Europe

Early Medieval Period

Influence of Christianity

- **Age of Faith**
  - As Secular authority declined, Church authority grew
  - Monasteries preserve Greco-Roman cultural achievements
    - St. Benedict – Benedictine Monks
    - Sister – Scholastica – creates women’s order
  - Missionaries carry Christianity to Germanic tribes
    - Patrick – Ireland
  - Pope anoints Charlemagne Emperor
  - Parish priests see to the needs of the people
  - Church controls Papal States – territories in Italy

Charlemagne & the Frankish Kingdom

- 2 Dynasties – Merovingian & Carolingian
- Clovis converts to Christianity
- Charles Martel stops Muslim onslaught at **Battle of Tours**
- Pepin the Short expands Frankish kingdom
- Charlemagne crowned Holy Roman Emperor – Christmas Day, 800 CE
- **Age of Charlemagne** – revives Education, Roman culture
  - Missi Dominici – Court officials
- **Treaty of Verdun** splits Charlemagne’s empire among 3 grandsons

Feudalism & Manorialism

**Solution to new invasions**

Vikings

- Originate in Scandinavia
- Use Longboats to navigate Rivers/Seas
- Create settlements in Ireland & Iceland
- Eric the Red
  - 1st European in Greenland
- Leif Ericson
  - 1st European to land in North America

Other Invaders

- Magyars
  - Originate Central Asia, settle Hungary
- Muslims
  - Impact Sea Trade
- Angles, Saxons, Jutes
  - Migrate to British Isles

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