

Essay B

After the Fall of the Roman Empire the medieval church was left to carry on bring order to a now chaotic world. The events, and changes in power caused great growth at one time and at another great disruption in church power and development.

With the Roman Empire gone the church had depended on the Byzantine Empire to provide protection.

~~But~~ But as the Lombards pursued to conquer Rome and the Byzantine Empire having its hands full with the Muslims Pope

Stephen II was forced to turn to toward the Franks and Pepin III for help.

Pepin defeated the Lombards and granted the land held previously by the Lombard to the church - a gift that became known as the Papal

states. ~~Once again~~ the church again had allies and committed to convert all of the western world to christianity. Pepin's son ^{Charlemagne} continued to aid the church and more so Pope Leo III. He completed his father's work of conquering the Lombards and continued until conquering the Saxons.

Leo III renewed the use of the doctrine of Constantine and with the added gift of Pepin, to try and further that the church had power and control over all of the Western Roman Empire. But after a struggle in Rome Leo was forced to flee to Charlemagne's court. With the help of Charlemagne Leo regained control of Rome and in return crowned Charlemagne as Emperor in December 800.

Charlemagne also kept alive the intellectual side of the church

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He created schools to teach the clergy of the church & officials for his own gov't. Monks were given the task of copying manuscripts and classical authors.

These renewals in education brought a new intellectual power to both the church and the ~~Carolingian~~ Carolingian Empire.

But, it was short lived. After Charlemagne's death his sons were unable to hold the empire. It fell and was broken up. Charlemagne's Barons and other nobles became separated each controlling his own separate region of land; eventually became Feudalism. Under Feudalism the church now turned to the land owners for protection a move which hampered the development of the church. The Noble land owners saw the clergy & the

church as something they could control. They began to gain control over monasteries and churches through land grants and support. In return they were allowed to appoint Priests, Bishops, and abbots, many of these new leaders were untrained or didn't care for the spiritual practices of the church, and the concept of Lay Investiture or the appointing of clergy by secular rulers created a falling spiritual leadership for the church and got as ~~bad~~^{bad} as simony or the selling of church offices and concubinage or clergy with unofficial wives.

~~King~~ Duke William in France found the monastery of Cluny, which created a reform that would change the church and its relations with the secular rulers. William granted Cluny an independence

from secular rule and the Clunian Reform pushed to revitalize the Church. They sought to rid the Church of all unholy practices. Copy of manuscripts and education was again the main focus of the monks. They banned lay investiture and simony and fought to free the church of concubinage through the freedom from secular rule allowed the reform to advance rapidly but also brought conflict between the two governing forces. The first major conflict arose between Pope Gregory VII and King Henry IV. Both had appointed candidates to fill the Bishopric in Milan. Gregory, believing he was "Christ's Vicar on Earth", believed he had power over all Christianity. ~~and~~ So Gregory ~~and~~ decided to use the weapons at hand; he excommunicated.

Leo IX.

Henry twice. The first time he succeeded and Henry was forced to dress in rags and beg forgiveness. The second time Henry just appointed a new Pope and Gregory was exiled from Rome. However the battle continued until finally in ^{July} 1101 an agreement was made at the ~~Grand~~ Concordat of Worms. 1122

It allowed ~~the~~ the king the power to invest temporal power on newly appointed clergy and the right to attend the election of the new Pope or other officials. However the investment of the spiritual power and symbols was now solely the Pope's right.

Urban II furthered the increase in papal power though few ~~Popes~~ Popes sought to fight and use their powers of excommunication. Urban ~~reorganized~~ now had a reorganized

hierarchy in the church that allowed him to bring into power a papal court. He furthered the use and study of canon (church) law which aided the power of the courts. He also brought power and land to the church by taking control of the Crusades. The land owners were again at the defense of the church but this ~~the~~ time they were empowered by a holy vision on a holy task that the Pope said ~~at~~ they only could fulfill.

It was then under the ~~direction~~ direction of Pope Innocent III that the church medieval church acquired its peak. Through earlier efforts Innocent now had the papal courts whose power he increased through the revival of Roman law - mixing Roman law with the canon law to

further the power of the Pope.
In the law words such as "Emperor"
and "Prince" were now replaced
by the "Pope" giving him by law
all power of christianity and the
world. Innocent also issued an
income tax or tithe on all churches
and monasteries. Now being
backed by money and the law
Innocent was able to use his
Papal Power to the benefit of the
Church.

In France, King ^{Philip} Augustus has
tried to divorce his wife. Innocent
stepped and decreed that he couldn't
divorce his wife and had to maintain
her. In England King John fought
him over the appointment of a
abbot. Not only did Innocent
excommunicate John but he placed
an Interdict on England. The
interdict caused that no member

of the Catholic Church under John's rule could receive the sacraments. John was forced to give in.

Why was Innocent's attempts more successful than Gregory's?

Through the slow and constant build up of the Papal power the Church again became intellectual; it had the law and thus controlled courts, officials, and education. It could bend or rewrite the law to its benefit, allowing the church to gain land and ~~and~~ control over the govt. It also allowed the church to receive the income that before had gone to the lords and kings, allowing the church to now be an economical force as well. Once the Church had gained its control the secular rulers who were now the ones at a disadvantage and thus forced

to give in and further succeed their
power to the Pope and church |