Objectives
As you teach this section, keep students focused on the following objectives to help them answer the Section Focus Question and master core content.
- Understand why Constantinople became known as the “New Rome.”
- Summarize the ways in which the Byzantine empire flourished under Justinian.
- Analyze how Christianity in the Byzantine empire differed from Christianity in the West.
- Explain why the Byzantine empire collapsed and examine the empire’s lasting heritage.

Prepare to Read
Build Background Knowledge
Ask students to review the main accomplishments of Greek and Roman civilization. Encourage them to use their knowledge of this heritage to predict what they will learn about the Byzantine empire.

Set a Purpose
- WITNESS HISTORY Read the selection aloud or play the audio.

WITNESS HISTORY Audio CD, A Sovereign City
Ask Why did the crusaders of 1203 open their eyes wide with wonder when they first saw Constantinople? (They had never seen such a large city with its magnificent palaces and churches and its impressive towers and walls.)
- Focus Point out the Section Focus Question and write it on the board. Tell students to refer to this question as they read. (Answer appears with Section 1 Assessment answers.)
- Preview Have students preview the Section Objectives and the list of Terms, People, and Places.
- Reading Skill Have students use the Reading Strategy: Categorize worksheet.

The Byzantine Empire

Objectives
- Understand why Constantinople became known as the “New Rome.”
- Summarize the ways in which the Byzantine empire flourished under Justinian.
- Analyze how Christianity in the Byzantine empire differed from Christianity in the West.
- Explain why the Byzantine empire collapsed and examine the empire’s lasting heritage.

Terms, People, and Places
- Constantinople
- Justinian
- Theodora
- patriarch
- apostolic
- Great Schism

Note Taking
Reading Skill: Recognize Sequence Keep track of the sequence of events in the Byzantine empire in a table.

Vocabulary Builder
Use the information below and the following resources to teach the high-use words from this section.

High-Use Words
- Constantinople, p. 282
- emperor, p. 282
-Justinian's Code, p. 282
- armistice, p. 282
- Constantine the Great, p. 282

Definitions and Sample Sentences
- Constantinople: a city that was the capital of the eastern Roman empire.
- emperor: a person who rules as head of state for a country or empire. The Byzantine empire was ruled by emperors.
- Justinian's Code: a legal code written by the Byzantine emperor Justinian.
- armistice: a temporary agreement between two countries that stops fighting so that they can begin to talk and try to work out a permanent settlement.
- Constantine the Great: the eastern Roman emperor who established Constantinople as the capital of the empire.

unify, p. 285
- to bring people or things together to form a single unit or entity.

A series of victories in battle unified the different kingdoms under one ruler.
As the heir to Rome, it promoted a brilliant civilization that nearly 1,000 years after the fall of the western Roman empire. The Byzantine empire eventually declined to a small area grander than ever. His great triumph was rebuilding the structures of his capital. In 532, riots and a devastating fire swept Constantinople. Many buildings were destroyed and many lives were lost. To restore Roman glory, Justinian launched a program to make Constantinople a capital of the empire. This massive collection included laws passed by Roman assemblies or decreed by Roman emperors, as well as the legal writings of Roman judges and a handbook for students. Justinian’s Code. Justinian left a more lasting monument in his capital. As the heir to Rome, it promoted a brilliant civilization that blended ancient Greek, Roman, and Christian influences with other traditions of the Mediterranean world.

\textbf{Byzantium Flourishes Under Justinian}

The Byzantine empire reached its peak under the emperor Justinian, who ruled from 527 to 565. Justinian was determined to recover ancient Rome by recovering lands that had been overrun by invaders. Led by the brilliant general Belisarius, Byzantine armies reconquered North Africa, Italy, and the southern Iberian peninsula. However, the fighting exhausted Justinian’s treasury and weakened his defense in the east. Moreover, the victorious were only temporary. Justinian’s successors would lose the bitterly contested lands, one after the other.

\textbf{The Great City Is Rebuilt}

Justinian left a more lasting monument to the structures of his capital. In 532, riots and a devastating fire swept Constantinople. Many buildings were destroyed and many lives were lost. To restore Roman glory, Justinian launched a program to make Constantinople grander than ever. The great triumph was rebuilding the church of Hagia Sophia. It was called “Holy Wisdom.” Its immense, arching dome imposed on earlier Roman buildings. The interior glowed with colored marble and embroidered silk curtains. Seeing this church, the emperor recalled King Solomon’s temple in Jerusalem. “Glory to God who has judged me worthy of accomplishing such a work as this,” Justinian exclaimed. “O Solomon, I have surpassed you!”

\textbf{Justinian’s Code Has Far-Reaching Effects}

Even more important than expanding the empire and rebuilding its capital was Justinian’s reform of the law. Later, one of his emperors, Justinian claimed to complete, revise, and organize all the laws of ancient Rome. The result was the Corpus Juris Civilis, or “Body of Civil Law” popularly known as Justinian’s Code. This massive collection included laws passed by Roman emperors, as well as the legal writings of Roman judges and a handbook for students. Justinian embarked on an ambitious building program to impress his new capital. Byzantium had been a walled city, but the new imperial buildings and growing population required a new set of walls outside the old, tripling the size of the city.

\textbf{Vocabulary Builder}

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textbf{inappropriate} (CRN: public rule not ap)
  \item \textbf{relating} (to relating to a limited time)
\end{itemize}

\textbf{Solutions for All Learners}

\textbf{Solutions for All Learners}

\textbf{Less Proficient Readers}

Organize the class into small groups. Ask students to suppose that they are Constantin’s “zoning board” and must create a simple diagram of the new Rome to present to the emperor. Diagrams should include significant features such as defensive walls, living areas, government buildings, marketplaces, and facilities for entertainment. Ask students to explain their choices to the class.

\textbf{English Language Learners}

Use the following resources to help students acquire basic skills:

- Adapted Reading and Note Taking Study Guide
- Adapted Note Taking Study Guide, p. 82
- Adapted Section Summary, p. 83

\textbf{Teach}

- \textbf{Introduce: Key Terms} Ask students to find the key term Constantinople (in blue) in the text. Explain that the name means “City of Constantine” and explain that Constantinople was the capital of the Byzantine empire.
- \textbf{Teach} Discuss the growth of Constantinople and ask the class for the reasons behind Constantine’s choice of location for the new capital. (on shores of the Bosporus, which links the Mediterranean and Black Seas; excellent harbor; protected by water on three sides; access to the Balkans, the Middle East, and North Africa)
- \textbf{Quick Activity} Show students The Byzantine Empire from the Witness History Discovery School video program. Ask them to describe how the Byzantine empire preserved Greek and Roman culture.

\textbf{Independent Practice}

Display Color Transparency 52: Byzantine Mosaic. Have students divide into pairs to discuss their reactions to the image. Then use the lesson suggested in the transparency book to guide a discussion of this unique period in the arts.

\textbf{Monitor Progress}

As students fill in their tables, circle to make sure they understand the sequence of events that led to the success of the Byzantine empire. For a completed version of the table, see Note Taking Transparencies, B4

\textbf{Answer}

Protected by walls and water, it commanded key trade routes linking Europe and Asia, making it Europe’s busiest marketplace.
Byzantium Flourishes Under Justinian

Instruct

- **Introduce: Key Terms** Have students skim the text to find the term Justinian’s Code (in blue). Point out that today, each city and state has a similar set of laws and legal writings. Ask students to suggest reasons why this is necessary.

- **Teach** Discuss the expansion and contraction of the Byzantine empire. Ask How did Justinian contribute to the expansion phase? (rebuilt Constantinople; formed a strong central government; reformed the laws of ancient Rome; built a powerful military; increased the fortunes of the empire) Remind students that under Justinian’s successors, the Byzantine empire was finally reduced to a relatively small geographic area around Constantinople. Ask What were some of the causes of this contraction? (constant military campaigns; depleted treasury; struggles over power and succession; success of Muslim armies in the Mediterranean region)

Independent Practice

- **Viewpoints** To help students see the differing viewpoints on Justinian’s rule, have them read the selection Emperor Justinian and complete the worksheet.

- **Primary Source** Have students study the Infographic on Hagia Sophia. To help students better understand this monument to two religions, have them read the selections from On Buildings by Procopius and complete the worksheet.

Monitor Progress

Circulate to make sure that students understand the viewpoints on Justinian and the descriptions of Hagia Sophia.

**Answers**

**Thinking Critically**

1. It was a rich and magnificent city that stood at a cultural and economic crossroads.
2. To preserve its rich history and religious diversity

**Careers**

**Architect** Designing buildings, whether commercial, industrial, or residential, is the work of the architect. When creating a plan for a new house, shopping center, church, stadium, or the like, the architect must consider function, safety, and economy. Architects are involved in all phases of development, from the idea stage through the finished product. Knowledge of local, state, and federal building codes, zoning laws, and fire regulations is essential. Most architects today use computer-aided design and drafting (CADD), rather than pencil and paper, to do their work. Prospective architects must obtain a college degree, complete an internship, and pass a state examination in order to be licensed.
Justinian's Code had an impact far beyond the Byzantine empire. By the 1100s, it had reached Western Europe. There, monarchs modeled their laws on its principles, which helped them to strengthen and centralize their power. Centuries later, the code also guided legal thinkers who began to put together the international law in use today.

Justinian Rules With Absolute Power Justinian used the law to unite the empire under his control. He ruled as an autocrat, or sole ruler with complete authority. The Byzantine emperor also had power over the Church. He was deemed Christ's co-ruler on Earth. As a Byzantine official wrote, "The emperor is equal to all men in the nature of his body, but in the authority of his rank he is similar to God, who rules all." Unlike feudal monarchs in Western Europe, he combined both political power and spiritual authority. His control was aided by his wife, Theodora. A shrewd politician, she served as advisor and co-ruler to Justinian and even purposed her own policies.

Economic and Military Strength Is Second to None The Byzantine empire flourished under a strong central government, which exercised strict control over a prosperous economy. Peasants farmed the backbone of the empire, working the land, plying trades, and providing soldiers for the military. In the cities of the empire, trade and industry flourished. While the economy of Western Europe struggled and use of money declined, the Byzantine empire preserved a healthy money economy. The bezant, the Byzantine gold coin stamped with the emperor's image, circulated from England to China.

At the same time, the Byzantines built one of the strongest military forces in the world. Navies, ships, and sailors protected the empire, and fortifications protected its capital. The Byzantines also relied on secret weapon called Greek fire, a liquid that probably contained potassium. Thrown toward an enemy, it would ignite contact, and its fire could not be put out with water. For centuries, Greek fire was an effective and terrifying weapon of the Byzantine navy.

The Empire's Fortunes Change In the centuries afterJustinian, the empire faced successive attacks by Persians, Slavs, Vikings, Huns, and Turks. These attacks were largely unsuccessful. The empire thus served as a buffer for Western Europe, especially in preventing the spread of Muslim conquest. Beginning in the 600s and 700s, however, Arab armies gradually gained control of much of the Mediterranean world. Still, Constantinople itself withstood their attack, and the Byzantines held on to their heartland in the Balkans and Asia Minor.

- Byzantine Christianity

Instruct
- Introduce Display Color Transparency 53: Byzantine Icon. Explain that one of the controversies that led to the Great Schism was over the purpose of icons such as this one.
- Color Transparencies, 53

Teach Point out that Christianity was practiced differently in the Byzantine empire than in Western Europe. Ask What were the key differences between the Greek Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches? (Byzantine rejection of pope's authority and Roman rejection of the Byzantine patriarch's authority; Orthodox use of Greek rather than Latin, Roman view of icons as "graven" rather than "holy" images) Then display Color Transparency 51: Major Religions, About 1300. Point out the areas on the map that were mainly Roman Catholic and those areas that were mainly Orthodox Christian.
- Color Transparencies, 51

Answers
- She was a courageous politician who challenged Justinian to stand his ground and crush the rebellion.
- revolved Constantinople; with autocratic rule unified and enlarged the empire to reach its greatest size; built the strongest military force in the world; restored Roman glory by rebuilding the Church of Hagia Sophia; returned the laws of ancient Rome and created "a body of civil law" known as Justinian's code

Chapter 9 Section 1 285
The Byzantine empire reached its greatest size by 565. By 1000, it had lost much of its territory to invading armies. 

**Independent Practice**

Distribute the Outline Map *The Byzantine Empire*. Have students label and color the Bosporus Strait, the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, Constantinople, Jerusalem, Athens, Rome, Alexandria, and Asia Minor.

**Map Skills**

Answers

**Map Skills**

1. Review locations with students.
2. Have students access Web Code nap-0912 to take the Geography Interactive Audio Guided Tour and answer the map skills questions in the text. Have students predict how location contributed to the collapse of the Byzantine empire.

**Quick Activity**

Have students access Web Code map-0912 to take the Geography Interactive Audio Guided Tour and answer the map skills questions in the text. Have students predict how location contributed to the collapse of the Byzantine empire.

**Monitor Progress**

Circulate to make sure that students are labeling their Outline Maps accurately.

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*The Byzantine Empire, Russia, and Eastern Europe*

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A Growing Rift in the Church

Justinian was at the center of a devastating estrangement between the churches of the East and the West. In spite of his desire for unity within the empire, Justinian was a religious tyrant who called himself “priest and king” and ruled as master of both church and empire. His uncompromising approach deepened the rift between the Eastern church with its roots in Greek philosophy and the church of Rome with its basis in Roman law.

Influenced by his wife Theodora, the emperor attempted to appease the Monophysites, a sect considered contrary to church teachings due to its beliefs in the nature of Jesus. Justinian’s troubled relationship with the church contributed to what would eventually erupt as the Great Schism of 1054.

**east and West Differ**

Since early Christian times, differences had emerged over Church leadership. Although the Byzantine emperor was not a priest, he controlled Church affairs and appointed the patriarch, or highest Church official, in Constantinople. Byzantine Christians rejected the pope’s claim to authority over all Christians.

Unlike priests in Western Europe, the Byzantine clergy kept their right to marry Greek, not Latin, was the language of the Byzantine Church. As in the Roman Church, the chief Byzantine holy day was Easter, celebrated as the day Jesus rose from the dead. However, Byzantine Christians placed somewhat less emphasis on Christmas—the celebration of the birth of Jesus—compared to Christians in the West.

The Churches Divides

During the Middle Ages, the two branches of Christianity drew further apart. A dispute over the use of icons, or holy images, contributed to the split. Many Byzantine Christians saw images of Jesus, the Virgin Mary, and the saints in their worship. In the 700s, however, a Byzantine emperor outlawed the veneration of icons, saying it violated God’s commandment against worshiping “graven images.”

The ban set off violent battles within the empire. From the west, the pope joined in the dispute by condemning the Byzantine emperor. Although a later emperor eventually restored the use of icons, the conflict left great resentment against the pope in the Byzantine empire.

In 1054, other controversies provoked a schism, or split, between eastern and western Christianity known as the Great Schism. The Byzantine church became known as the Eastern, or Greek, Orthodox Church.
The Byzantine empire had stood for centuries as the enduring symbol of Roman civilization. Constantinople marked the end of an age. To Europeans, the empire represented each other as rivals rather than as branches of the same faith. Although Byzantine power had faded long before, the fall of Constantinople for 57 years. Although a Byzantine emperor reclaimed the capital changing after the Ottoman attack? (It was renamed Istanbul; Hagia Sophia became a mosque; it emerged as a great center of Muslim culture.)

The Empire Suffers Crisis and Collapse

By the time of this edition, the Byzantine empire was in decline. The empire had been weakened by the attacks of the Seljuks and the Latin crusaders. The empire was also under pressure from the Ottoman Turks, who had gained control of Byzantine trade and drained the empire's wealth. Crusaders plundered Constantinople. How did the city change after the Ottoman attack?

The Byzantine Heritage

Although Byzantine power had declined long before, the fall of Constantinople marked the end of an age. To Europeans, the empire had stood for centuries as the enduring symbol of Roman civilization. Throughout the Middle Ages, Byzantine influence realized the Eastern and Western churches differ?

The Ninth Crusade

In 1204, the Byzantine emperor called for Western help to fight the Seljuks, whose attacks blocked the pilgrimage routes to Jerusalem. The result was the First Crusade. During the crusades, however, trade rivalry sparked violence between the Byzantine empire and Venice, a city-state in northern Italy. In 1204, Venetian merchants persuaded knights on the Fourth Crusade to attack Constantinople. For three days, crusaders burned and plundered the city, sending much treasure westward. Western Christians ruled Constantinople for 57 years. Although a Byzantine emperor reclaimed the capital in the 1260s, the empire never recovered.

Venetian merchants had gained control of Byzantine trade, draining the wealth of the empire. But there was an even more threatening foe—the increasingly powerful Ottoman Turks, who soon controlled most of Asia Minor and the Balkans.

Constantinople Falls to the Turks

In 1453, Ottoman forces surrounded the city of Constantinople. They brought cannons to attack the city's walls. The Byzantine defenders had stretched a huge chain across the harbor to protect against invasion by sea, but the Turks hauled their ships overland and then launched them into the harbor. After a siege lasting two months, the Turks stormed Constantinople's broken walls. It is said that when the last Byzantine emperor was offered safe passage, he replied, “God forbid that I should live an emperor without an empire.” He chose instead to die fighting.

Forces led by Ottoman ruler Mehmet II entered the city in triumph. The ancient city was renamed Istanbul and became the capital of the Ottoman empire. Hagia Sophia was turned into an Islamic house of worship, and Istanbul soon emerged as a great center of Muslim culture.

Checkpoint: How was the Byzantine empire destroyed?

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The Byzantine Empire, Russia, and Eastern Europe

Unique Contributions in the Arts Byzantine artists made unique contributions, especially in religious art and architecture, that influenced Western styles from the Middle Ages to the present. Icon, designed to evoke the presence of God, gave viewers a sense of personal contact with the sacred. Monastic brought scenes from the Bible to life. In architecture, Byzantine palaces and churchs resembled Greek, Roman, Persian, and other Middle Eastern styles.

The World of Learning Byzantine scholars preserved the classic works of ancient Greece and Rome. In addition, they produced their own great books, especially on the field of history.

Like the Greek historian Herodotus and Thucydides, Byzantine historians were mostly concerned with writing about their own times. Procopius, an advisor to the general Belisarius, chronicled the Byzantine campaign against Persia. In his Secret History, Procopius savagely criticized Justinian and Theodora. He called the emperor "both an evil-doer and easily led into evil... never of his own accord speaking the truth." Anna Comnena is considered by many scholars to be the Western world's first important female historian. In the Alexiad, she analyzed the reign of her father, Emperor Alexius I. Comnena's book portrayed Latin crusaders as greedily barbarians.

As the empire tottered in the 1400s, many Greek scholars left Constantinople to teach at Italian universities. They took valuable Greek manuscripts to the West, along with their knowledge of Greek and Byzantine culture. The work of these scholars contributed to the European cultural flowering that became known as the Renaissance.