

Chapter 8 – The Rise of Rome

Section 2 – The Roman Empire Notes

I. Governing The Empire

A. Boundaries and Territory

- 1. Roman Empire stretched from Britain to Egypt**
- 2. Rome controlled all the lands around the Mediterranean Sea. They called it “Our Sea”**

B. Augustus

- 1. Intelligent Ruler who showed Respect for the senate**
- 2. The people gave Augustus as much power as he wanted**

C. Governing Conquered People

- 1. The empire was divided into provinces, each with its own Roman governor supported by an army**
- 2. Romans did not force their way of life on conquered people; Rome wanted provinces that would supply raw materials; buy roman goods, pay taxes, and adopt Roman ways**

D. The Emperors

- 1. Worst Roman emperors were Caligula and Nero**
- 2. Hadrian was the greatest of the five “good emperors” – he standardized laws throughout the empire, reorganized the army, and encouraged learning**
- 3. Last of the “good emperors” was Marcus Aurelius who chose his son Commodus to follow him**

II. Greek Influence on Rome

A. Romans adopted Greek religion and heroes

B. Romans used Greek ideas to build their empire

III. Architecture & Technology

A. The Roman Style

- 1. Romans copied Greek sculpture and architecture**
- 2. Romans built larger structures using arches; also used concrete to build taller buildings**

B. Roads and Aqueducts

- 1. Roman roads covered huge distances**
- 2. Some Roman aqueducts are still in use today**

IV. Roman Law

A. Cicero and Justinian

- 1. Believed in the indestructible nature of law**
- 2. Many Roman ideas of justice are the basis to our system of laws today**