QUESTIONS FOR CHAPTER TEN

1. Fill out your Summary #3 sheets for the Byzantine Empire, Western Europe, and Kievan Russia. Then answer the following question: What factors might have accounted for the different economic, social, political, and cultural differences between the first two civilizations mentioned above?

2. In what ways was the Christian church in Byzantium different from the Christian church in the West? What factors caused these differences? Why did a schism take place during the eighth century?

3. Why was the Byzantine Empire able to hold together during this period and how did this affect its society and culture? Why were Justinian's contributions so important? What increasing problems did the empire face after the eighth century?

4. Describe the decline of the Roman Empire. Could it be described as a “fall?” What part did the Germanic kingdoms play in this decline? What happened to Roman law and culture during this period?
5. Who were the Carolingians? Who was Charlemagne? What did he accomplish? How successful was he? What threat did the Vikings pose during the late eighth century?

6. What does the author mean by “a basic economy”? Why might some historians describe this economy as a “manorial economic system” i.e. manorialism?

7. Why did the social/political system of feudalism develop? Describe the basic elements of “feudal society.” What parts did vassals, fiefs, knights, and “the lord of the manor” play in this society?

8. What problems did the early church face? Why was the papacy so important? What was the significance of the Investiture conflict? What did monasticism contribute to the development of the medieval church and to medieval life in general?
9. What were the “roots” of the Crusades? What was their “impact?” Contrast the motive and results of the First Crusade (1095) with that of the Fourth (1204.)

10. The author makes the point that the “...intermediate periods between empires seems to be unusually creative and culturally dynamic times.” Would this statement be equally of Western Europe between 500 and 1200 and Byzantium during the same period? Why or why not?

TERMS TO KNOW

Charlemagne  Bayeux Tapestry  Caesaropapism
Carolingian miniscule  Schism  Justinian
Holy Roman Empire  Council of Nicaea  Corpus Juris Civilis
“Middle Ages”  Gregory VII  Cyril/Methodius
Germanic tribes  Investiture conflict  Moldboard plow
Franks, Visigoths  Henry II  Horse collar
Angles, Saxons  Thomas á Becket  Three field system
Muslim invasions  Feudal law,  Pilgrimage
Viking raiders  Canon law,  Crusades
Subsistence economy  Roman law  Orthodoxy
Manor  Univ. of Bologna  Orthopraxy
Villa  Benedict, the Rule  Eleanor of Aquitaine
Castle  Cluniac reform  King John
Feudal knight  Latin Church  Magna Carta
Feudum, fief  Orthodox Church  Patriarchate
Vassal  Bishop of Rome