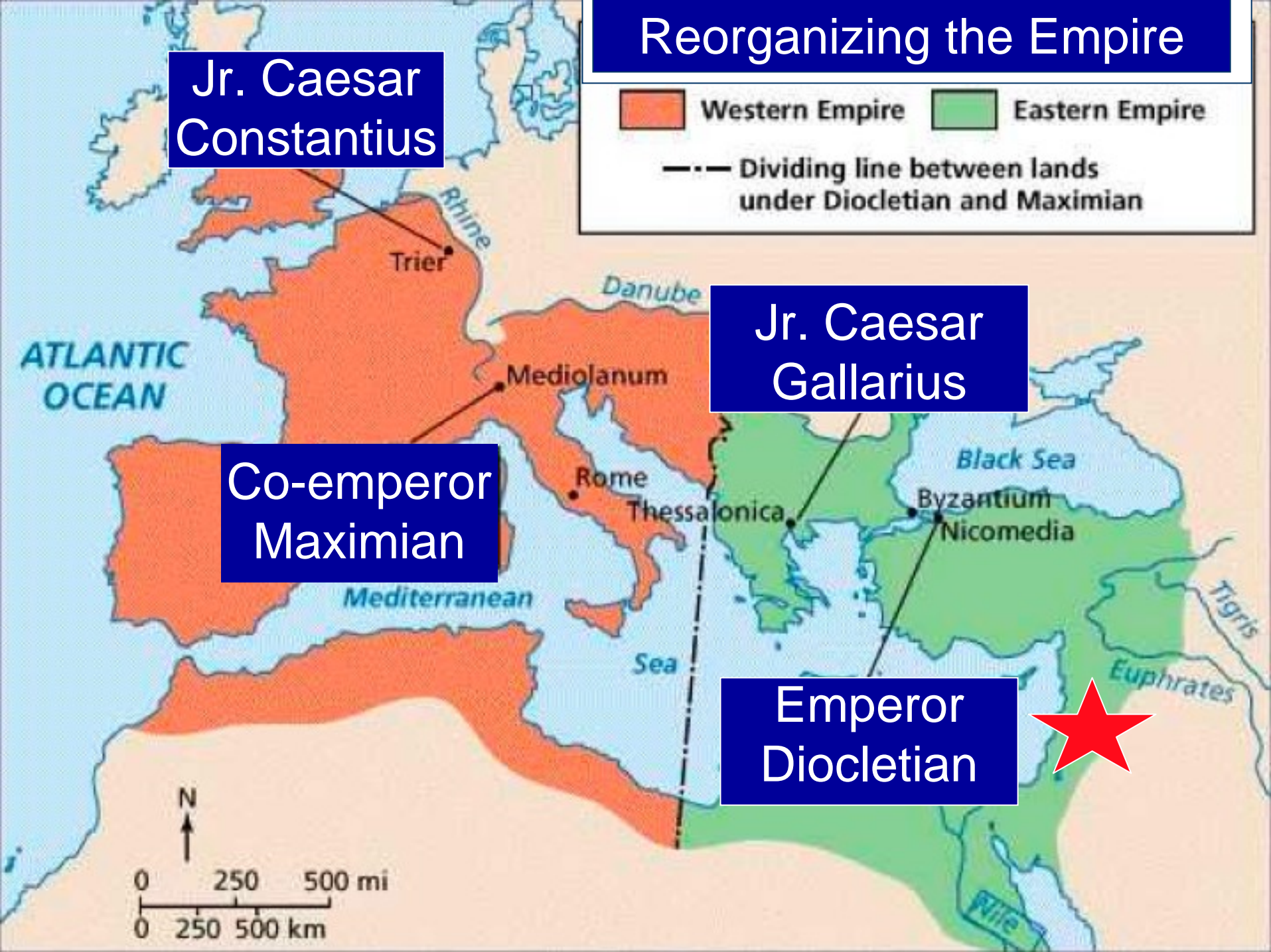
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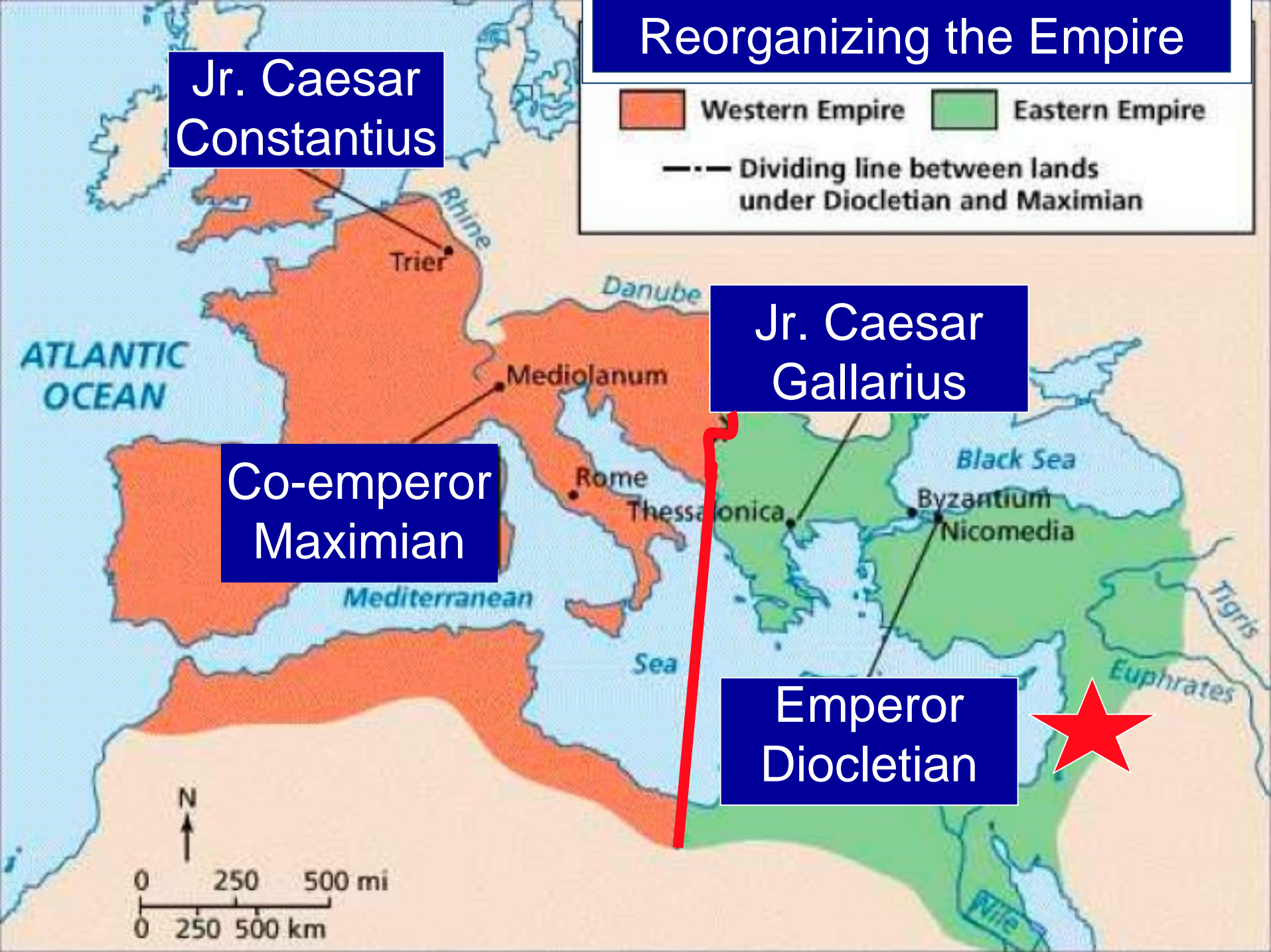
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Reorganizing the Empire



Western Empire



Eastern Empire

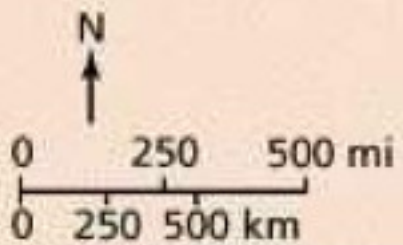
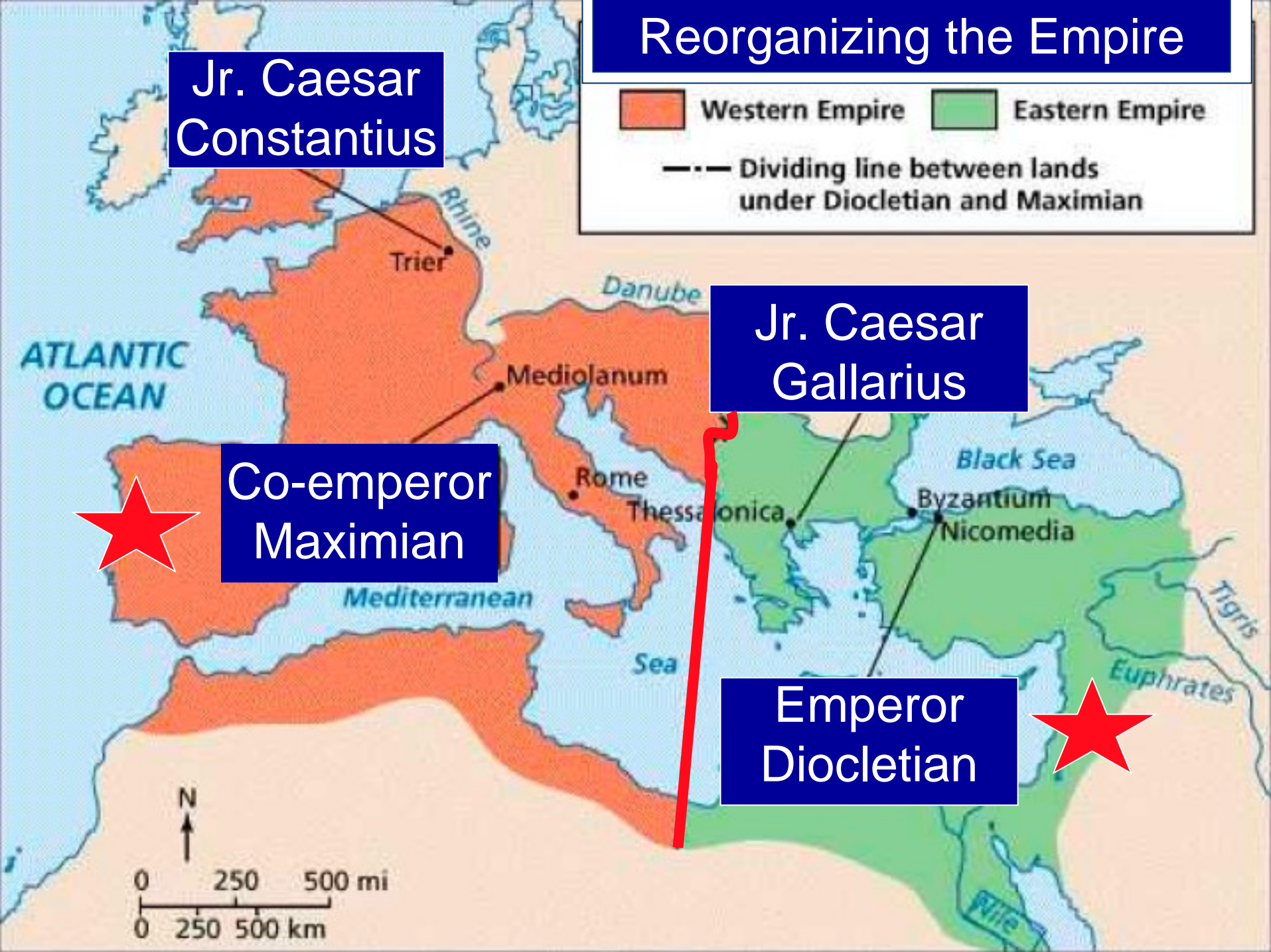
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Reorganizing the Empire



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Eastern Empire

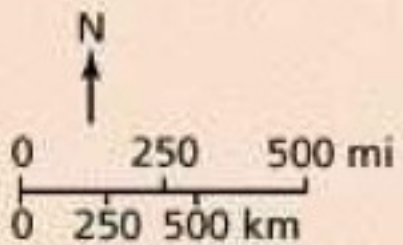
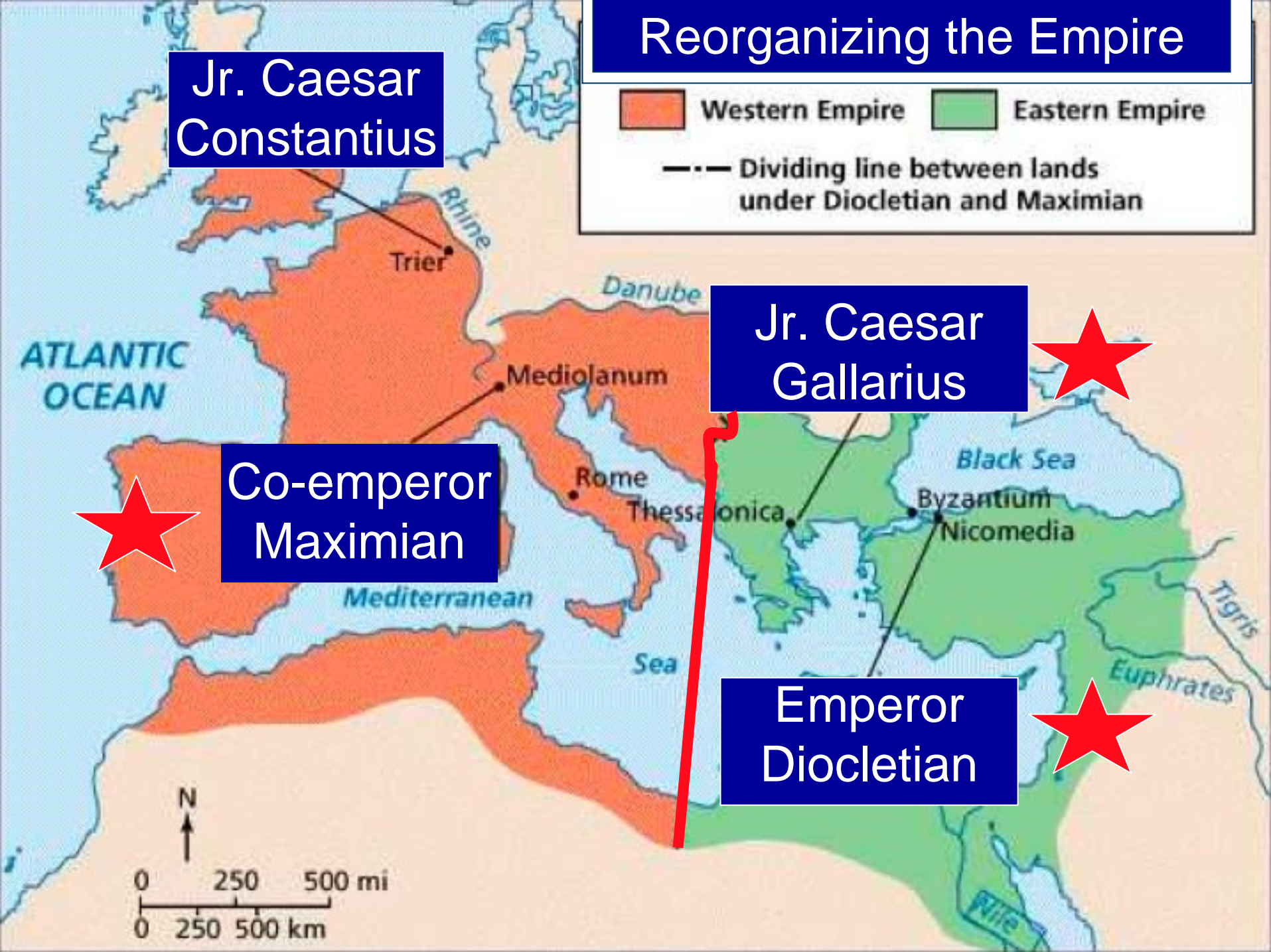
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Reorganizing the Empire



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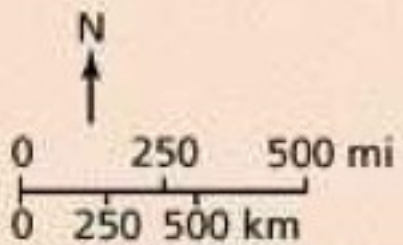
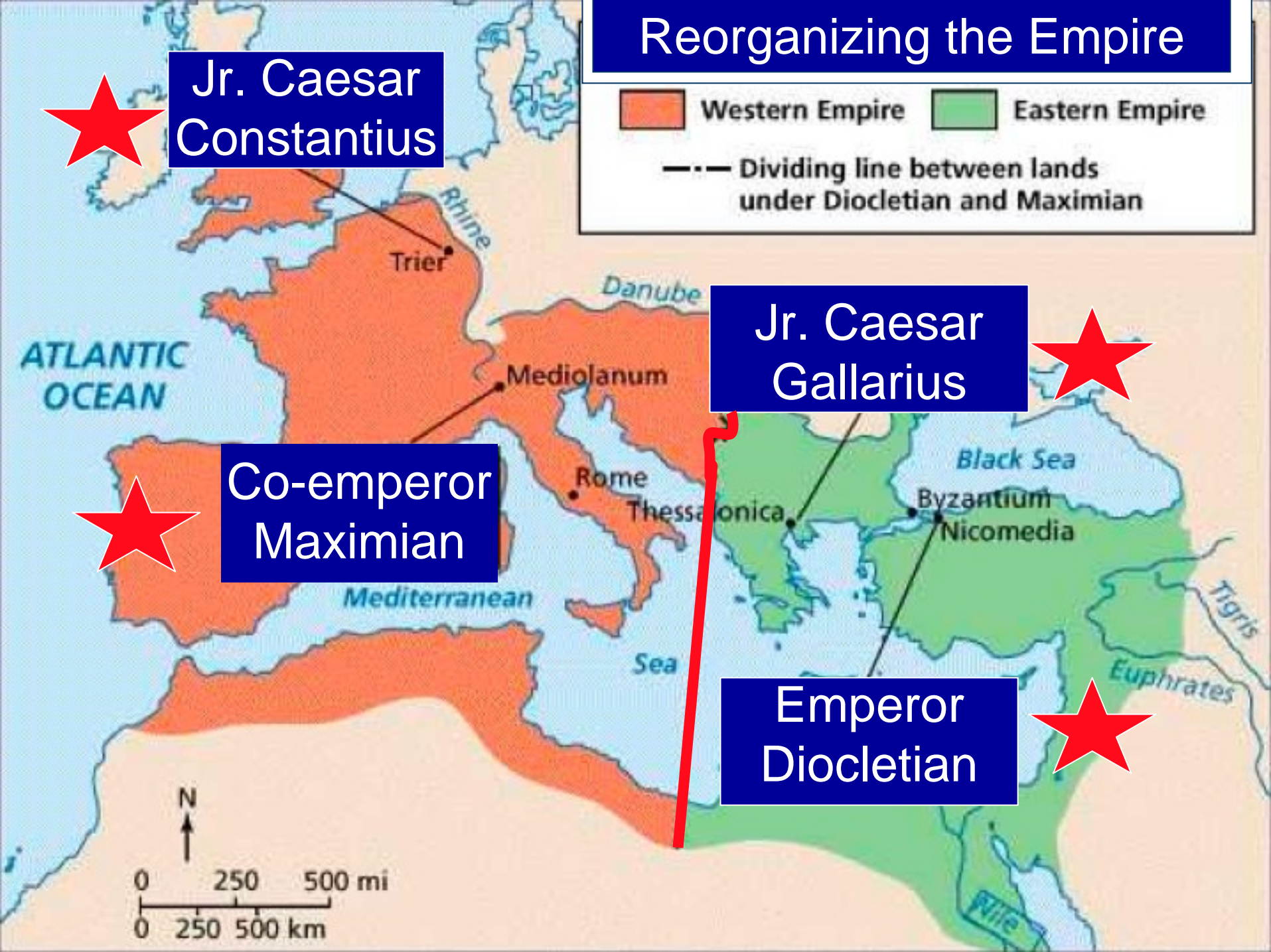
Jr. Caesar
Gallarius



Co-emperor
Maximian



Emperor
Diocletian



IBERIA

DIOCESE OF BRITANNIA

330 AD

Romania

under Constantine I

DIOCESE OF GAUL

Saxons
Franks Lombards

Burgundians
Thuringians

Alemanni Vandals
Marcomanni Rugians

Ostrogoths

DIOCESE

PREFECTURE OF GAUL OF VIENNE

DIOCESE

DIOCESE OF ITALY

DIOCESE OF VANDALS

Gepids

Visigoths

Alans

PANNONIA

Constantinople founded, 330

COLCHIS

DIOCESE OF IBERIA

DIOCESE OF ROMA

DIOCESE OF DACIA

DIOCESE OF THRACIA

DIOCESE OF PONTUS

ARMENIA

PREFECTURE OF ITALY

PREFECTURE OF ILLYRICUM

DIOCESE OF ASIA

PREFECTURE OF THE EAST

NEW E...

DIOCESE OF AFRICA

DIOCESE OF MACEDONIA

DIOCESE OF THE EAST

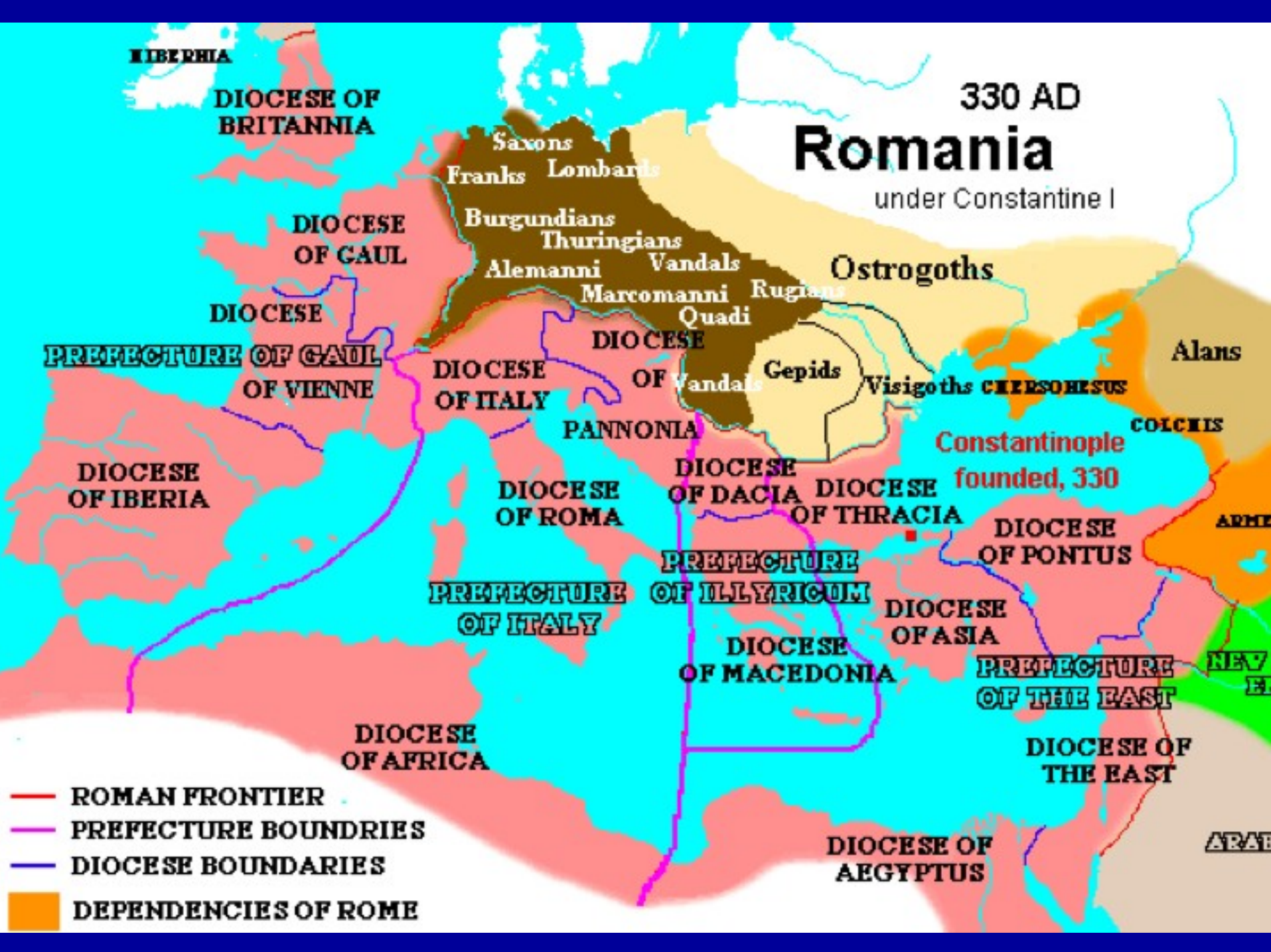
ARMENIA

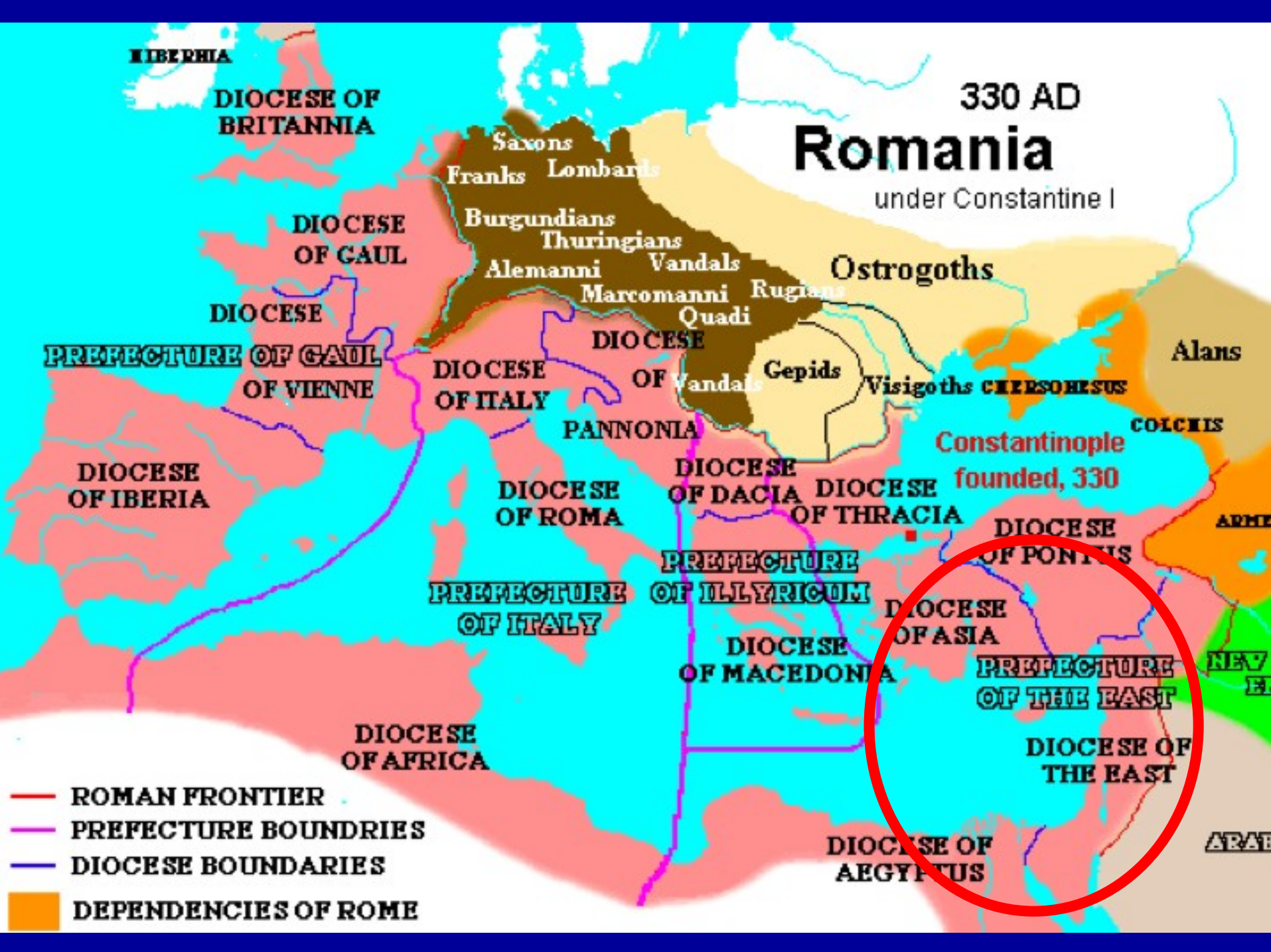
ROMAN FRONTIER

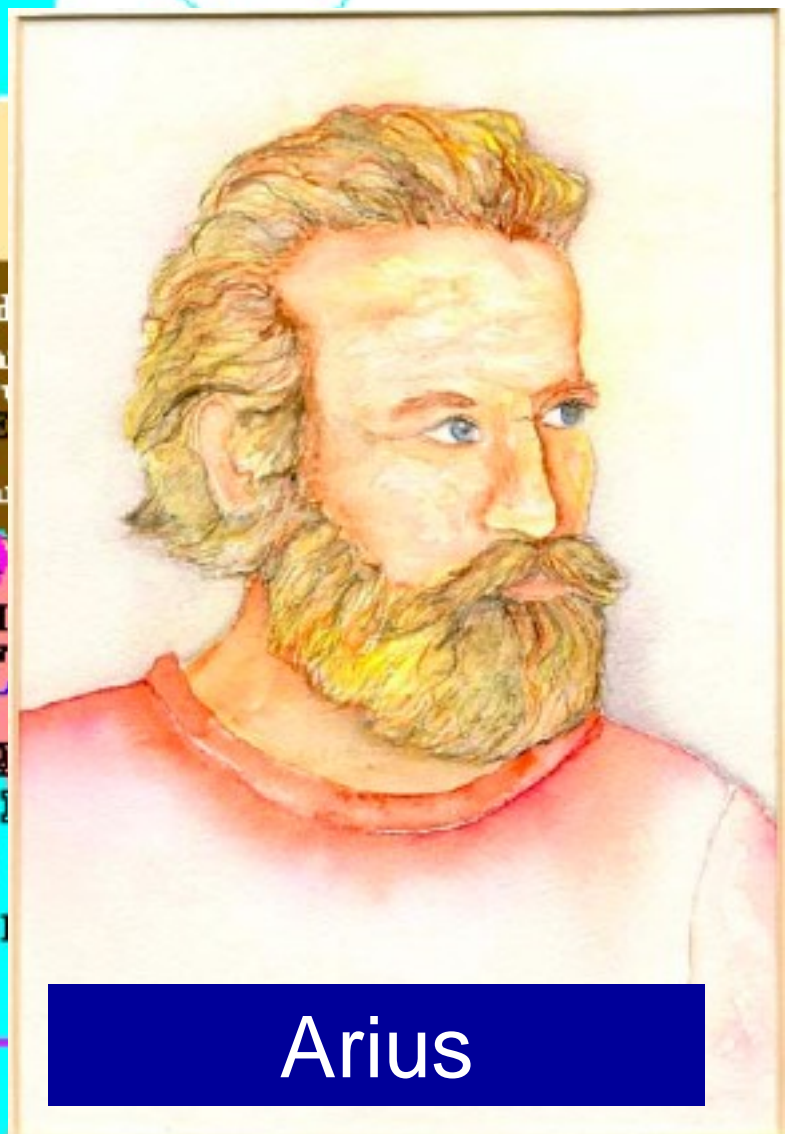
PREFECTURE BOUNDRIES

DIOCESE BOUNDARIES

DEPENDENCIES OF ROME



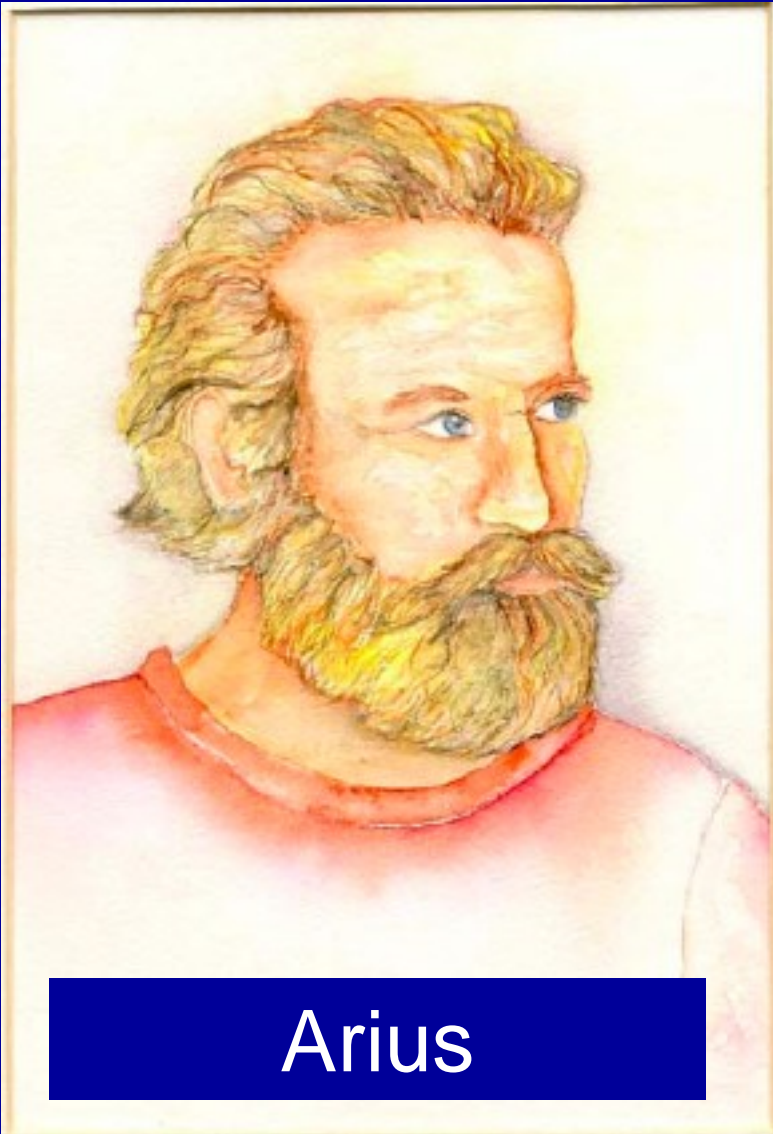




Arius

Arius taught:

- Jesus was not fully God
- Jesus was created by God



Arius

Arius launched a full out
campaign!

Arius launched a full out campaign!



Arius launched a full out campaign!



There was when the
Son was not

Consider the dilemma

Consider the dilemma

If Jesus is not
God, then God
has not united
with humanity
and we cannot
be saved. --
Alexander

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If Jesus is not
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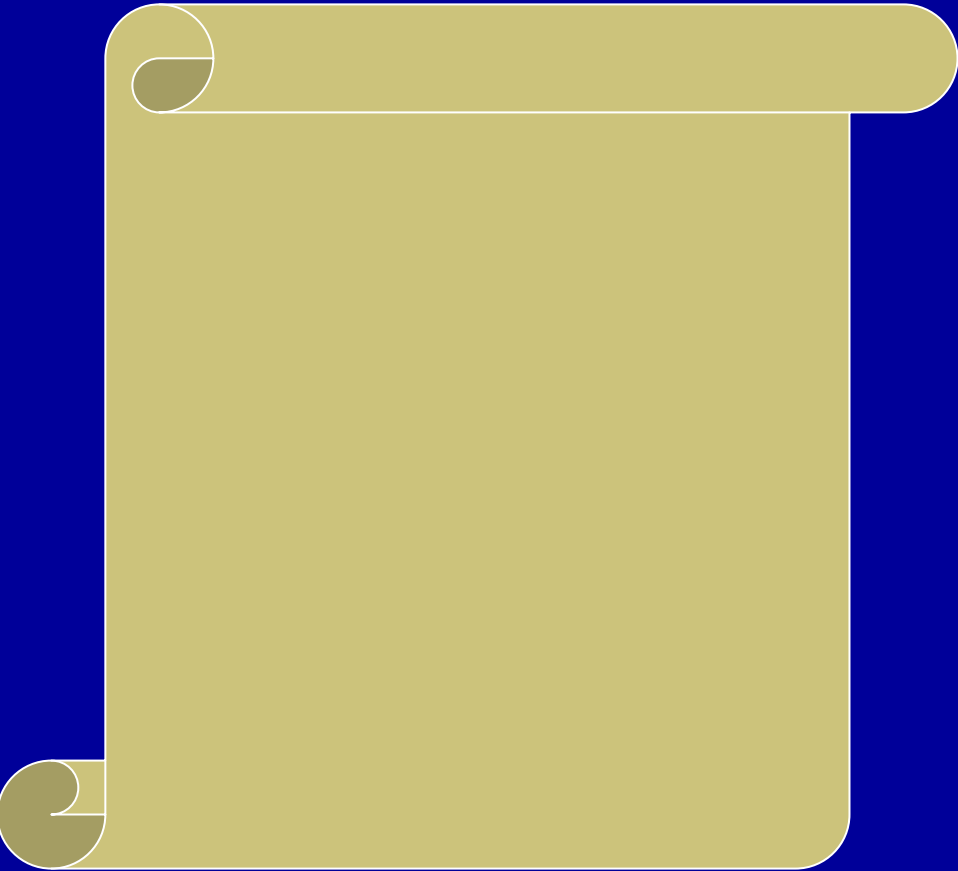
OR

Consider the dilemma

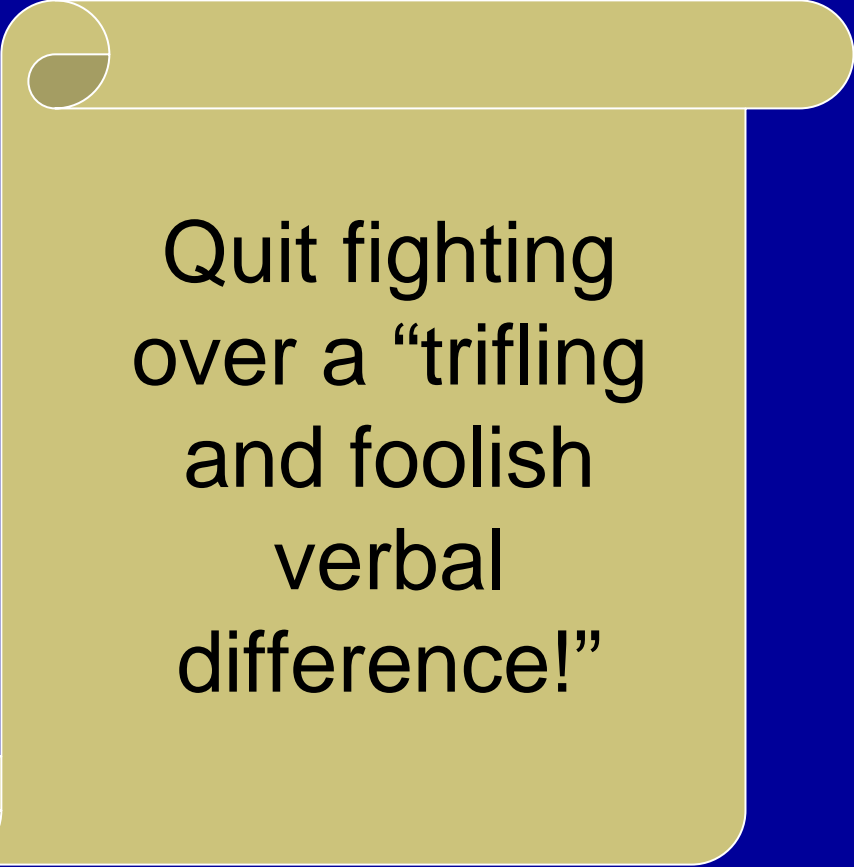
If Jesus is not
God, then God
has not united
with humanity
and we cannot
be saved. --
Alexander

OR

If Jesus is God,
then he is not
truly human and
we have no
salvation (no
victory we could
emulate) - Arius



Constantine
first tries a
letter



Quit fighting
over a “trifling
and foolish
verbal
difference!”

Constantine
first tries a
letter

Plan B: Constantine the Mediator!





318
Bishops

The events

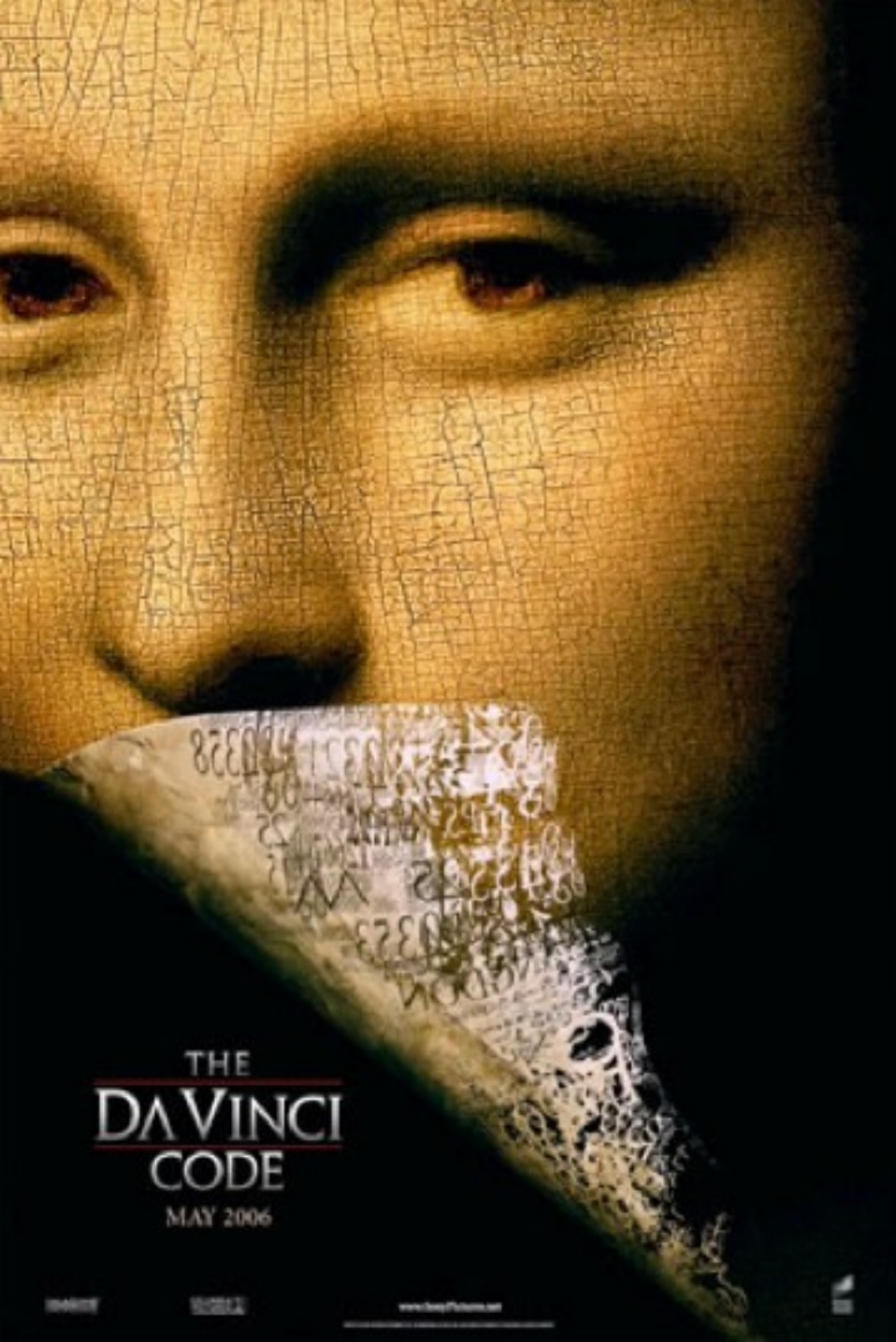
28 Arians



318
Bishops

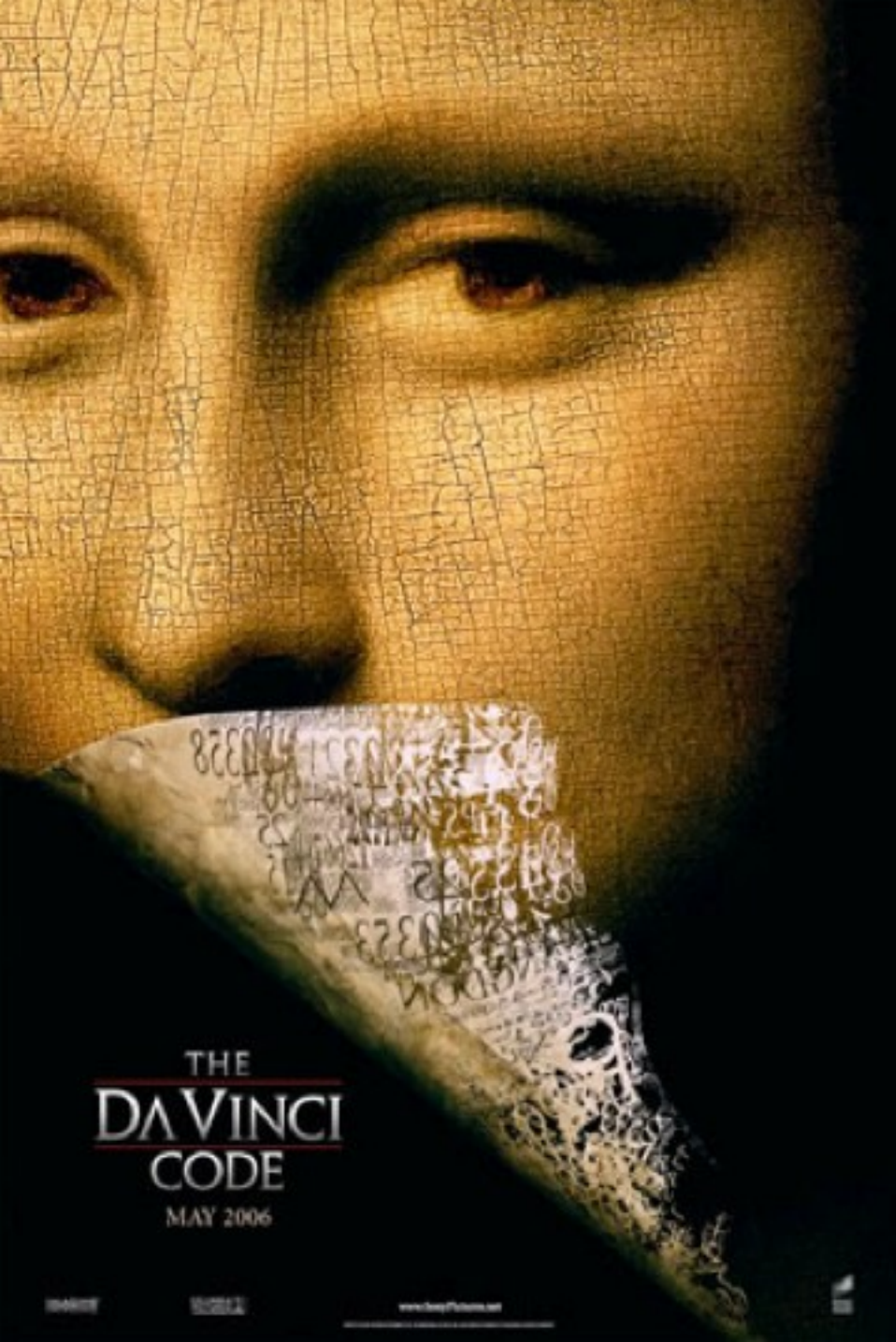
28 Arians

The Result?



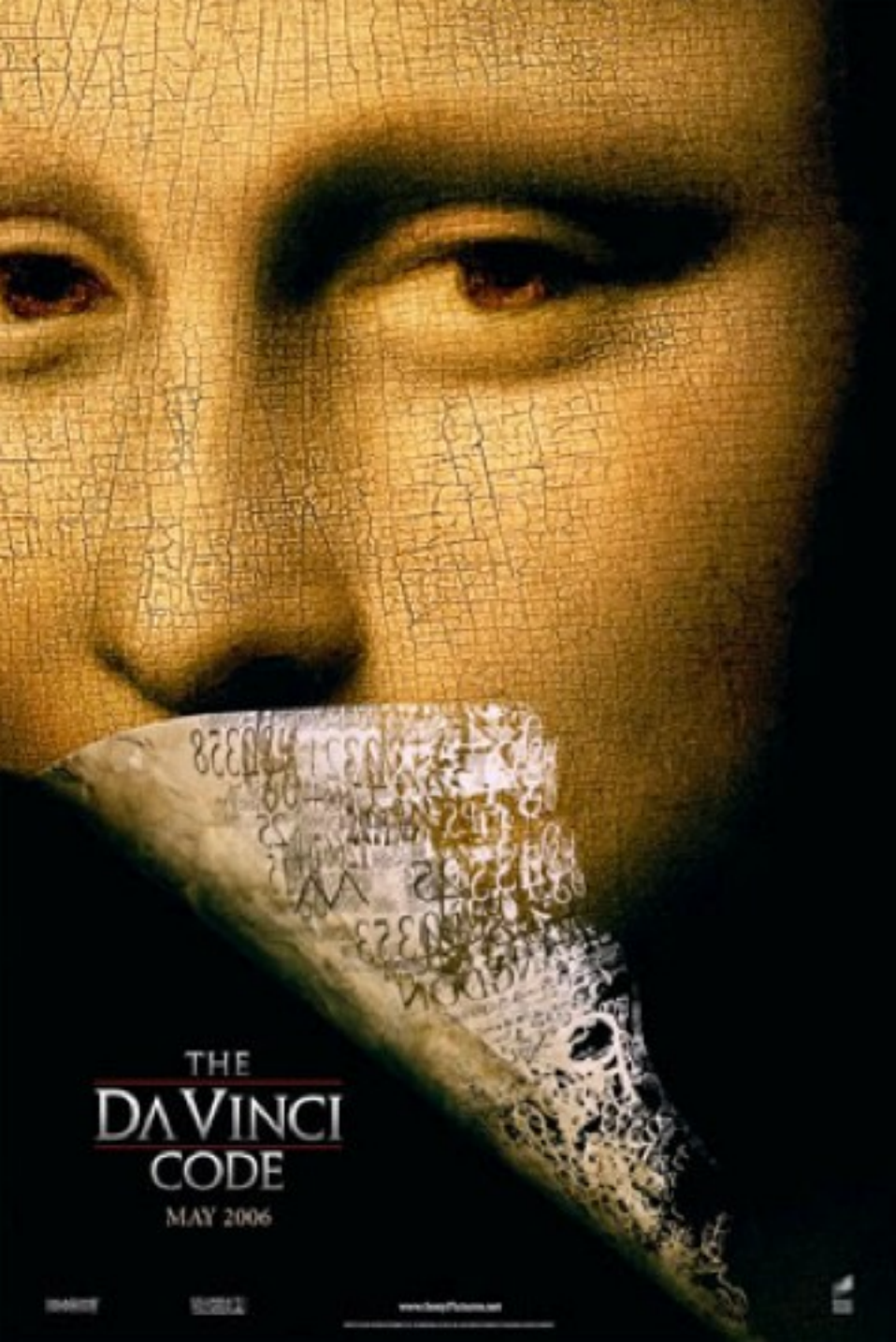
Before the Council of Nicea, “Jesus was viewed by his followers as a mortal prophet ... a great and powerful man, but a man nonetheless.”

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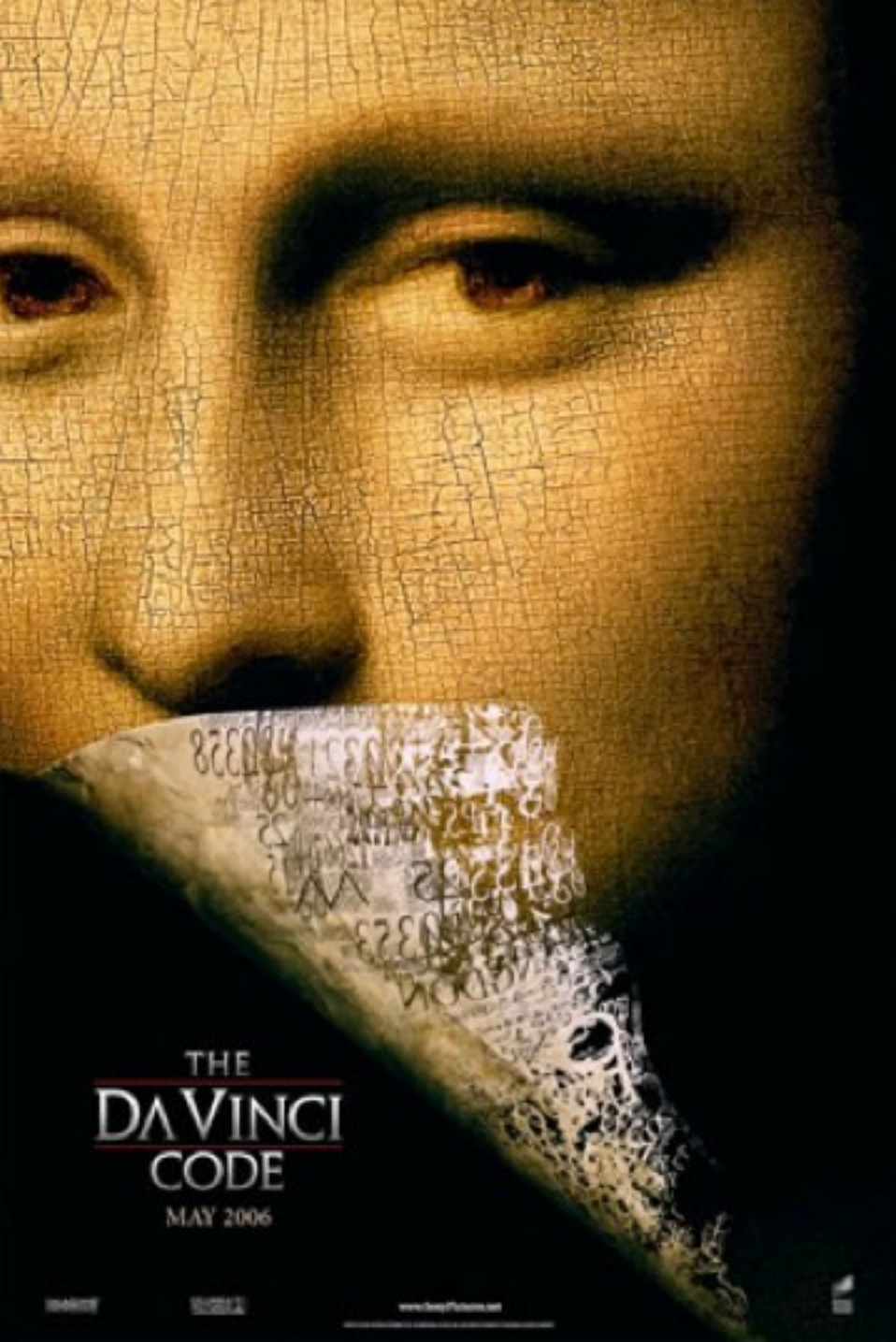
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Before the
Council of Nicaea,
Jesus was
viewed by his
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mortal prophet
and a great
powerful man,
nonetheless.”



Council of Nicea
decided which
books would be
the New
Testament

THE
DA VINCI
CODE
MAY 2006



THE
DA VINCI
CODE
MAY 2006

Council of Nicea
decided which
books would be
the New
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They adopted the Nicene
Creed

They adopted the Nicene Creed

“We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of all things visible and invisible:

They adopted the Nicene Creed

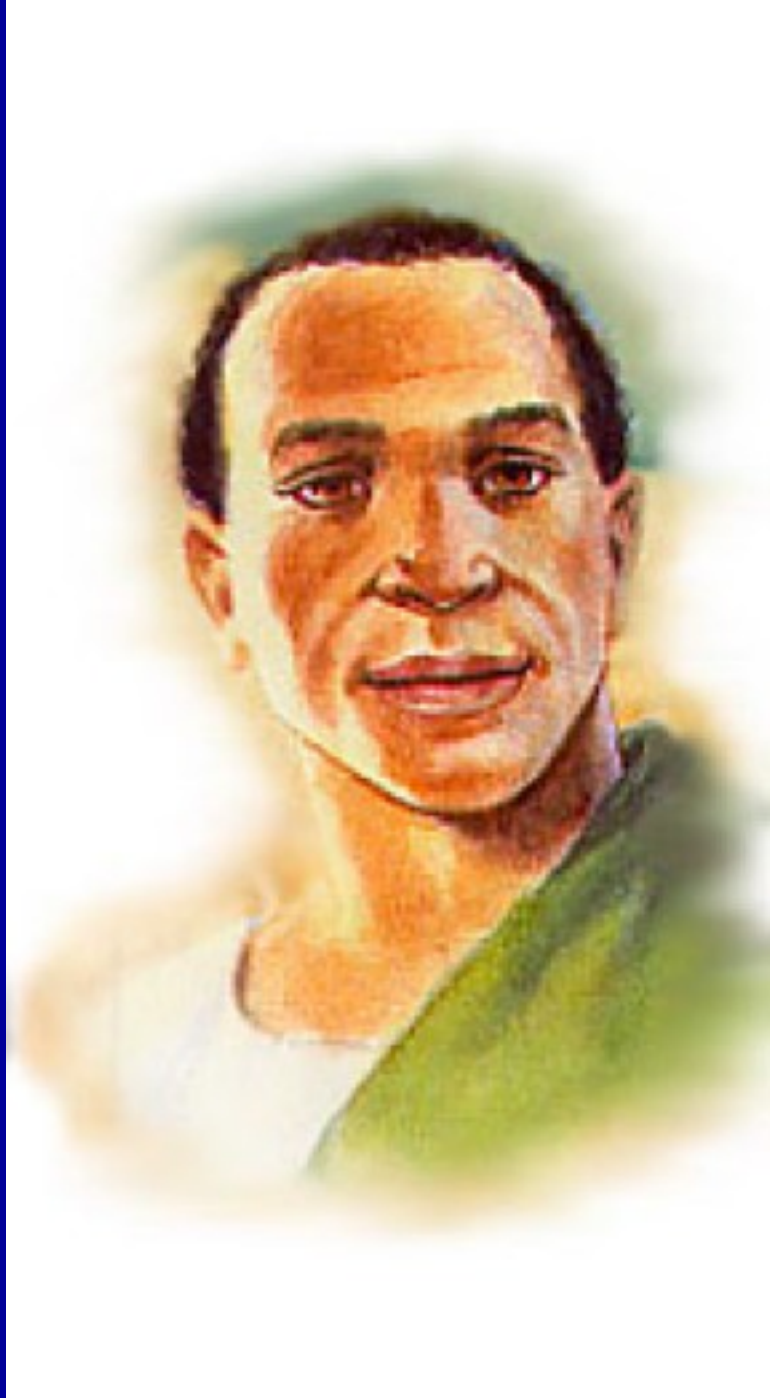
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten of the Father, that is, of the substance of the Father, God of God, light of light, true God of true God, begotten not made, of the same substance with the Father, through whom all things were made both in

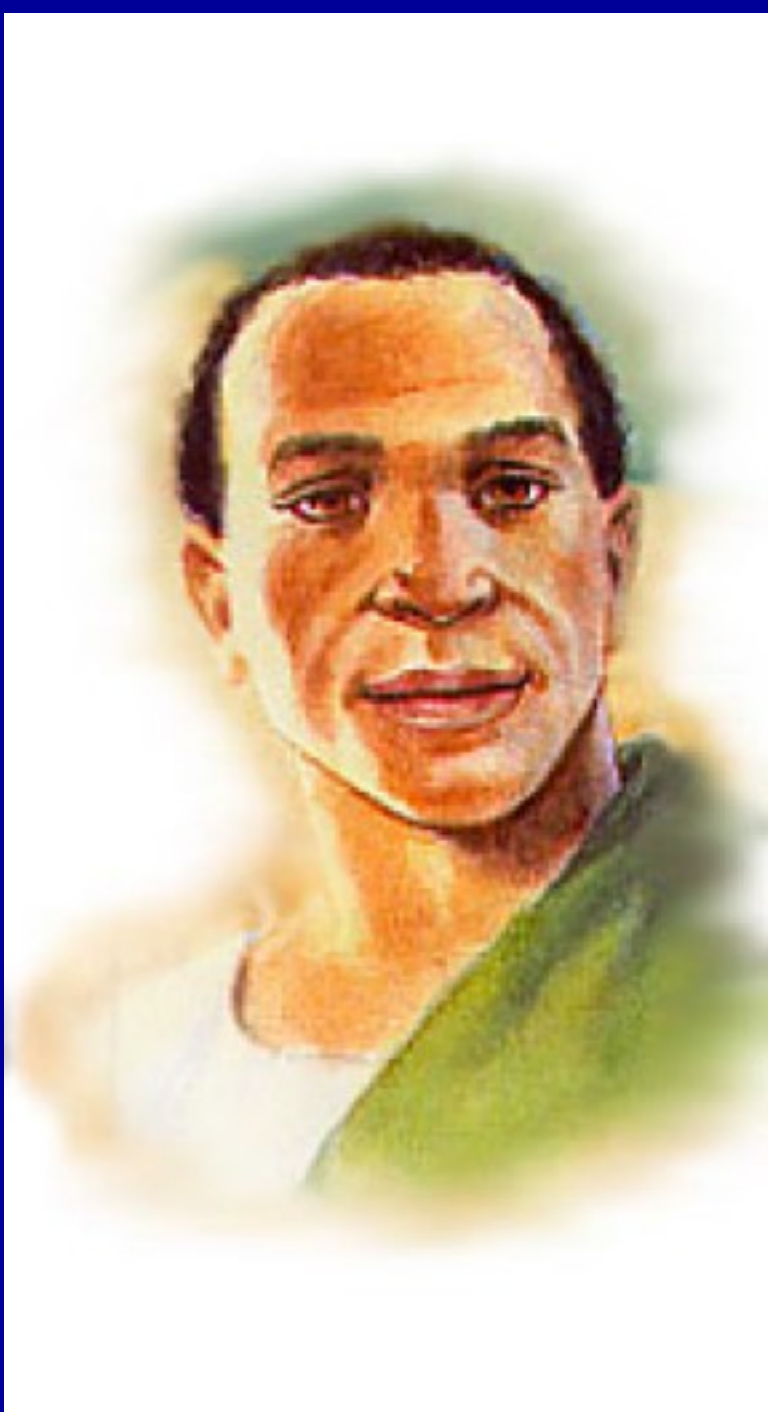
They adopted the Nicene Creed

heaven and on earth; who for us men and our salvation descended, was incarnate, and was made man, suffered and rose again the third day, ascended into heaven and cometh to judge the living and the dead. And in the Holy Spirit.

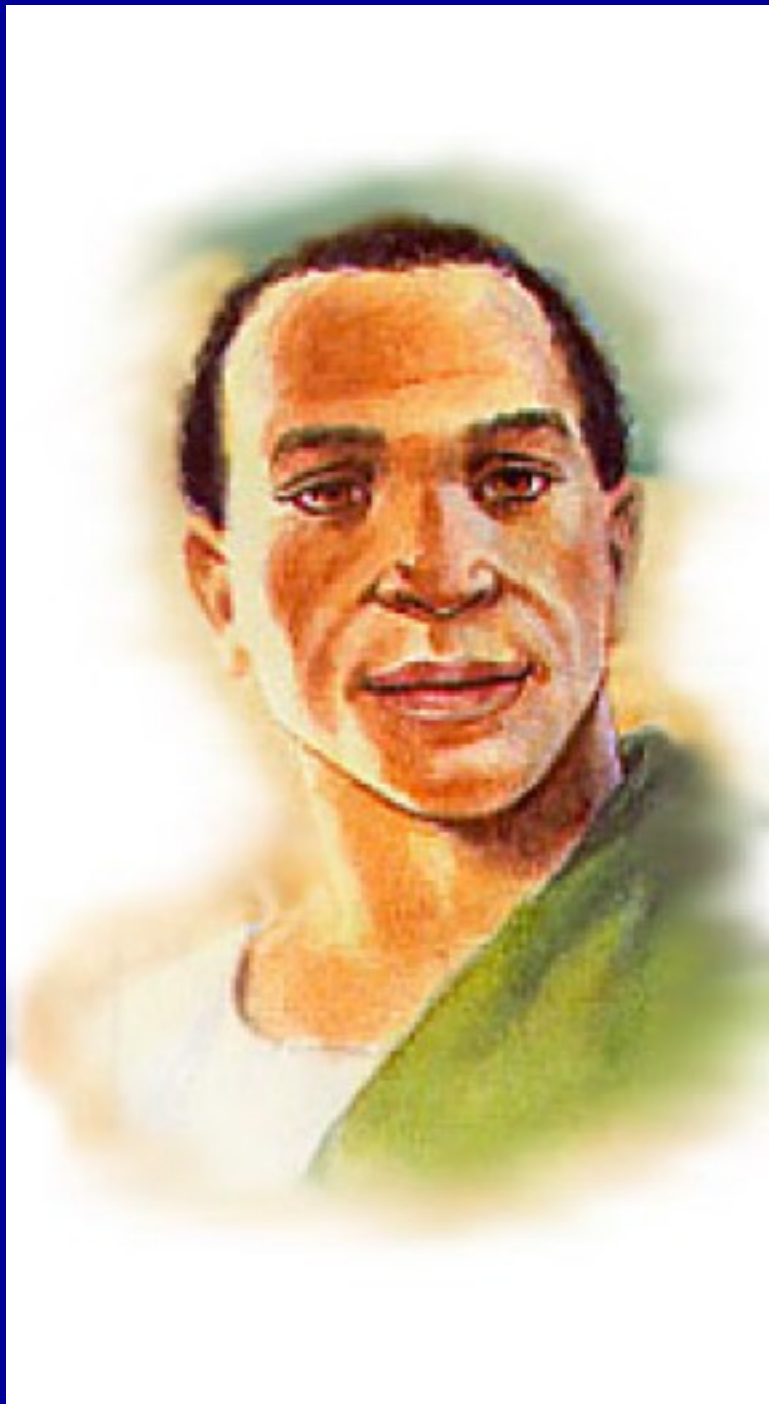
They adopted the Nicene Creed

Those who say: There was a time when he was not, and He was not before He was begotten; and that he was made out of nothing; or who maintain that He is of another hypostatsis or another substance, or that the Son of God is created, or mutable, or subject to change, the Catholic Church anathematizes.”





This was
nothing “new”



“All are of One, by unity of substance ... the unity into a Trinity ... the Father , the Son, and the Holy Spirit: three, however, not in condition, but in degree; not in substance, but in form; not in power, but in aspect; yet of one substance, and of one condition, and of one power.”



Why does Jesus say, “The
Father is greater?”

Points for Home

1. Church history is relevant today!

Points for Home

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2. We can't know God fully, but we can know him truly.

Points for Home

1. Church history is relevant today!
2. We can't know God fully, but we can know him truly.
3. Remember God emptied himself.