

## THE ORIGIN OF CIVILIZATION

The fertile area between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers is believed to be the cradle of civilization. There, man learned the cooperation necessary to develop the rich, yet swampy, farmland. Archaeologists in recent years have found the remnants of cities in that ancient area, once known as Mesopotamia.


**Location.** Most authorities agree that the cradle of civilization was the alluvial plain between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. That area, part of the Fertile Crescent (a rich, crescent-shaped area that stretches from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean Sea), contained some of the richest farmland in the world; yet it was so swampy that much cooperation was necessary to cultivate it. That need for cooperation brought the inhabitants together and caused them to organize themselves as a society.

Historians believe that the inhabitants of this area came from the mountains east of the Tigris. Bible believers would agree that, in fact, they came from Ararat. Around 3,000 B.C. cities first arose in Sumer. Those cities were built by Nimrod, called the "mighty hunter." They were called Babel, Erech, Accad (hence the Akkadian language), and Calneh. Sumer was the location of biblical Shinar. Among archaeological findings in these areas are ziggurats, or temple towers. These ziggurats are reminiscent of the biblical Tower of Babel.



Mesopotamia and the Fertile Crescent

Actually, Erech was in Sumer proper and served as the ancient capital. Babel and Accad were in the region north of Sumer known as Akkad. The cities were really independent city-states. They worshiped local gods, and commerce was regulated by priests.

 Write the letter for the correct answer on each line.

- 1.54 According to most historians, the cradle of civilization was in \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Egypt                      b. Syria                      c. Turkey                      d. Mesopotamia
- 1.55 To cultivate this area, \_\_\_\_\_ was needed.
- a. patience                      b. cooperation                      c. a tool                      d. a cow
- 1.56 The area that stretches from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean Sea and contains some of the richest farmland in the world, is called the \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Fertile Crescent                      b. ziggurat                      c. Nile                      d. Akkad
- 1.57 Cities first arose in Sumer around \_\_\_\_\_ B.C.
- a. 500                      b. 1000                      c. 4004                      d. 3000
- 1.58 A ziggurat is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. rich farmland                      b. temple tower                      c. ancient capital                      d. workman

- Describe the Germanic ideas of government and law and their influence on future systems of government and law.
- Explain the role of the Eastern Empire in the sixth century.
- Identify some of the early church fathers and Christian writers and missionaries.
- Explain the Arab invasions and the rise of Islam.

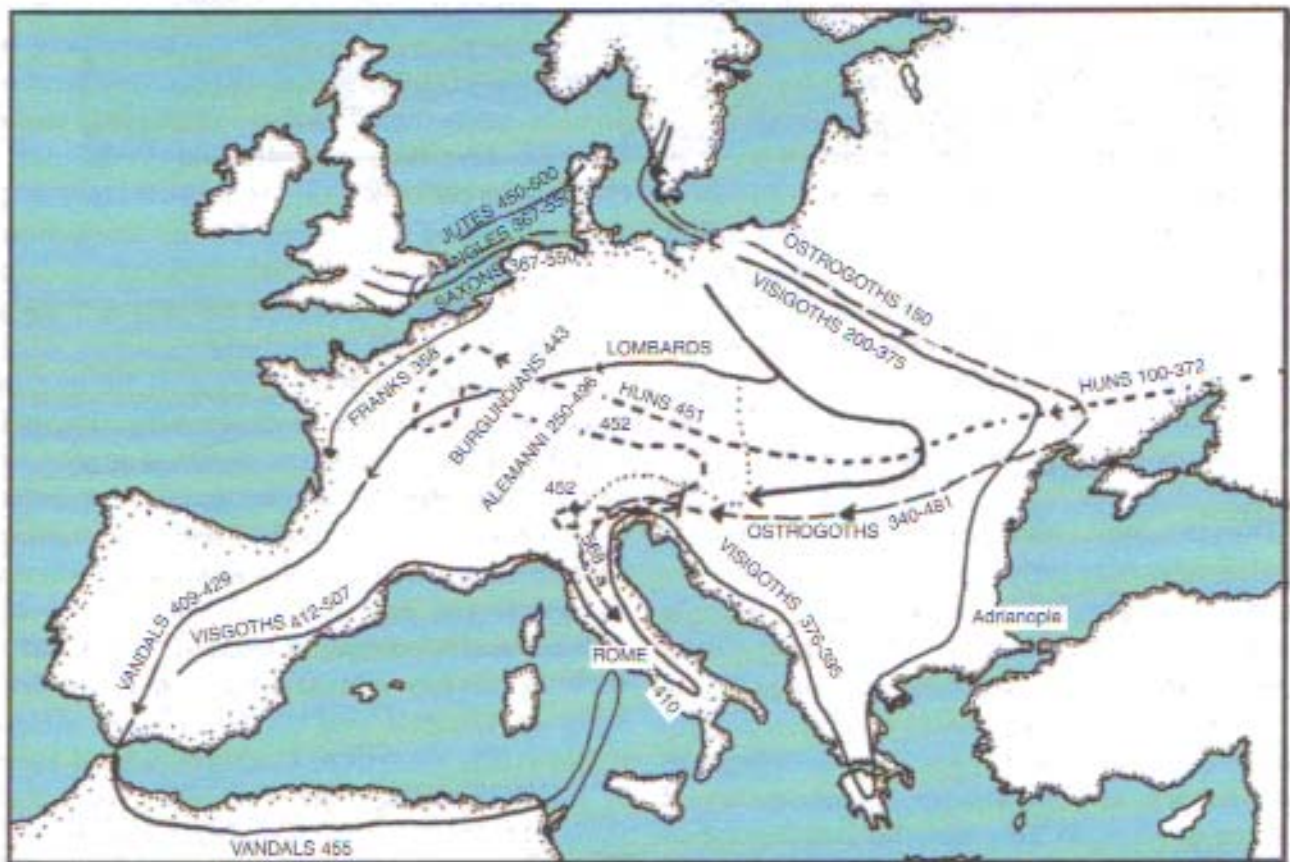
## SECTION VOCABULARY

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

caliph  
comitatus  
compensation  
infidel  
nomad

Shiites  
Sunnites  
synods  
witan

## BARBARIAN INVASIONS



**Major Barbarian Invasions  
Second to Sixth Centuries**

Part of the decline of the Western Roman Empire was due to the vast numbers of barbarians migrating from one section of Europe and Asia to another. Some of these same barbarians had been hired by Rome as mercenary soldiers to keep order in the provinces. To understand the barbarian invasions and the lasting effect that they had on the formation of Europe, it is necessary to learn just who these barbarians were and

why they moved across Europe as they did.

The word barbarian, *barbarus* in Latin, was used by the Romans to describe all the tribes outside the boundaries of the empire. These uncivilized tribes were generally nomadic peoples. A list of some of the major barbarian tribes may help to put this broad group of humanity into perspective.



Review the material in this section in preparation for the Self Test. The Self Test will check your mastery of this particular section. The items missed on this Self Test will indicate specific areas where restudy is needed for mastery.

## SELF TEST 1

**Match these items** (each answer, 2 points).

- |       |       |                       |    |                                   |
|-------|-------|-----------------------|----|-----------------------------------|
| 1.01  | _____ | Gutenberg             | a. | flying shuttle                    |
| 1.02  | _____ | Watt                  | b. | steam engine                      |
| 1.03  | _____ | McAdam                | c. | wars to capture the Holy Land     |
| 1.04  | _____ | Kay                   | d. | printing press                    |
| 1.05  | _____ | Hargreaves            | e. | cotton gin                        |
| 1.06  | _____ | Fulton                | f. | spinning jenny                    |
| 1.07  | _____ | Stephenson            | g. | <i>Clermont</i>                   |
| 1.08  | _____ | Crusades              | h. | change from hand to machine       |
| 1.09  | _____ | Whitney               | i. | <i>Torch</i>                      |
| 1.010 | _____ | Industrial Revolution | j. | improved road building            |
|       |       |                       | k. | wars of the Industrial Revolution |
|       |       |                       | l. | <i>Rocket</i>                     |

**Complete these statements** (each answer, 3 points).

- 1.011 Europe's dark years under the feudal system are called the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.012 Monasteries set an example for factories in a. \_\_\_\_\_ and b. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.013 The Crusades revived Europe's interest in a. \_\_\_\_\_ and b. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.014 Industrialized methods and inventions were used first in England in the \_\_\_\_\_ industry.
- 1.015 Two raw materials needed by industry were a. \_\_\_\_\_ and b. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.016 The two groups of factory employees were a. \_\_\_\_\_ and b. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.017 People who individually bought into a corporation were called \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.018 The disadvantages of factory life were endured largely by the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.019 Inventions that developed from the use of the steam engine in transportation were the a. \_\_\_\_\_ and b. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.020 Factories were first powered by a. \_\_\_\_\_ then changed to b. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Write true or false** (each answer, 1 point).

- 1.021 \_\_\_\_\_ The Crusades were led by Catholic Turks to free Palestine.
- 1.022 \_\_\_\_\_ The production of goods by trained workers was necessary for trade to increase.
- 1.023 \_\_\_\_\_ The Bible was the first book to be printed on Hargreaves' press.
- 1.024 \_\_\_\_\_ The Industrial Revolution really began in England after 1750.
- 1.025 \_\_\_\_\_ Kay's and Hargreaves' inventions increased textile production.

