

## Chapter 12

**Renaissance; "re-birth" 1350-1550**

**Italy- leader in Renaissance**

**Jacob Burchhardt; coined term Renaissance in 1860**

**The birth of the modern world... Secular  
Individuality**

**Black Death... Recession, Disorder, Questioning faith  
40 million dead of 90 million**

**Leon Battista Alberti- Florence architect... "the well rounded  
person" Individual ability "men can do all things"**

**Venice... Home to Flander Fleet Sea trading Co.**

**Hansa (Hanseatic league) sea trading Co.- Trade from  
England, N. Europe, Scandinavia (monopoly)**

**City of Burges... Both companies operated there, it  
becomes crossroads of Europe (Trade).**

**Florence, Italy... #1 wool industry! Minerals (mining)... metal  
works,,, firearms production.**

**Medici family... Banking industry.. "House of Medici". They were  
the Pope's bankers! Went bankrupt in 1494 bad loans.**

**Social Classes: Estates**

**1<sup>st</sup> Clergy**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Nobles 2-3% of population**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Peasants & townspeople 85-90% population.**

**Patricians...wealthy townspeople (burgers)**

**Serfdom had come to end... (Black Death effect)**

**30-40% were unemployed, and property less workers (poverty)**

**Baldassare Castiglione... Book of Courtier attributes of the perfect aristocrat (noble). Body, mind and behavior.**

**Slaves... Revived due to black death labor shortages.**

**Italy attained most from Black Sea area, Russia, Albania. Ethiopia and Spanish Muslims. Portugal began importation from Africa due to ship exploration.**

**In Venice, females were the main slave.**

**Family... Dowry the \$ from wife's family to husband family to increase social status. Marriages were arranged. Men were late 30's to 40's, girl's teenagers.**

**Father had to declare son adult to public.**

**50% of children did not live to 20! Many women died in childbirth.**

## **ITALY**

**5 areas**

**Milan- North Francesco Sforza the duke**

**Venice – North Commercial, maritime industry. A lot of \$ and power. Expanded territory for resources.**

**Florence- “Tuscany” Cosimo de Medici family in control.  
Cultural center of Renaissance.**

**Papal States- Central Italy. City-states grew in power due to weakening of Papal power.**

**Naples- Poor, southern area. Not part of Renaissance.**

**All government were oligarchy, but some like Florence were fake Republics, with families of nobles controlling power.**

**Federigo da Montefeltro... leader of city-state Urbino (papal state). A patron of the Renaissance. A benevolent despot. Wife Battista Sforza... well educated, led in his absence.**

**Isabelle d'Este... First lady of the World... Attracted artists and intellectuals. Wife of Gonzaga of Mantua Italy.**

**Italy was not united but held together by a "balance of Power"  
Peace of Lodi... equalized power to calm fears .**

**Italy became the battle ground of France and Spain.**

**Ludavico Sforza- duke of Milan asked French king Charles VIII to intervene in Italian politics. His army occupied Naples.  
Spain...Ferdinand of Aragon came to aid the other Italian states.**

**This was due to a power struggle between the families of Valois and the Habsburgs.. Francis I of France (V), Charles II Spain (H).  
Confrontation ended with sack of Rome in 1527. Spain controlled Italy. Italy was never a united nation until 1870.**

**This balance of power led to the art of modern Diplomacy.  
Permanent ambassadors that represented the state and aide only the government. Prior to that, diplomacy was a work of Christendom, a moral tool that represented God and the Church.**

**Niccolo Machiavelli The Prince**

**Contradicted the notion that the ruler should use Christian principles.. Not worry about conscience. (Secularism) Harsh rule.**

Italy was the cultural leader of the world. A wealthy urban society.

**HUMANISM....** Based on classical Greek and Roman writings.  
"the Humanities"

Teachers were secular, not clergy and often participated in civic life/politics.

**Petrarch...** father of the Humanities. Coined the term "Dark Ages" for Middle Ages.  
Emphasis... classical Latin

**Florence, Italy...** center of civic Humanism.

**Leonardo Bruni...** wrote the New Cicero "live for the state" and participation in it. Student of Manuel Chrysolaras. Teacher of classical Greece; Plato, Sophocles etc...

**Lorenzo Valla...** Restore Latin over vernacular. Use the Latin of the Roman Republic and 1<sup>st</sup> Century empire as common, unchanging language of education, intellectuals.

**The Florentine Platonic Academy.** Funded by Cosimo de Medici

**Marsilio Ficino...** translated Plato's works. Neoplatonism... The philosophy of Plato applied to action. A hierarchy of substances... low to highest (God). Love binds and holds together.

Corpus Hermeticum Theological and philosophical teaching...  
God in all things... A mix of occult and theology.

A new view... Humans are divine and freely choose to enter the material world (nature) so humans need to purify the soul to get back to the divine. Once, done they are magi and can use nature to benefit man. The rise of man equaling God!

**Giovanni Pico della Mirandola... Oration on the Dignity of Man.  
An endorsement of the unlimited human potential.  
A Hermetic philosopher seeking "secret knowledge" of nature.**

**Education became a source to change men in the Renaissance.**

**Vittorino da Feltra... A humanist school for the ruler Gian  
Gonzaga of Mantua's children. Based upon the classical ideas of  
Cicero & Quintilian. The concept of "Liberal studies is  
introduced".**

**Concerning Education by Pietro Vergerio. Liberal Arts offers true  
freedom for man. Train mind and body. Physical education,  
Latin, math, rhetorical skills, theology... (Humanist education)**

**The students were elite and girls absent! Some women were  
educated, but few (see text for names)**

**The aim of this type of education was to create good citizens for  
civic life (civic humanism), not just scholars. Established the  
basis for education to this day!**

**History in the Renaissance...**

**View of time: Classical Age... Dark Middle Age... a rebirth  
(Renaissance age) A new perspective of historical time!**

**Secularized history, eliminated or reduced the role of God and  
began using documents as sources. Emphasis on political  
events and used the skill of analysis. Human motives of event.**

**Francesco Guicciardini... Greatest Renaissance historian...  
History of Italy History of Florence. The purpose of history is to  
teach lessons. Used personal examples and documented  
sources.**

**Printing... Johannes Gutenberg moveable type. Bible first book produced! Began in Holy Roman empire (Germany) In 10yrs, Venice was printing center w/ 100 printers.**

**50% religious texts.**

**Spread research, standardized textbooks, reading & literacy, Accelerated spread of ideas. One of the biggest technology feats of mankind!**

**Art...**

**The imitation of nature its primary goal! Realistic. Human beings become the center of attention in art.**

**Began by Giotto in the 14 century.... Carried on by Masaccio in Florence... His fresco's in Brancacci Chapel are the 1<sup>st</sup> masterpieces of Renaissance.**

**Three dimensional, use of perspective, creation of light, created the realistic appeal. The "mathematical side of painting"**

**The study and reproduction of anatomy of the body added to realism... see The Martyrdom of St. Sebastian by Antonio Pollaiuolo... the body under stress.**

**Sandro Botticelli part of the art circle created by Lorenzo the Magnificent in Florence...began painting beyond realism and into the "otherworldly"**

**Donato di Donatello... Studied ancient Rome statues. Statue of David based on this... realism...**

**Filippo Brunelleschi... in Rome to study architecture... created Church of San Lorenzo for the Medici... a simpler space for humans not divine... Gothic Cathedrals were a space for heaven, this was more closed, simpler... Romanesque.**

**Portraits became accurate depictions of their subjects (a photo)**

**This is all in keeping with the humanism, individuality mind set of the Renaissance.**

**The High Renaissance was 1480-1520, where the center of art moved to Rome. More individual styles were developing.**

**Leonardo da Vinci... Move from realism to an ideal form (perfect) Studied everything... A true "Renaissance Man"...**

**The Last Supper... beyond the uses of perspective and dimension and into bringing out psychological dimensions into the art. Bringing thought and personality into the picture by gestures, movement, expression (What is Mona Lisa thinking?)**

**Raphael... Madonna paintings.... Frescoes in the Vatican Palace... his School of Athens reveals balance, harmony and order- the principles of the classical world of Greece and Rome.**

**Michelangelo... Influenced by Neoplatonism... his paintings reveal an ideal type of human... His ceiling of the Sistine Chapel... statue of David... perfect muscles, proportion... Beauty is perfection, the more beautiful the more God like. Again, humanism in art, celebrating the glory of human beings.**

**Donato Bramante... architecture... The Tempietto- little temple columns, a dome form a harmonious whole that captured the grandeur of Rome.. Pope Julius II had him design St. Peter's Basilica.**

**Artists began the Middle Ages as artisans but by High Renaissance they were seen as geniuses linked to the divine. They were heroes, the first rock stars! Creativity won out over the craft and usefulness. Early works were funded by patrons thus reflected upper class values.**

**Artists were accepted into the upper class, elite and no longer simple artisans/craftspeople.**

**The Northern Renaissance... Focus was on detail**

**Flanders... most influential school northern art..**

**Jan van Eyck... first to use oil paint allowing for varied colors and detail. Famous painting Giovanni Arnolfini and His Bride... Great detail, lacks realistic use of perspective...**

**Focus on North painters was on visual reality, focus on detail and emotional intensity of religious feeling. Painted mainly altarpieces.**

**Albrecht Durer- German... Adoration of the Magi... studied in Italy and brought proportion and perspective into work, while keeping detail of northern art.**

**Music... Guillaume Dufay... Began use of secular music in Mass replacing Gregorian chants. Music began to move out of Church and into secular world. The main form of music was a madrigal... A poem set to music, 12 lines, in vernacular, and emotional/erotic. The melody would try to match its literal meaning (like the painters)**

**The European States in the Renaissance...**

**An attempt to reestablish the power of the monarchy.**

**France... War used as an excuse to establish authority...**

**Charles VII... Established a royal army... a taille-direct tax on land & property without approval of Estates-General.**

**King Louis XI- the Spider... Added land for a French territorial state.**

**England...**

**War of the Roses... a civil war ... house of Lancaster (red) vs. York(white). Henry Tudor defeated Yorkish king Richard III at Bosworth Field and the new Tudor dynatsty began.**



**Henry VII (Tudor King)... ended livery and maintenance- the practice of wealthy maintaining own army. Created Court of Star Chamber... no juries but torture against rebel nobles!**

**Used fees, duties, crown lands for income, and avoided wars thus keeping taxes low,,, Henry won favor and support for his monarchy.**

### **Spain**

**Marriage of Isabella of Castile & Ferdinand of Aragon united two dynasties taking a step to unify Spain, although each kept their own courts. Wealthy removed from royal council and replaced with middle class lawyers trained in Roman law and supported monarchy.**

**Spain created professional army**

**Supported Catholic Church and won right to appoint Church officials by Pople... Strict conformity... Jews held to the Inquisition to guarantee the truth of Jewish converts... Expelled all Jews in 1492. 1502 expelled all Muslims!**

### **Germany (The Holy Roman Empire)**

**Ruled by the Habsburg dynasty... Power due to marriage success! Ex... Phillip of Burgandy son of Maximilian I , Burgandy and Spain!**

**Hungary... converted to Catholic by German missionaries.**

**King Matthias Corvinus...Renaissance prince brought Italian scholars to his court...Undone upon death.**

**Russian, Ivan III the state of Moscow was born. Rid Russia of Mongol rule**

Byzantine Empire buffered Europe from Ottoman Turks (muslim)  
Spread from Asia Minor into the Balkans and conquered  
Constantinople in 1453 (Capital of Byzantine Empire)

## THE CHURCH...

Two heresies threatened the Church... Lollardy & Husitism.

John Wyclif...Lollardy...No claim for papal authority in scripture.  
Bible sole source of authority.  
Bible should be in vernacular language.  
If it's not in Bible don't practice.

John Hus... attacked worldliness and corruption of clergy.  
From Bohemia...did not support the German  
dominated clergy (Husitism)

Council of Constance- arrested and burned at stake.  
Sacrosancta-the Council got its authority from God,  
so Pope and Christians subject to its authority.  
Frequens- general councils to meet for further  
reforms.

Pope Pius II- Execrabilis- condemning appeals to council over  
head of Pope was heresy.

Renaissance Papacy...

Earthly concerns overcame spiritual ones...

Julius II- led armies against his enemies "warrior pope"

Nepotism- means nephew... Pope Sixtus IV

Alexander VI... had son, nephew, brother and mistress to cardinal  
status.

**Patrons of Arts...**

**Julius II... built St. Peters Basilica.**

**Leo X... participated in culture... son of Lorenzo de' Medici.  
Made Rome center of Renaissance.**

**The Renaissance thinking will pave the way for the Reformation.**