

# The Late Middle Ages

Chapter 12, Lesson 4



# The Black Death



# The Black Plague

## Little Ice Age

- Famine

1/3 population dies (abt.  
75 million people)

- Entire towns/villages die

## Trade Routes

- From Kaffa, spread Southern Italy to Southern France in two months.

## Hysteria: Cause? Blame?

- Angered God
- Witchcraft
- Antisemitism



An aerial photograph of St. Peter's Square in Rome, Italy. The square is a large, elliptical plaza with a central obelisk and a complex pattern of radiating paths. It is surrounded by a two-story colonnade of Corinthian columns. In the background, the Via della Conciliazione leads into the dense urban fabric of Rome. The title "Decline of Church Power" is superimposed in white serif font across the middle of the image.

# Decline of Church Power



# The Popes at Avignon

## Pope Boniface VIII v. King Philip IV of France

- Papal Supremacy
  - Philip claimed right to tax the clergy.
  - Boniface said Popes were supreme.
  - Philip sends forces to capture and try Boniface.
  - Boniface escapes but dies soon afterwards
  - Philip helps elect a French Pope: Clement V.
- Clement moves Papal residence to Avignon France.
  - Angers many, believing Pope as Bishop of Rome should reside in Rome.





# Pope Gregory XI

Gregory XI returns the Papal residence to Rome in 1377.

- Saw the damage it had on the prestige of the Papacy.

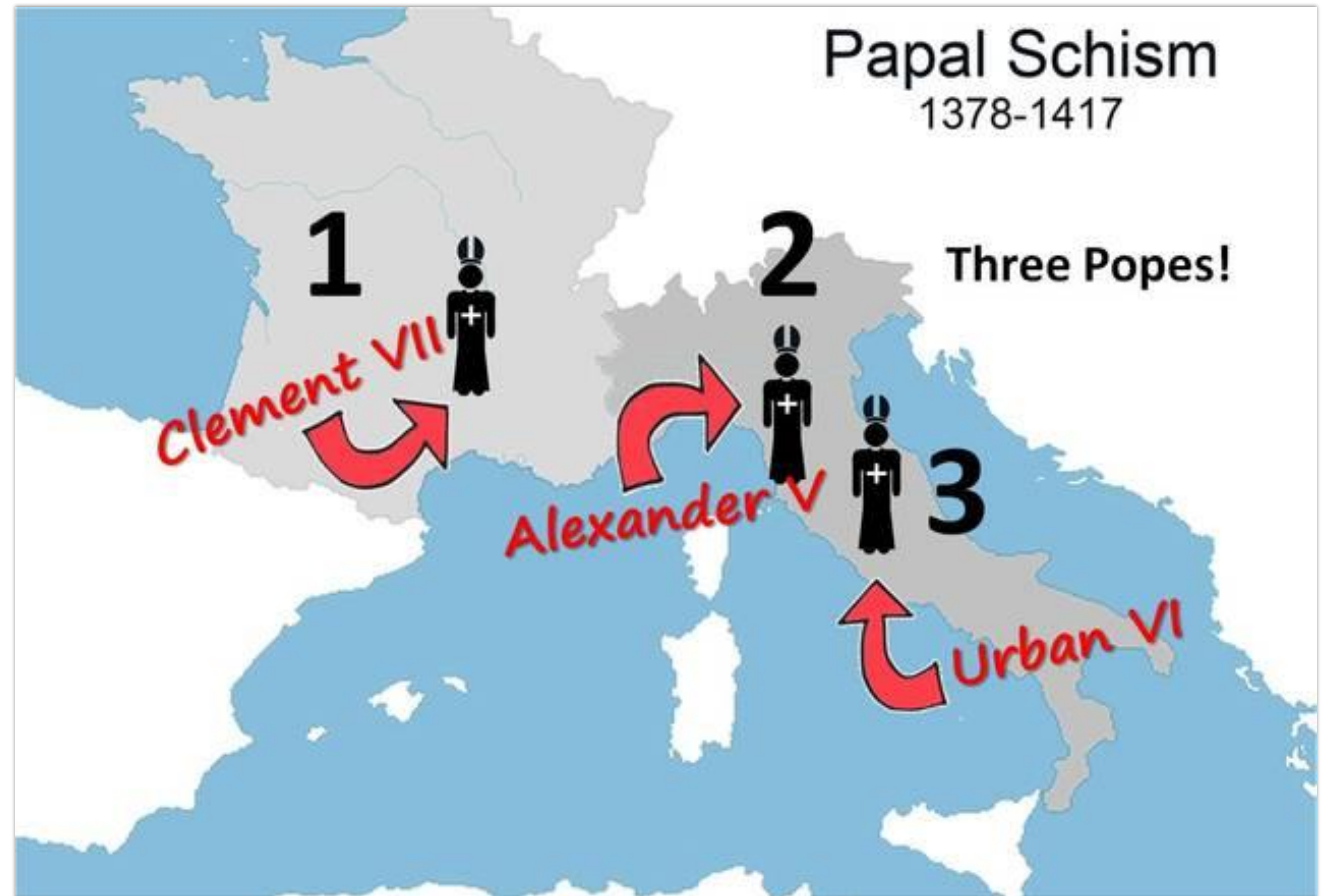
Soon after he returns, he dies.

Cardinals meet to elect (select) a new Pope.



# The Great Schism

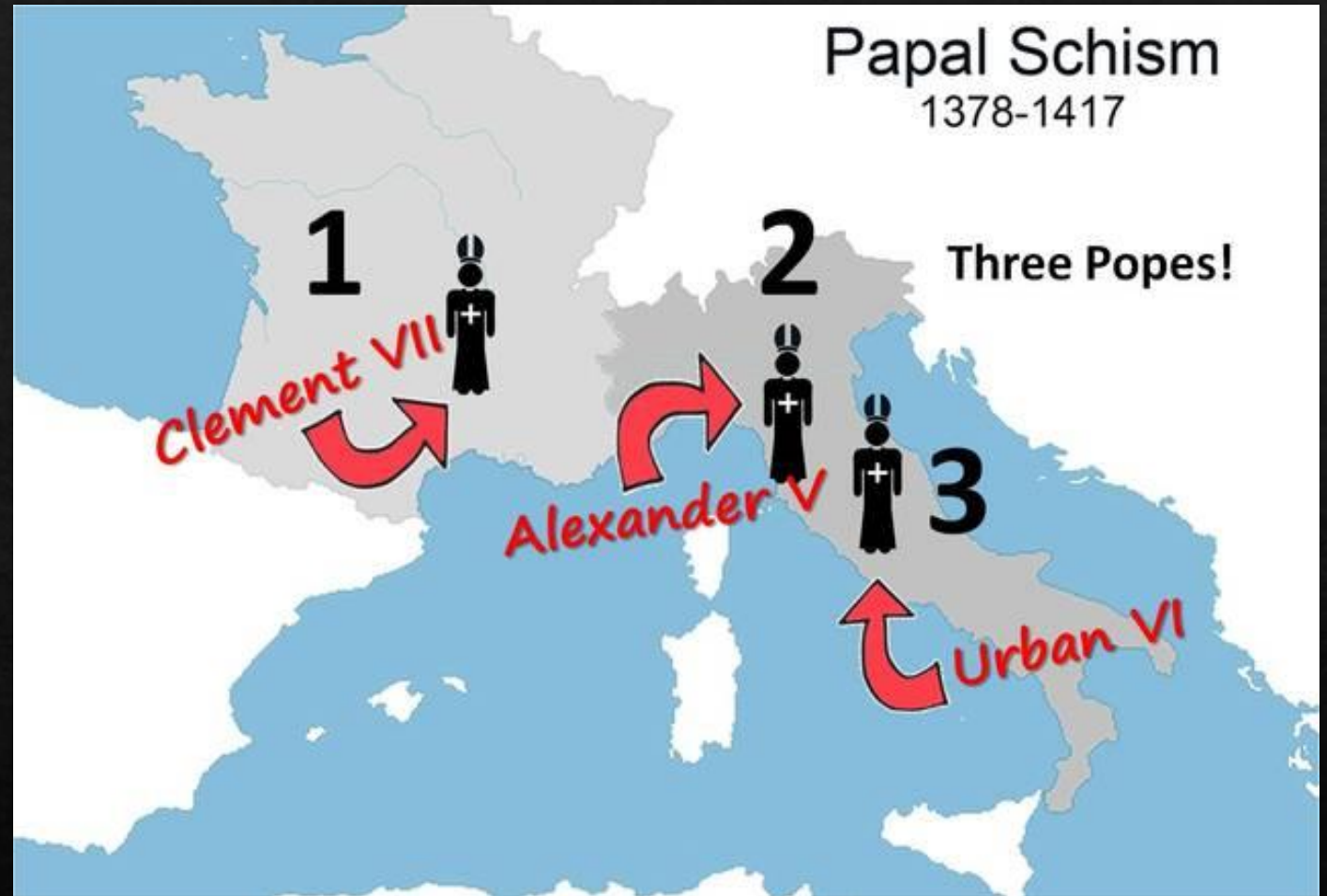
3 Popes, no waiting...



# The Great Schism

After Gregory's death:

- Italians pick an Italian Pope (Urban VI)
- French pick a French Pope (Clement VII)
- Cardinals pick a pope (Alexander V)







# The Great Schism

Schism lasts from 1378 to 1417 and divides Europe.

Damages the Church.

- French and Italian Popes denounce each other as the Antichrist.
- Undermines faith in the Pope.
- Council at Constance, Switzerland ends the schism.
- Competing popes resigned or were deposed.
- A new Pope, acceptable to all, is elected.

# **The Hundred Years' War**

The most violent struggle during the period (1337-1453) it lasts 116 years.



Duchy of Gascony in France.

England had it, France wanted it.

King Philip VI (France) seizes it and

King Edward III (England) declares war.



# The Hundred Years' War

Knights v. Peasant Foot Soldiers

- ◆ Turning point in the nature of warfare.

French used heavily armored Knights.

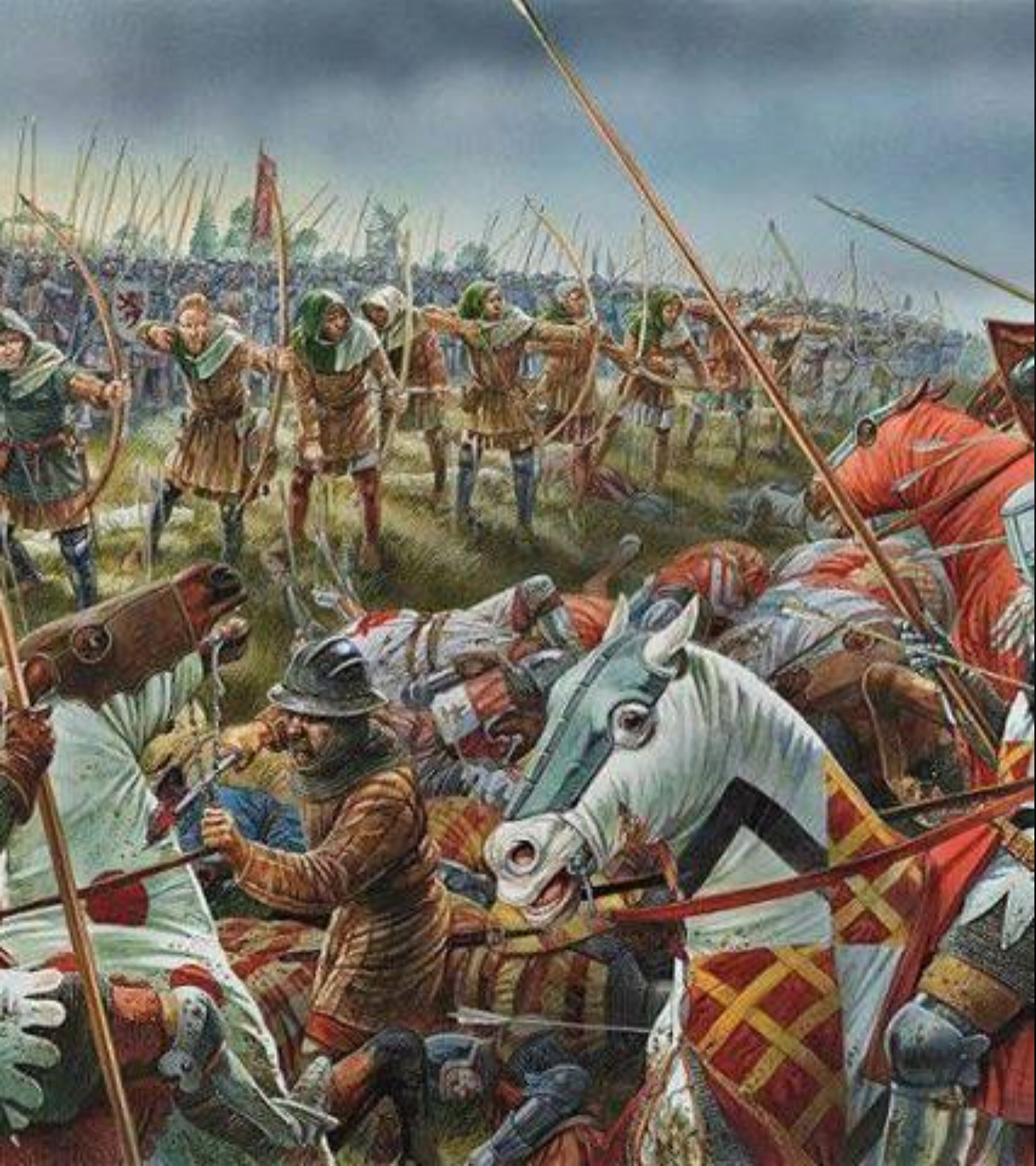
English used knights and paid peasant foot soldiers.

- ◆ Pikes and long bows
- ◆ Faster, greater striking power



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# The Hundred Years' War: Battle of Crecy

First major battle of the war in 1346.

- ◆ French had no battle plan, English archers devastated them.
- ◆ English win but do not have the resources to conquer all of France.





# The Hundred Years' War: Battle of Agincourt

English continued fighting after Crecy.

- ◆ Led by King Henry V, English win at Agincourt in 1415.
- ◆ French knights attacked across a muddy field and were defeated.
- ◆ 1,500 French Nobles died in battle.
- ◆ Saint Crispin's Day







# King Charles & Joan of Arc

French controlled by Charles, heir to the French throne.

## Joan of Arc

- ◆ Daughter of peasants
- ◆ Deeply religious
- ◆ Had visions – commanded her to free France
- ◆ Persuades Charles
- ◆ Brings turning point to the war
- ◆ Is captured and by English in 1840 and turned over to Inquisition as a witch.
- ◆ Condemned, burned at the stake.



# War takes two more decades, but..

- ◆ English defeated at Normandy and Aquitaine.
- ◆ War ends in French victory in 1453.
- ◆ French may have been helped by a new weapon that uses gunpowder...the cannon.
  - ◆ Thank you, China.





# Political Recovery





# France

France is exhausted after the War.

- Develops French nationalism
- Kings used that spirit to reestablish royal power.
- King Louis XI = the Spider
- *Taille* – an annual direct tax that funds the French monarchy.
- Adds land: Anjou, Maine, Provence, and other regions.
- Consolidates power, strong monarchy.



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# England

Cost of war in \$\$ and manpower strains the English economy.

Internal troubles – War of the Roses.

New ruling dynasty established:

- The Tudors
- Henry VII, first Tudor king.
- Eliminated lower nobles' private armies, no more infighting.
- Thrifty with money, won the support of the people.



# Spain

Grows strong national monarchy.

Fought to regain lands from Muslims  
(Reconquista)

Most powerful kingdoms were Aragon and  
Castille.

Ferdinand and Isabella marry, merging the  
two most powerful families.

Believed religious unity meant political unity.





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# Spain

Pursued strict policy of conformity to Catholicism.

In 1492, expelled all Jews from Spain who did not convert.

Muslims lose to the Spanish armies in 1492, Muslims are forced to convert or leave.

Inquisition: torture and kill

Achieved their goal: to be Spanish was to be Catholic.





# Central and Eastern Europe

Holy Roman Empire never develops a strong monarchy.

- Holy Roman emperor was held by the Hapsburg dynasty.

Eastern Europe busy fighting each other.

Russia under control of Mongols until 1840 when Ivan III.

- Ivan IV is recognized as the Czar of Russia by the Eastern Orthodox Church.

