

# ***Church History***



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- *Introduction to Church History*
- *The Ancient Church* AD 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> centuries
- *The Rise of Christendom* AD 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Early Middle Ages* AD 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Age of Crusades* AD 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Renaissance* AD 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *Conquest and Reformation* AD 16<sup>th</sup> century
- *The Age of Enlightenment* AD 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Age of Revolution* AD 19<sup>th</sup> century
- *The Modern Age* AD 20<sup>th</sup> century
- *The Postmodern Age* AD 21<sup>st</sup> century



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- *The Age of Crusades* AD 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries
- *The Renaissance* AD 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries
  - *Welcome to the Renaissance*
  - *Turnovers...*
  - *The Black Death and a Century of War*
  - *Wobbling Out of Control (part 4)*



# ***The Renaissance***

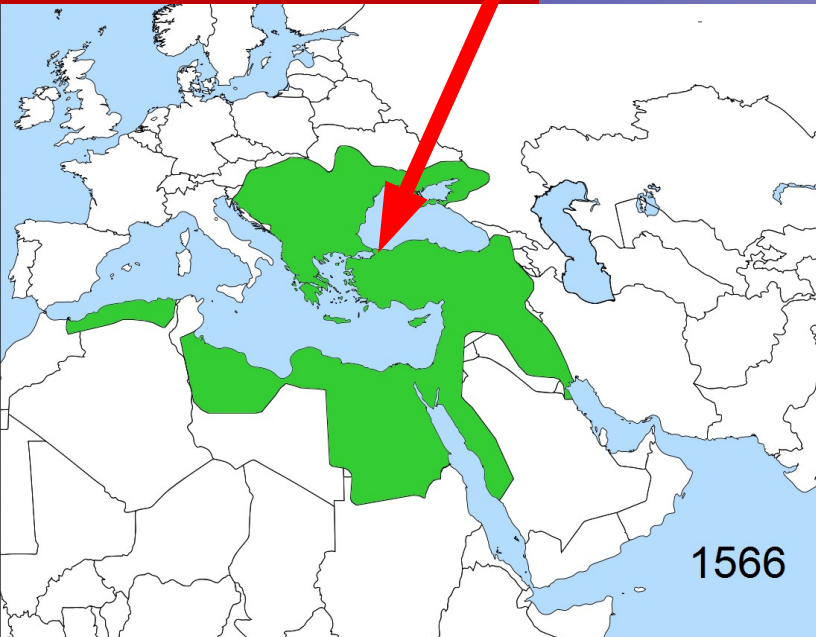
- Europe and “Christendom” were in trouble  
1453 Constantinople fell to the Ottoman Turks

- The Ottoman Empire had been growing for a while by this time

They'd started off as a Turkic emirate under Osman Ghazi (AKA Osman I, or “Ottoman”) but later sultans such as Murad II extended their borders completely across Anatolia and into Eastern Europe

- The Ottomans invaded and conquered Albania in 1410, then took Serbia in 1448, and then Mehmet II finally laid siege to Constantinople in 1453

- The city was a crucial port and the last bastion of European strength and Christian religion in the East, south of Russia





# ***The Renaissance***

- Europe and “Christendom” were in trouble  
1453 Constantinople fell to the Ottoman Turks
  - The Ottoman Empire had been growing for a while by this time
  - Constantinople was well-defended by sea, and was also surrounded by a huge, strong wall
    - No one had been able to breach the walls since the Crusaders, back in 1204
    - But the Turks had been encroaching for so long that the city itself was all that remained of the once-great Byzantine Empire
    - You can see why Emperor John had been so eager to make peace with Rome back in 1438





# Renaissance



Christendom" were in trouble  
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The Ottoman Empire had been growing for a  
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long that the city itself was all that remained  
of the once-great Byzantine Empire
- Europe wanted to help somehow

- A Hungarian inventor named  
Orban came up with a way
  - He designed a super-cannon  
that fired a four-foot diameter  
cannonball that weighed over a  
ton—capable of taking out  
ships or whole regiments of  
besieging Turks
  - He offered to sell these  
super-cannons to new  
Emperor Constantine XI to  
defend the city





# Renaissance



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  - Europe wanted to help somehow
- A Hungarian inventor named Orban came up with a way
  - But Constantine and his advisors turned him down—the guns would be costly, and hard to aim at moving targets, and they could use the money better by hiring more foreign mercenaries
  - Orban was crushed—and bankrupted by his research and development on the super-cannon







was



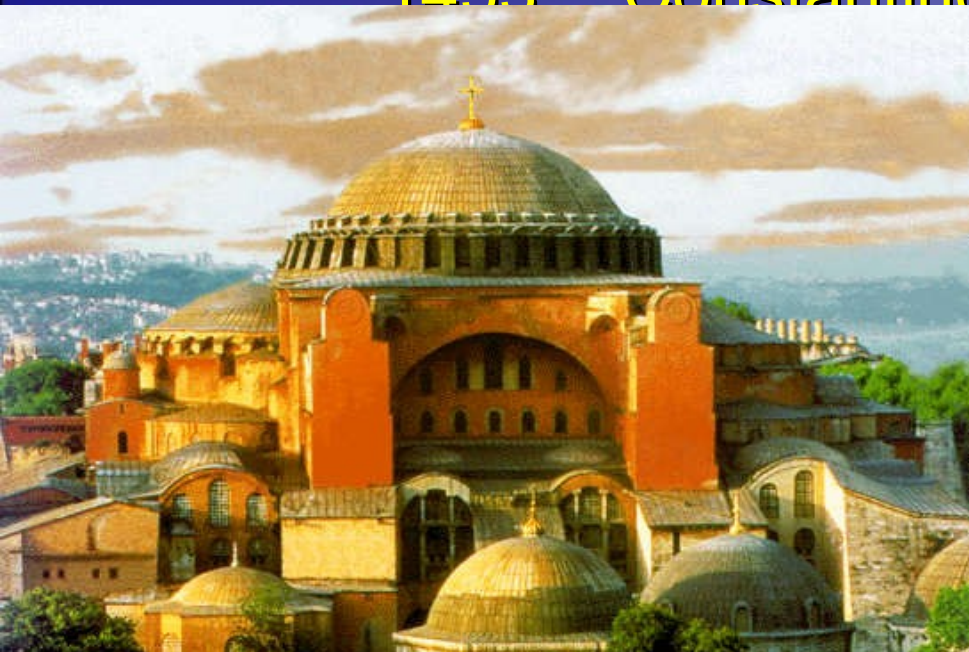
- A Hungarian inventor named Orban came up with a way
  - So he recouped his losses by selling the guns to Mehmet II, who then used them as his most decisive weapon, blowing huge holes in Constantinople's walls, and then swarming his forces through the gaps





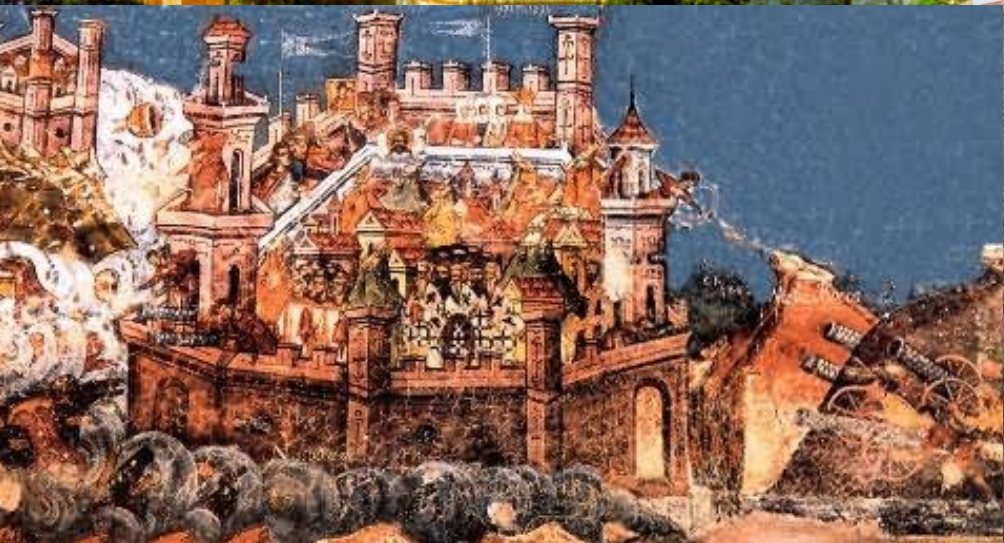
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they wanted to help somehow

- On May 29, the city fell
  - Turks raped and pillaged for three days—killing the elderly, infants, etc., but gathering the healthy in the Hagia Sophia to be sold off as slaves
  - After those three days, Mehmet ordered the looting to stop, and the city to be rebuilt as a jewel of Islam, and the Hagia Sophia to be retrofitted as a mosque





# The Renaissance

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  - On May 29, the city fell
  - The Ottomans continued to use their version of the city's name (“Kostantiniyye”) in their official documents; but the common, Turkish name came to be used in everyday parlance—Istanbul
  - Supposedly, Pope Callixtus III blamed the city's fall on the “bad omen” of Halley's Comet and *excommunicated* the comet as Divine punishment





# *The Renaissance*

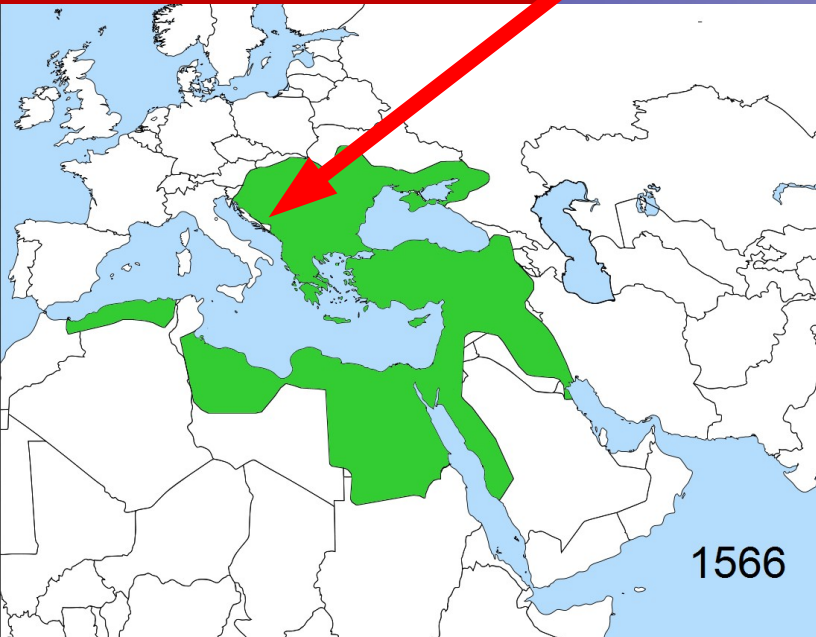
- Funky little teaching moment—
  - BTW—This image of the crescent and star is what we often associate with Islam
  - But technically, Islam *had* no imagery, prior to 1453 (since images of any kind were strictly prohibited by Islamic law)
  - This flag was actually the flag of *Constantinople*
  - After the fall of the city, the Ottoman Turks took the city's flag as their own
  - Over the centuries, various derivations of this symbol has been used on Muslim flags around the world





# ***The Renaissance***

- Europe and “Christendom” were in trouble  
1453 Constantinople fell to the Ottoman Turks
    - The Ottomans used Constantinople as a base to step up their invasion of Europe over the next several decades
      - They conquered Transylvania in 1454 and then Athens (and all of Greece) in 1456 then Bosnia in 1463
- (which is why, even in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, the ethnic divide between Muslim Bosniaks, Orthodox Serbs, and Catholic Croats was still so strong and so volatile that they committed atrocities against one another in the 1992-95 Bosnian War)





# ***The Renaissance***

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(which is where the Russians and Ukrainians are fighting today)





# ***The Renaissance***

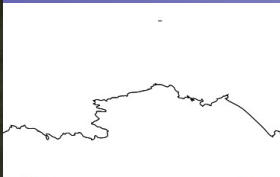
- Funky little teaching moment—
  - Technically, the map should probably look more like this
  - The kingdom of Wallachia was actually a *vassal* state to the Ottoman Turks, and never conquered
    - Voivode Vlad II  
(called Vlad Dracul—“the Dragon”—because he was a knight of Zsigmond's Order of the Dragon—and thus, his family line was named “House Drăculești”)





# *The Renaissance*

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  - The kingdom of Wallachia was actually a *vassal* state to the Ottoman Turks, and never conquered
    - Voivode Vlad II kept Wallachia out of direct Turkish control by paying an annual tribute
    - He also gave two of his own sons to Murad II as his prisoners
      - The younger brother, Radu, converted to Islam, and happily served the Ottomans
      - The older brother, Vlad III, refused to convert, and was regularly tortured by his captors
    - He was released in 1448 by Mehmet, who wanted to use him as a puppet ruler in Wallachia





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    - Pope Pious called for a crusade against the Turks in 1459, and both Vlad III (called Vlad Drăculea—"Son of the Dragon"—in remembrance of his father)





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      - But Corvinus simply used the Papal funds to finance the arming and strengthening of Hungary
      - He also took to heart the Platonic ideal of the “philosopher-king,” hosting theological debates, writing books, and becoming patron to several artists, poets, and scientists





# The Renaissance

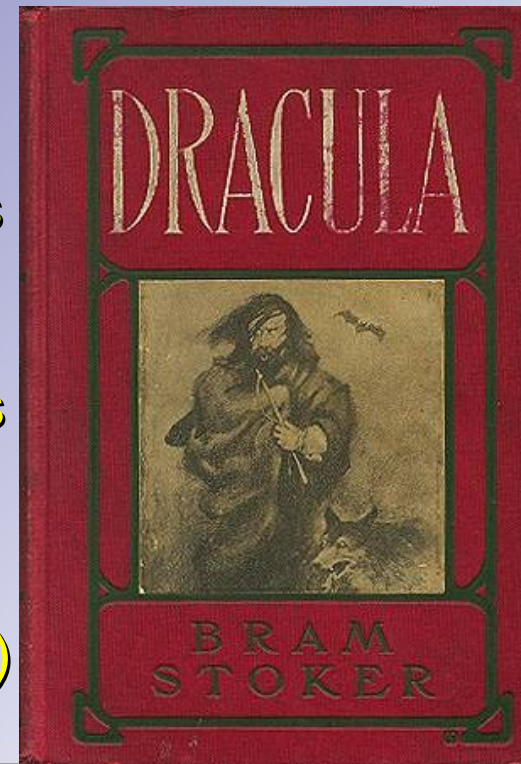
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      - Vlad took the crusade seriously and refused Mehmet his annual tribute
      - When Mehmet sent envoys to him, Vlad took their lack of removal of their turbans as a pretext to claim insult, returning them to Mehmet with their turbans *nailed* on...
      - He also killed thousands of Turks along the Danube, specifically impaling 23,884 (his preferred method of slow, torturous death)





# The Renaissance

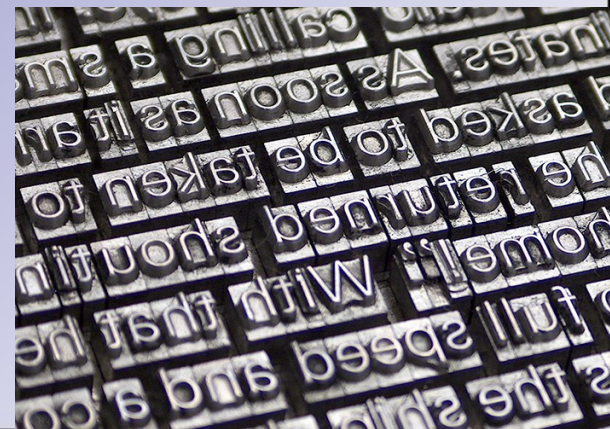
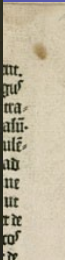
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      - Vlad took the crusade seriously and refused Mehmet his annual tribute
      - Thus, Vlad earned the infamous nickname “Vlad Tepes”—“Vlad the Impaler”
        - His utter cruelty to everyone—including his own subjects—earned him such infamy that Bram Stoker used him later as the template for his vampire count in *Dracula* (and speaking of books...)





# The Renaissance

- Europe and “Christendom” were in trouble
  - 1453 Constantinople fell to the Muslim Turks
  - 1455 Gutenberg produced a *printed* Bible
    - There had been “woodblock”-printed sheets before this, but not moveable type-printed ones
      - When Johannes Gutenberg figured out how to make individual letter-blocks, and then set up a screw-press, moving the letters around to print multiple *different* pages, it changed everything profoundly
        - Instead of the production of a Bible taking years for a monastery to accomplish (remember how Columba was exiled into becoming a missionary to Scotland because he'd dared to produce his own, personal copy of the Psalter when he was studying at Clonard?)





# The Renaissance

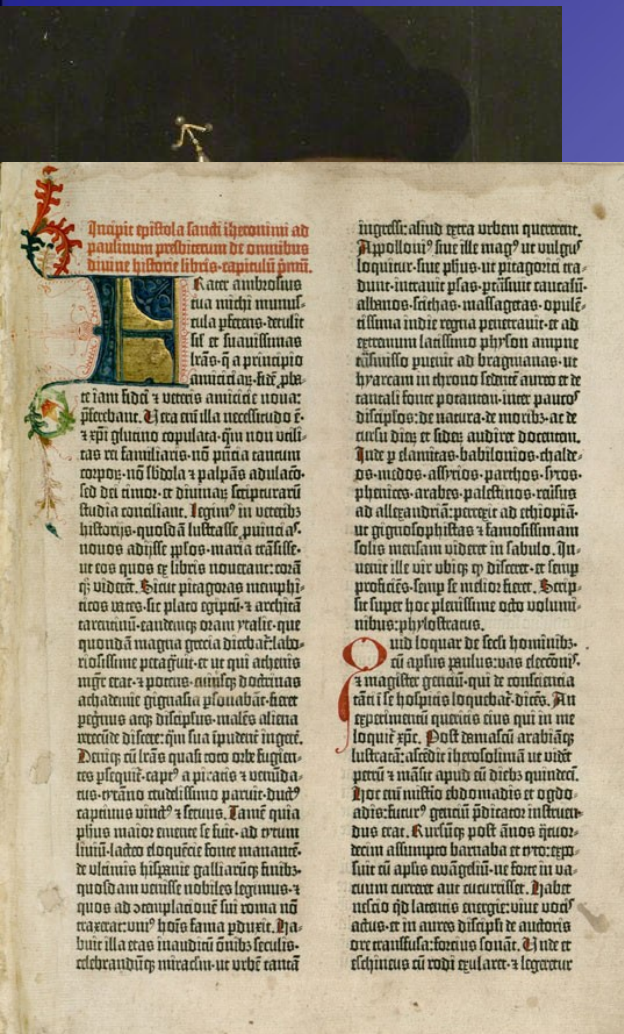
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        - Instead of the production of a Bible taking years for a monastery to accomplish, it could now take only weeks for a printer to produce several copies (of the cheaper versions)
          - In fact, once type was set for the pages, a printer's *assistant* could even print it





# The Renaissance

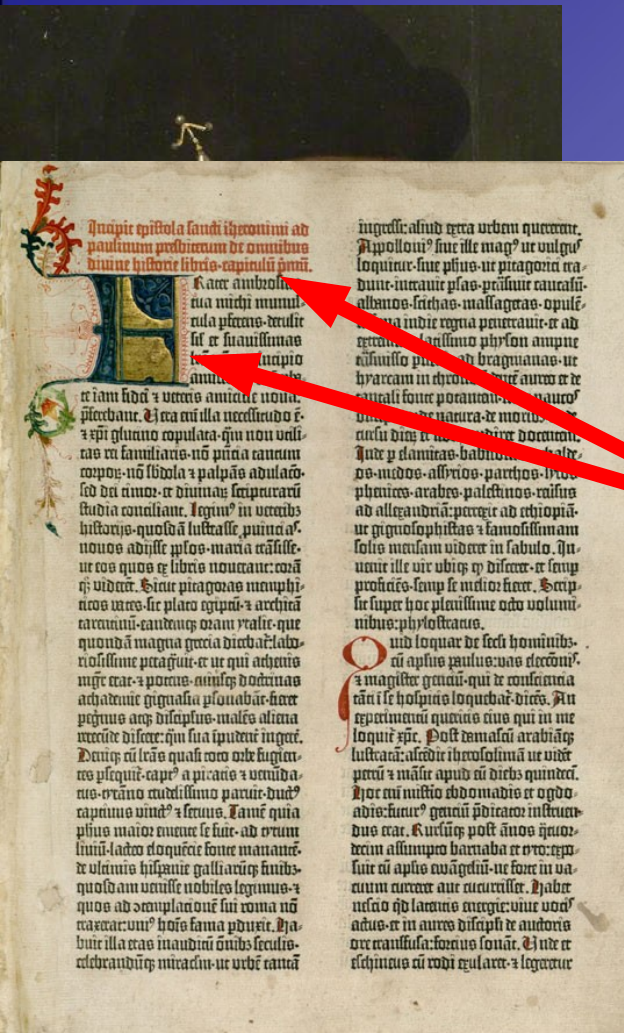
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  - The more expensive copies (which could cost upwards of 30 florins—or roughly \$100,000 in today's dollars)





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  - The more expensive copies made use of painstaking illumination and rubrication by fine craftsmen



# The Renaissance

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - “Illumination” was the process by which manuscripts (and later, printed works) were embellished by artists with different mini-paintings
  - In particular, “illuminations” often used either actual gold or silver overlays to catch the light and “illumine” important works
  - These miniature works of art are often quite beautiful, but they also made the books tremendously expensive to produce, and nearly impossible to re-produce





# The Renaissance

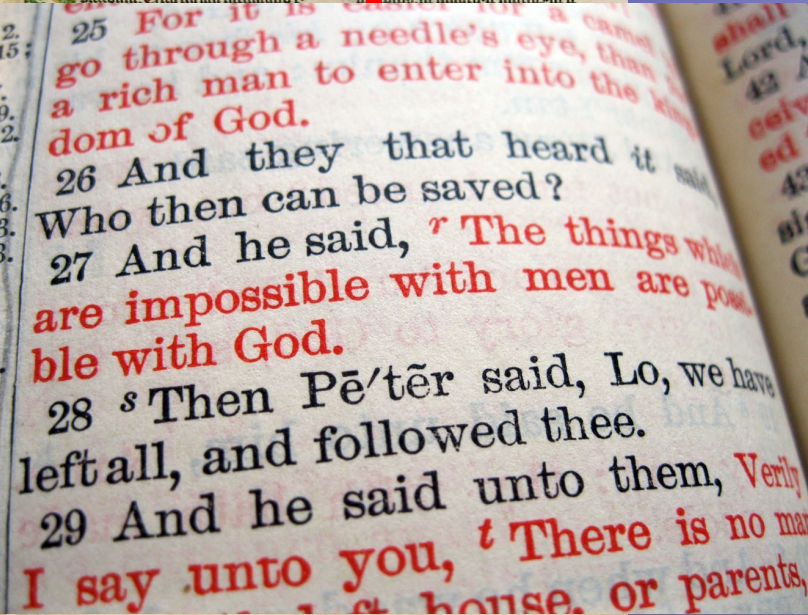
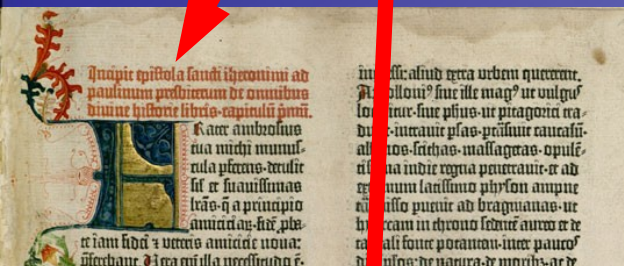
- Funky little teaching moment<sup>2</sup>—

“Rubrication” was the process by which early scribes and printers created the red-inked headers in books like the Bible

- Rubrication gave directions to readers about the subject of a given section, how to read a section, where a new paragraph might begin, etc.

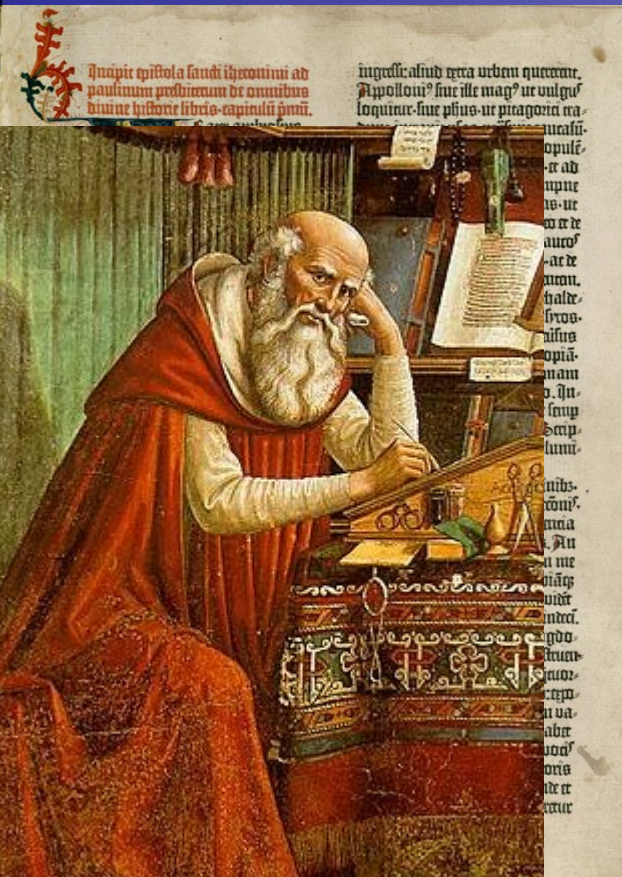
- Thus, this early rubrication of texts was the background for two things that should be relatively familiar to us today:

- 1) The word “rubric”—referring, for instance, to the instructions that a teacher might give to her students about how to read a text or perform an assignment
- 2) Red-letter editions of the Bible, where the words of Jesus are printed in red ink, so as to easily distinguish them



# The Renaissance

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  - 1455 Gutenberg produced a *printed Bible*
    - There had been “woodblock”-printed sheets before this, but not moveable type-printed ones
    - For his Bible, Gutenberg printed a new copy of the classic Latin Bible translated by Jerome (and, though he was a good Catholic, Gutenberg’s rationale for printing the Bible was fairly capitalistic—he knew that wealthy consumers like royalty, high church officials, and families like the Medici and the Borgias would actually want to *buy* it)





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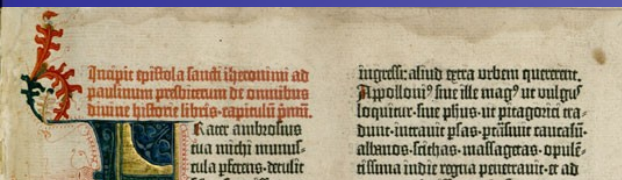
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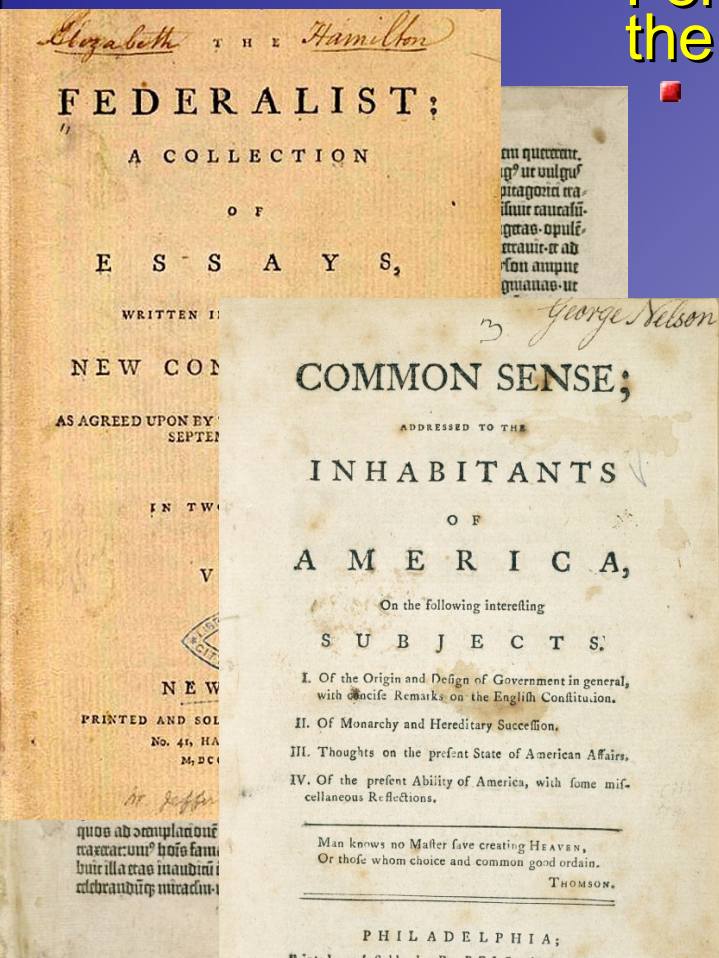
- That may not sound huge to us today, but that meant that, for the first time in history, even a relatively common man could mass-produce a pamphlet or a booklet or a newspaper—or, ultimately, even a *Bible*—in his own language, to be read by his peers
- Theology, news, political theory, economics, literature—all historically the provinces of the rich or the academic—were now literally thrust into the hands of the common man
- As John Milton's publisher wrote in 1640, “the slightest pamphlet is nowadays more vendible than the works of the learnedest men”





# The Renaissance

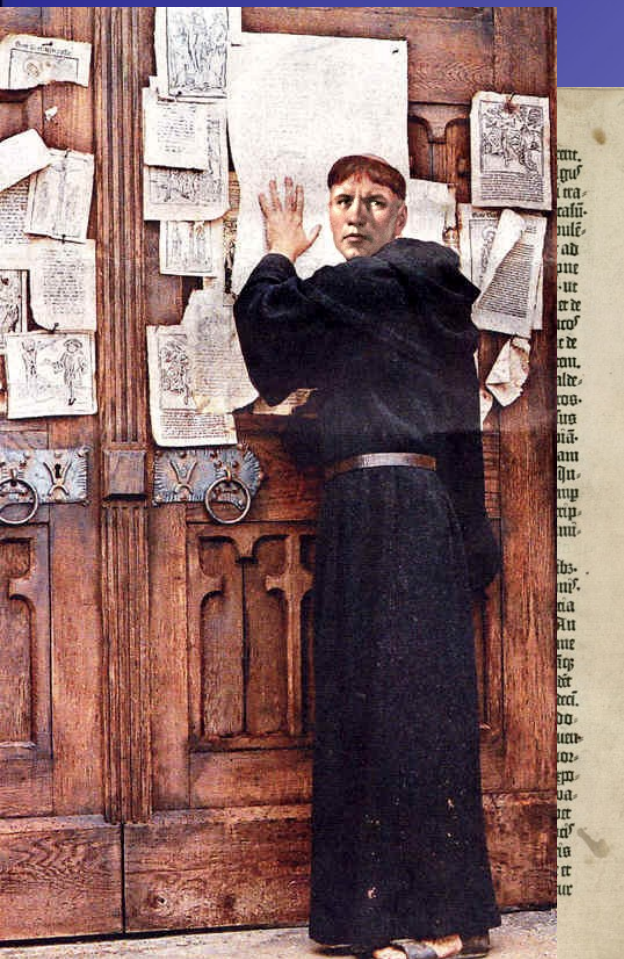
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- Literacy skyrocketed, social movements were born, and the world changed
- Thus, Gutenberg has been called the tacit father of both modern democracy (try to picture our Revolutionary War without *The Federalist Papers* or *Common Sense*)





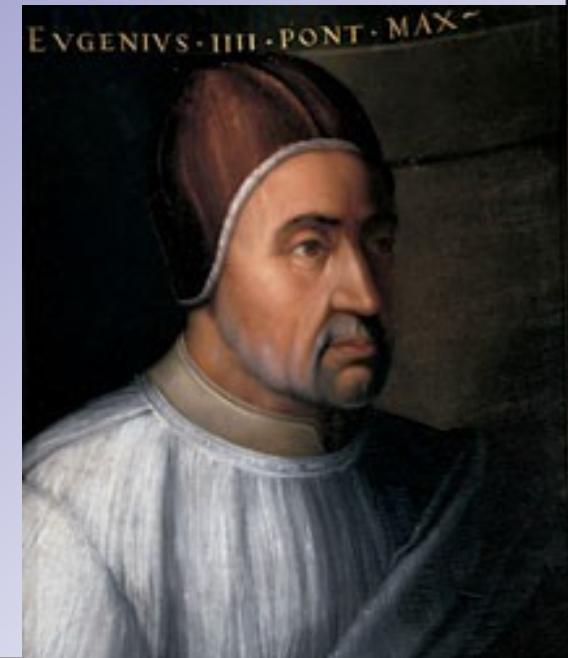
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          - Literacy skyrocketed, social movements were born, and the world changed
          - Thus, Gutenberg has been called the tacit father of both modern democracy and the Reformation itself, since mass printing was crucial to disseminating Luther's *95 Theses*—which otherwise would've been left on the “bulletin board”



# ***The Renaissance***

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  - 1453 Constantinople fell to the Muslim Turks
  - 1455 Gutenberg produced a *printed* Bible
  - 1464 Paul II became the new Pope
    - (in large part due to Pope Eugene IV having been his uncle)
    - (NOTE: Our word “nepotism” derives from the Italian word “*nipote*”—meaning “nephew”—due primarily to the Papal practice of favoring their own family members)





# *The Renaissance*

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  - 1464 Paul II became the new Pope
    - He was the first Pope to make use of the new technology of the printing press
      - Soon, both Subiaco and Rome had their own Papal printing houses, and the Church began printing books and Papal bulls by the score
      - Unfortunately, that’s about Paul’s only positive legacy, since he was also accused of being a homosexual sadist, who pleased himself while watching handsome, naked men being tortured in his private rooms
        - According to more than one contemporary source, Paul died of a heart attack while in the process of sodomizing a young boy



# The Renaissance

- Europe and “Christendom” were in trouble
  - 1453 Constantinople fell to the Muslim Turks
  - 1455 Gutenberg produced a *printed* Bible
  - 1464 Paul II became the new Pope
  - 1471 Sixtus IV became the new Pope
    - As a cardinal, he had been renowned for his piety and love of God—he had even written popular treatises on theology
      - Once he became Pope, however, he spent much of his time and energy bestowing gifts and favors on his family and friends
        - He even fomented wars and rebellions, if it might gain him more wealth and power
          - For instance, he was involved in the attempt to assassinate Lorenzo di' Medici in Florence so that he could place his own nephew, Girolamo Riario, on the throne





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- As a cardinal, he had been renowned for his piety and love of God—he had even written popular treatises on theology

- Once he became Pope, however, he spent much of his time and energy bestowing gifts and favors on his family and friends

- He also increased the number of Papal brothels dramatically

(Remember: the Church had been not only allowing but *running* brothels for centuries, arguing that they prevent decent women and children from being raped, since men cannot be expected to control their sexual urges)

(For instance, the Church had engaged 1,500 prostitutes to service the cardinals who'd met at the Council of Basel from 1431-1438)



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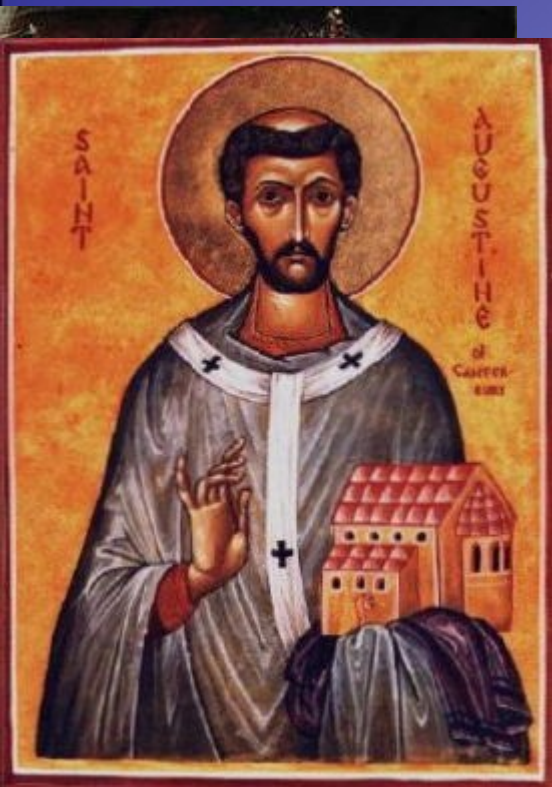
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(As Augustine had argued, “If you expel prostitution from society, you will unsettle everything on account of lusts”)





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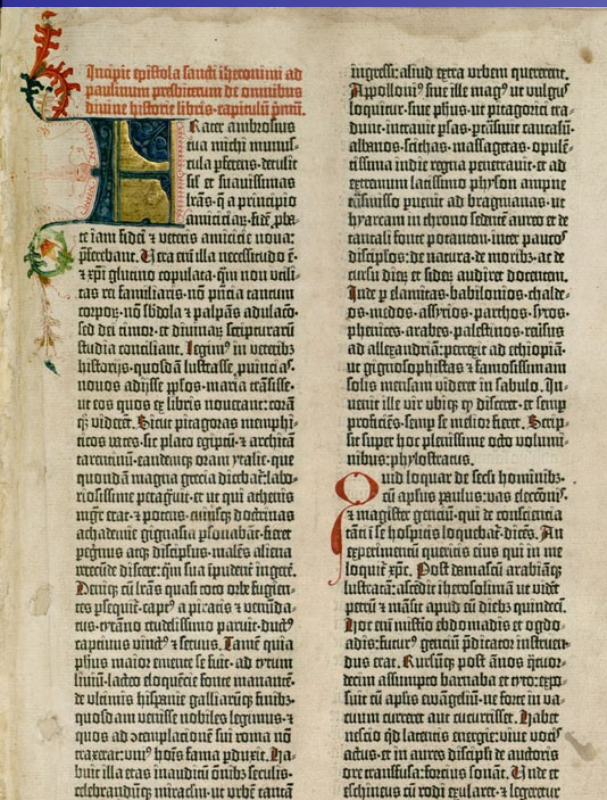
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- Sixtus himself brought in almost 30,000 ducats annually from Roman brothels

(NOTE: That's enough to buy 1,000 of Gutenberg's most high-end, expensive Bibles... every year...)

(Or, to put it into modern terms, Pope Sixtus earned roughly \$100 million a year in personal profits from his prostitutes)





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- In fact, when he died, Sixtus was in the process of drafting a plan to turn Italian nunneries into “brothels filled with the choicest prostitutes—lean with fasting, but full of lust”





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- Sixtus himself brought in almost 30,000 ducats annually from Roman brothels

- He'd also supposedly given the Cardinal of Santa Lucia “the authorization to practice sodomy during periods of warm weather”

- Sixtus believed that, say, Paul II's problem wasn't really the *sodomy*—it was the *rape* of young boys that dishonored God
- Sixtus himself was reputed to be a homosexual, who promoted several young cardinals based on their beauty



# The Renaissance

- Europe and “Christendom” were in trouble

1453 Constantinople fell to the Muslim Turks

1455 Gutenberg produced a *printed* Bible

1464 Paul II became the new Pope

1471 Sixtus IV became the new Pope

- As a cardinal, he had been renowned for his piety and love of God—he had even written popular treatises on theology

- Once he became Pope, however, he spent much of his time and energy bestowing gifts and favors on his family and friends

- He also increased the number of Papal brothels dramatically

- Remember: Sixtus thought that all of this actually did glorify God (at least, mostly)

- In his mind, he was saving countless women and children from sexual molestation, putting all of those nuns and pretty young men to good use, and making money for both his loved ones and the Church in the process

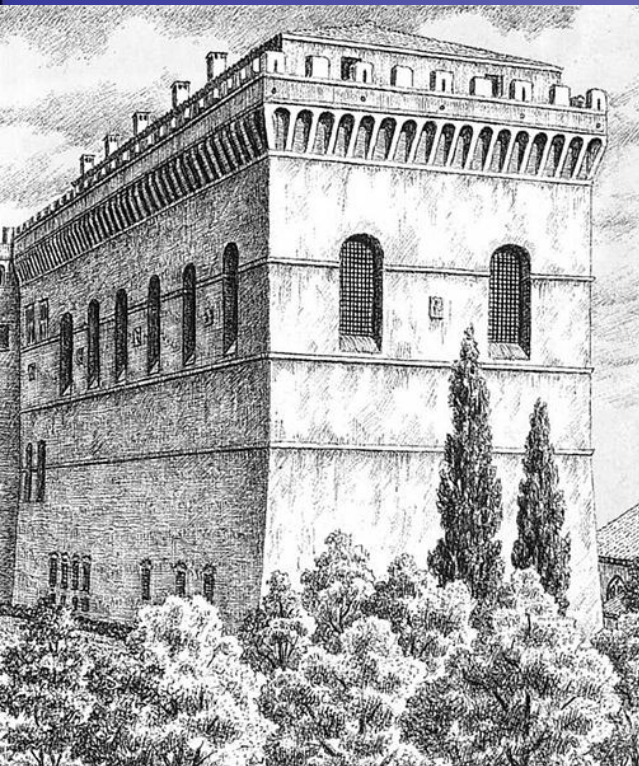
- And all of that money was used for the really *important* things





# *The Renaissance*

- Funky little teaching moment—
  - The Sistine Chapel is named after Pope Sixtus IV who commissioned it as a restoration and expansion of the older *Cappella Maggiore*
  - Calling it the *Cappella Magna*, it was intended to be the private chapel for the Pope and his high officials to worship in on special occasions  
(not for everyday, *mundane* worship—because they already had a Papal chapel for that—but for when the *really important* people like political leaders and such needed to be “wowed” and impressed)





# The Renaissance

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  - As such, it was designed to be lavish—and was thus expensively furnished and decorated



For instance, though the famous ceiling was commissioned a generation later by Sixtus' nephew, Pope Julius II, and painted by Michelangelo, Sixtus did commission artists such as Sandro Botticelli to create frescos like the *Trials of Moses* and the *Temptation of Christ* to line the walls before the chapel even opened in 1483

- (NOTE: the *tapestries* alone cost more than 15,000 ducats to weave, and then at least another 1,000 ducats for Raphael to paint—or over \$50 million in modern terms, just for the tapestries)





# ***The Renaissance***

- Funky little teaching moment<sup>2</sup>—
  - In 1478, Pope Sixtus worked in Castile with King Fernando II and Queen Isabel to create the Spanish Inquisition to find heretics and witches naming Dominican Tomás de Torquemada as its first Grand Inquisitor...

