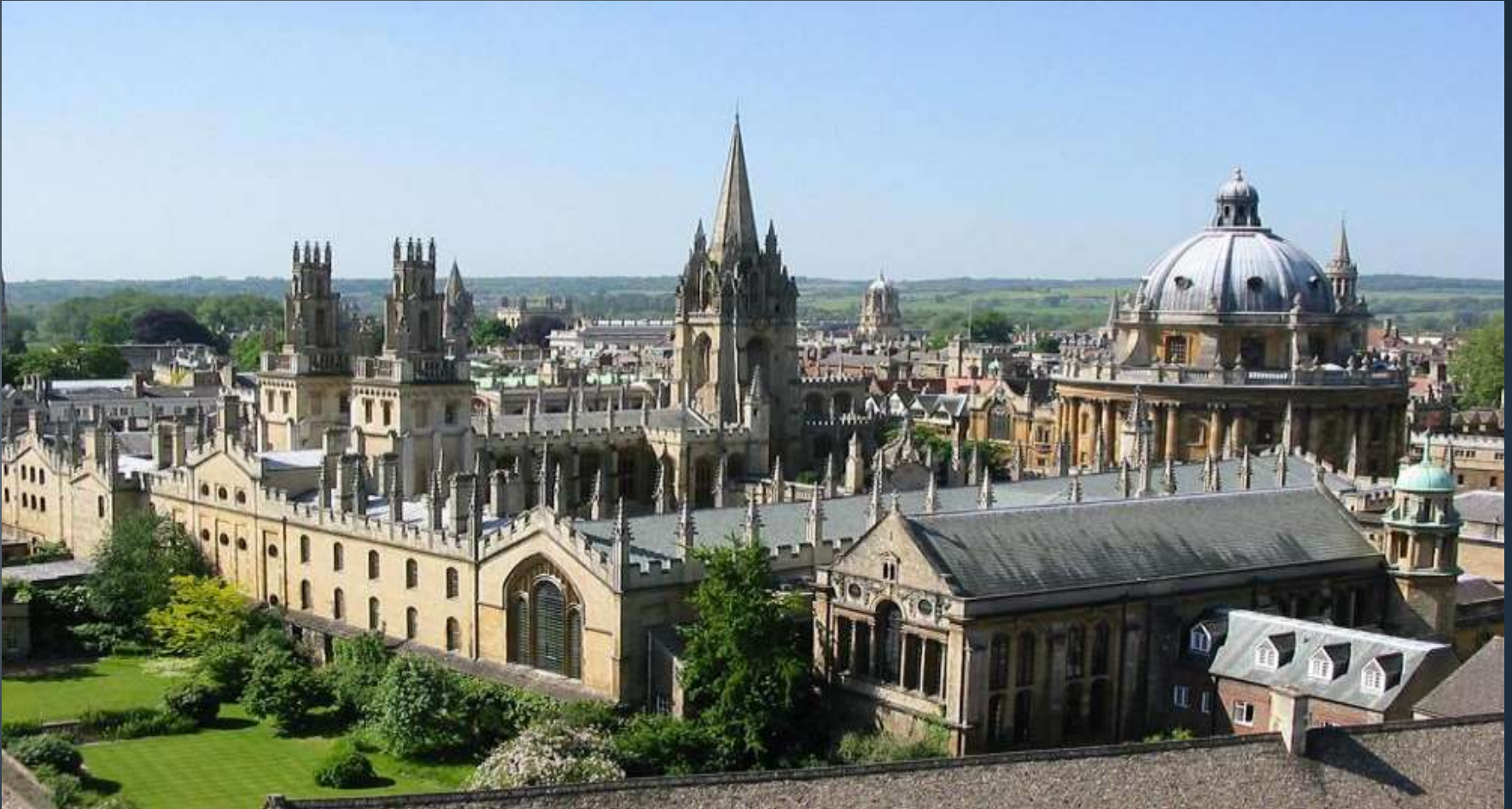




Medieval Culture

Medieval Culture

- **Main Idea:**



- Church and Government leaders supported learning and the arts in Medieval Europe.

Medieval Culture

- Lecture Focus:



- What are the most important parts of the American culture today? Lets find out about the kinds of things that made up the medieval culture in Europe.

Medieval Culture

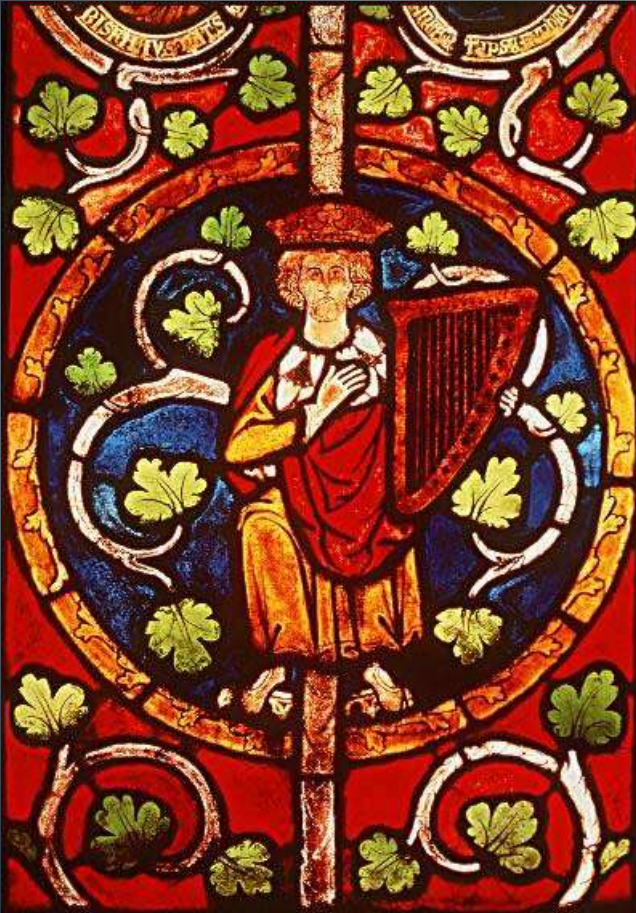
- As strong governments arose, people in medieval Europe felt safer.



- As a result, trade, banking and businesses prospered.

Medieval Culture

- A good economy meant more money to support learning and the arts.



- Some of the money also went to pay for new churches and other buildings.

Medieval Art and Architecture

- Europe experienced a building boom in the 1000's and 1100's.



- Architecture is one way a society shows what is important to its culture...what was being built during this time???

Medieval Art and Architecture

- In the Middle Ages, religion was an important part of life and society.



- As a result, Church leaders, wealthy merchants and nobles paid to build large new churches called Cathedrals.

Medieval Art and Architecture



- The new Cathedrals were built in either the **Romanesque Style** or **Gothic Style**.

Medieval Art and Architecture

- Romanesque churches were rectangular building with long, rounded roofs called barrel vaults.



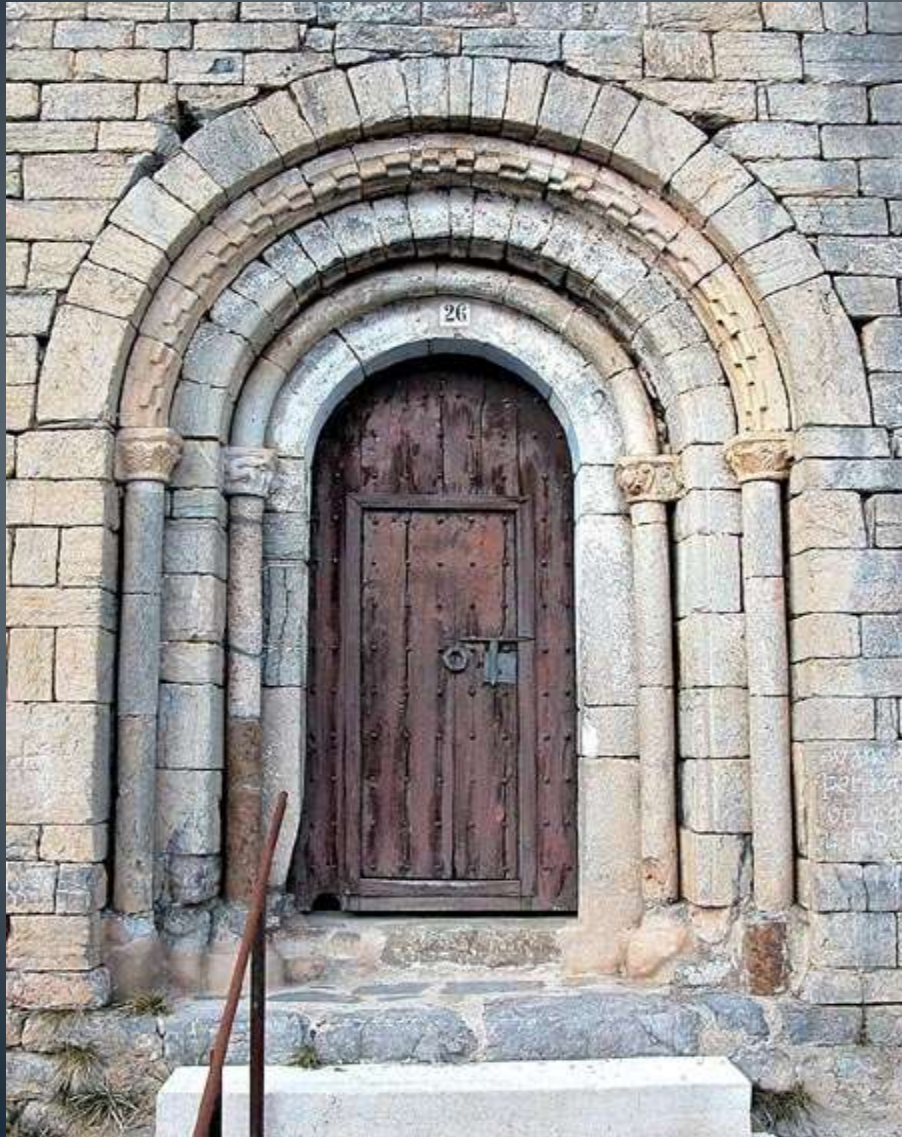
- These roofs needed huge pillars and thick walls to hold them up.

Medieval Art and Architecture



- Windows let in very little light because they were small and set back in the thick walls.

Medieval Art and Architecture



Medieval Art and Architecture

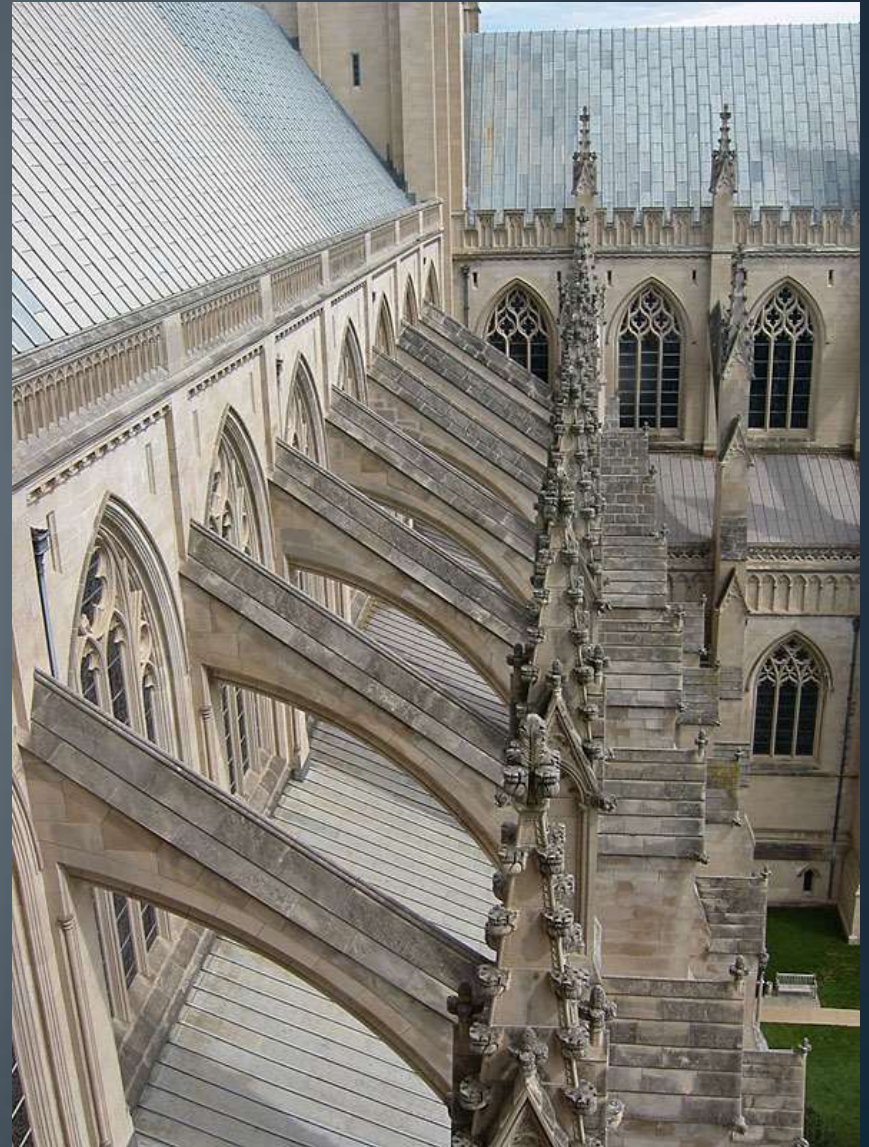
- Gothic cathedrals had ribbed vaults and pointed arches instead of rounded barrel vaults.



- This allowed Gothic Churches to be taller than Romanesque Churches.

Medieval Art and Architecture

- Gothic Churches also used flying buttresses.
- The purpose of any buttress is to resist the side forces pushing a wall outwards by redirecting them to the ground.
- These stone supports were built onto the Cathedral's outside walls... they made it possible to build churches with thinner walls and large stained glass windows.



Medieval Art and Architecture



Medieval Art and Architecture



Medieval Art and Architecture

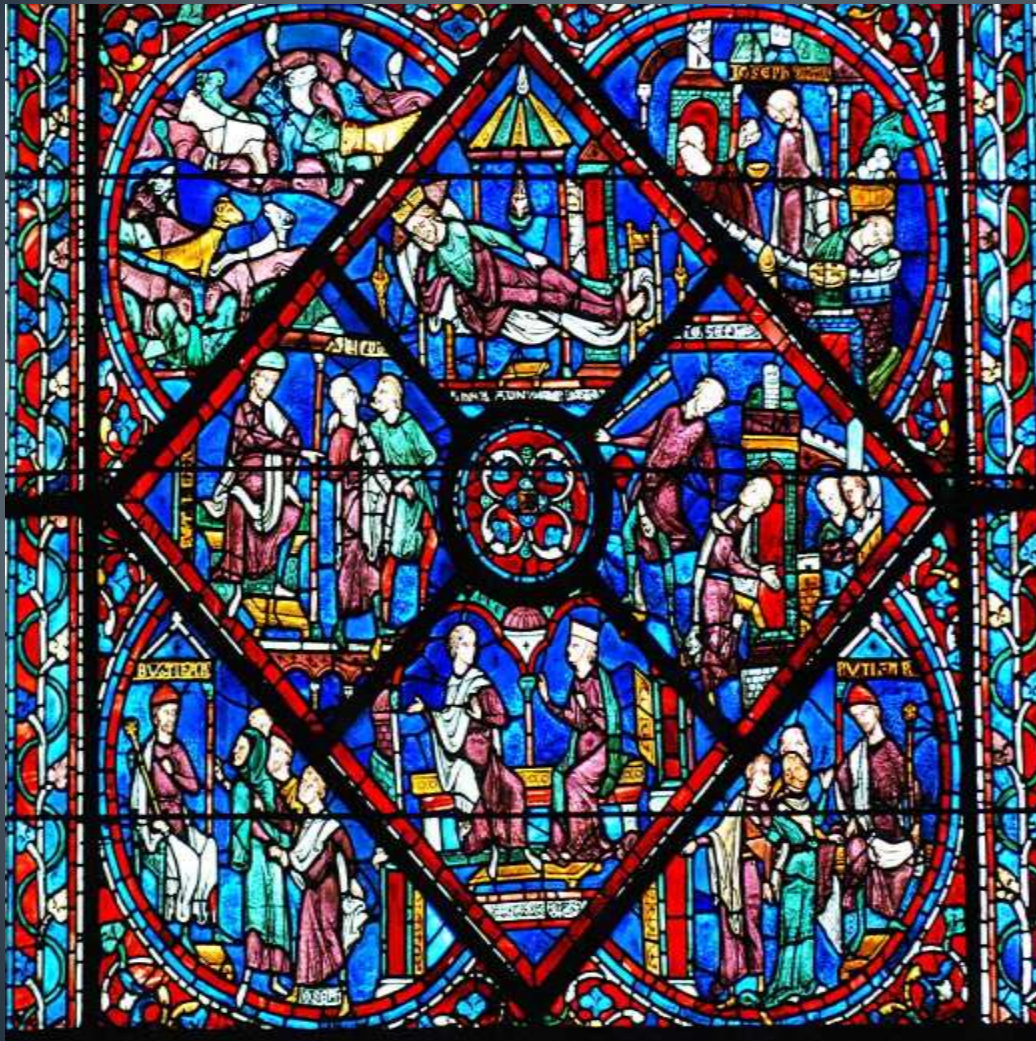


- Stained glass windows were basically a picture form of the Bible for Christians who could not read... they would learn through the pictures.

Medieval Art and Architecture



Medieval Art and Architecture



- The pieces of stained glass often formed scenes from the Bible and its teachings.

Medieval Art and Architecture

- **Questions:**
- 1) As a result of strong government in Europe, what was created?
- 2) What is the difference between Romanesque style churches and Gothic Cathedrals?

Medieval Art and Architecture

- **Questions:**
- 1) As a result of strong government in Europe, what was created?
 - Trade, banking and increase in businesses
- 2) What is the difference between Romanesque style churches and Gothic Cathedrals?
 - Romanesque = Rectangular building with barrel vaults
 - Gothic = Ribbed vaults and pointed arches

The First Universities

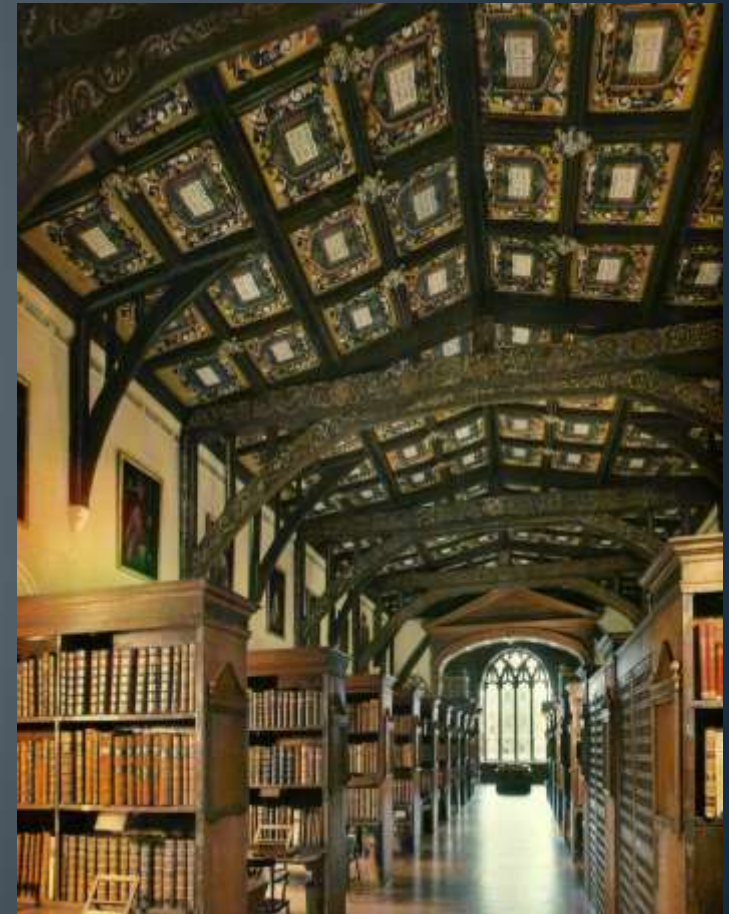
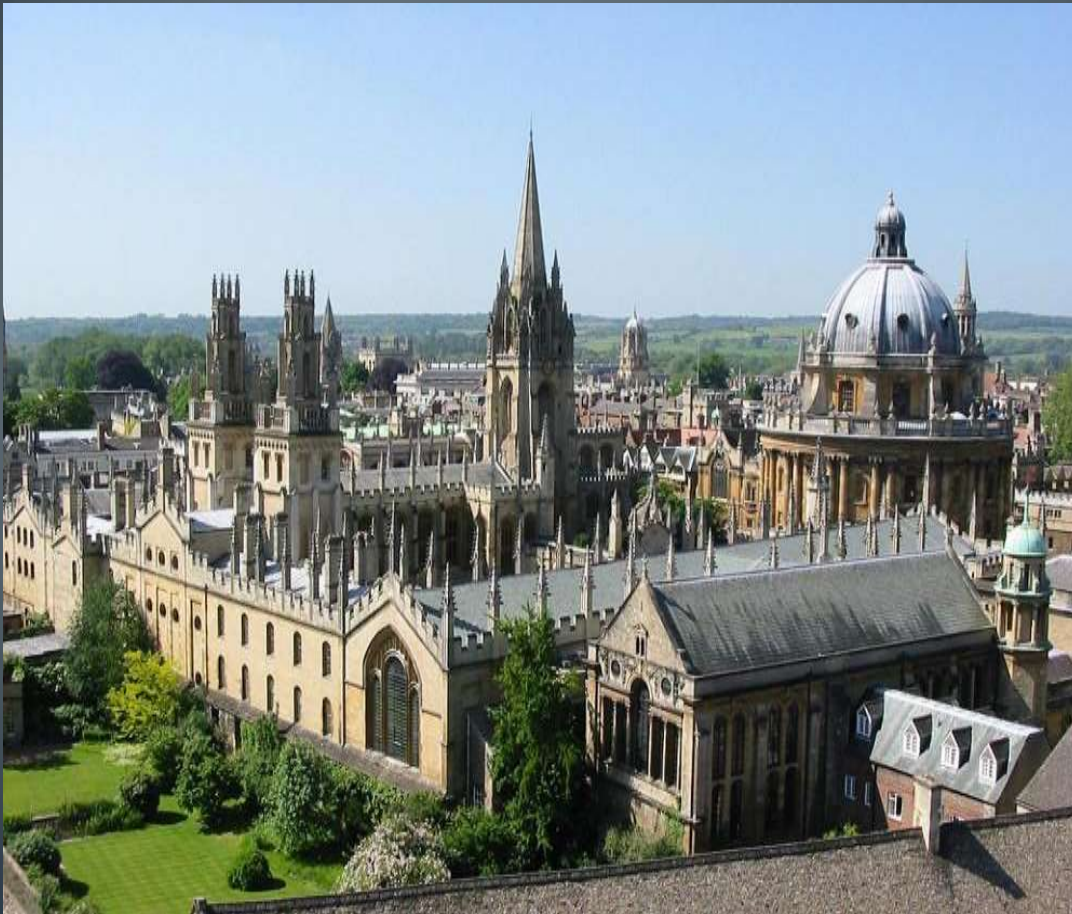


- The first European universities were established in Italy, France and Spain in the late 11th and the 12th centuries .
- Masters or teachers, were also teaching at Oxford, England by 1096.



The First Universities

- Oxford university was officially founded in 1231.



- The **University of Oxford**, located in Oxford, England, it is the oldest university in the English speaking world, and the second oldest surviving university in the world.

The First Universities



The First Universities

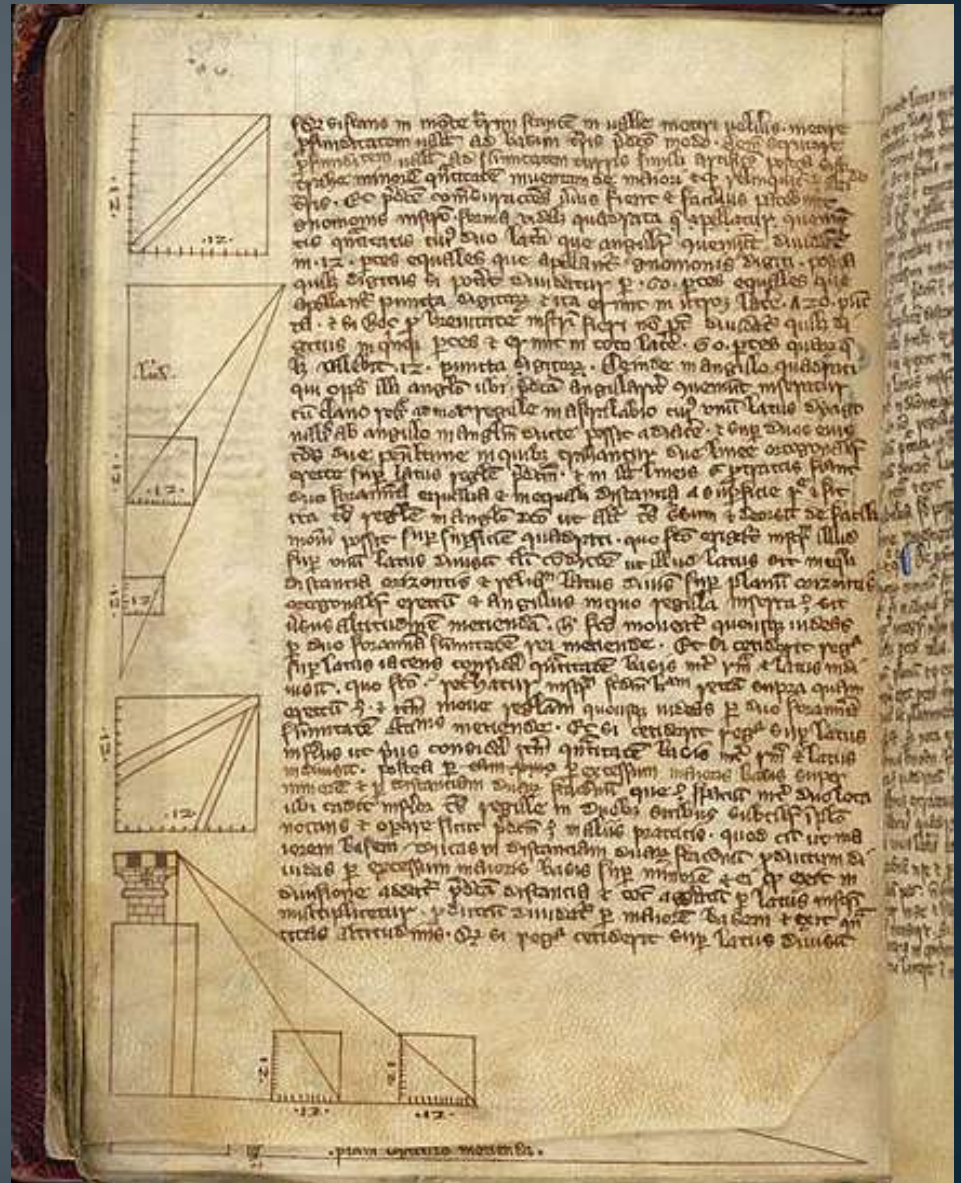
- Universities were created to educate and train scholars.



- They were like the Guilds that trained craftspeople...remember the Blacksmith guild and such.

The First Universities

- In fact, the term “University” comes from the Latin word for “Guild”.
- In medieval universities, students studied grammar, logic, arithmetic, geography, music and astronomy.



The First Universities

- Many students at universities did not have books during the middle ages because they were extremely rare.



- Once the European Printing Press was created in the 1400's books were much easier to come by.

The First Universities

- Johannes Gutenberg was a German blacksmith, goldsmith, printer, and publisher who introduced printing to Europe.
- His invention of mechanical movable type printing started the Printing Revolution and is widely regarded as the most important event of the modern period.
- Gutenberg's first printing press was constructed out of an old wine press.



The First Universities



- Gutenberg carved hundreds text tiles out of metal to make an unlimited amount of text possible for his press.

The First Universities

- University students studied their subjects for four to six years



- Once students were completed with their studies a committee of teachers gave them an oral exam... if they passed they were given a degree.

The First Universities

- After obtaining a basic degree, a student could go on to earn a doctor's degree in law, medicine or theology, which is the study of religion.



- Earning a doctor's degree could actually take up to ten years or more to complete.

The First Universities

- Questions:
- What was a university?
- What could students study at Universities?
- How many years would it take to earn a degree and what was the final exam?
- What could a student earn a Doctor's degree in?

The First Universities

- Questions:
- What was a university?
 - Schools created to train scholars
- What could students study at Universities?

Grammar, logic, geometry, arithmetic, music and astronomy
- How many years would it take to earn a degree and what was the final exam?
 - 4-6 years and the final was an oral examination
- What could a student earn a Doctor's degree in?
 - Law, medicine or theology

Who Was Thomas Aquinas?

- Beginning in the 1100's, a new way of thinking called **Scholasticism** began to change the study of theology.



- Followers of **Scholasticism** used reason and critical thinking to explore questions of faith and a Dominican friar and priest named **Thomas Aquinas** was scholasticism's greatest champion.

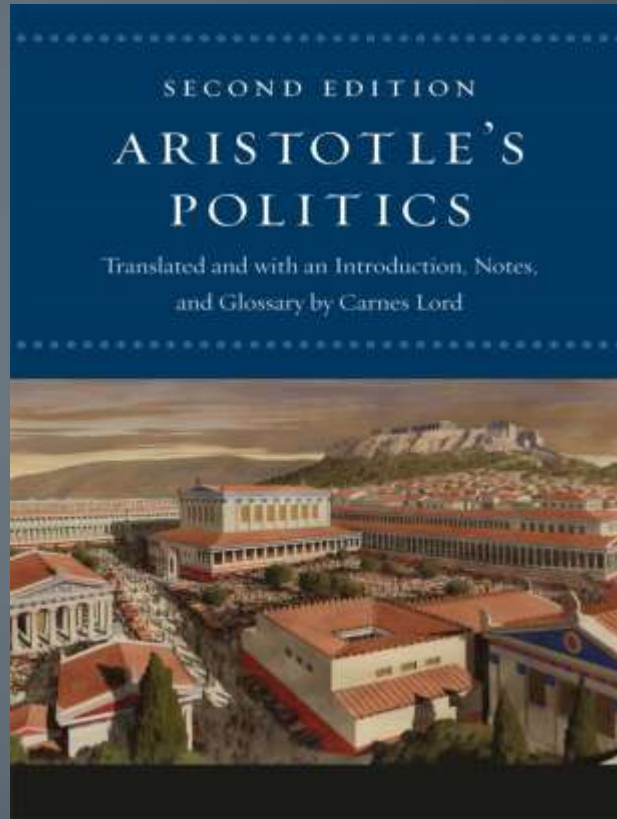
Who Was Thomas Aquinas?

- Thomas Aquinas is best known for combining Church teachings with the ideas of **Aristotle**.
- **Aristotle** was a Greek philosopher and polymath, a student of Plato and teacher of Alexander the Great. (**Plato right, Aristotle left**)
- His writings cover many subjects, including physics, metaphysics, poetry, theater, music, logic, rhetoric, linguistics, politics, government, ethics, biology, and zoology.



Who Was Thomas Aquinas?

- Europeans had forgotten about Aristotle after Rome fell and his works had been lost for hundreds of years.



- In the 1100's, however, Muslim and Jewish scholars reintroduced Aristotle to Europe using copies of his books that had been preserved in Muslim Libraries.

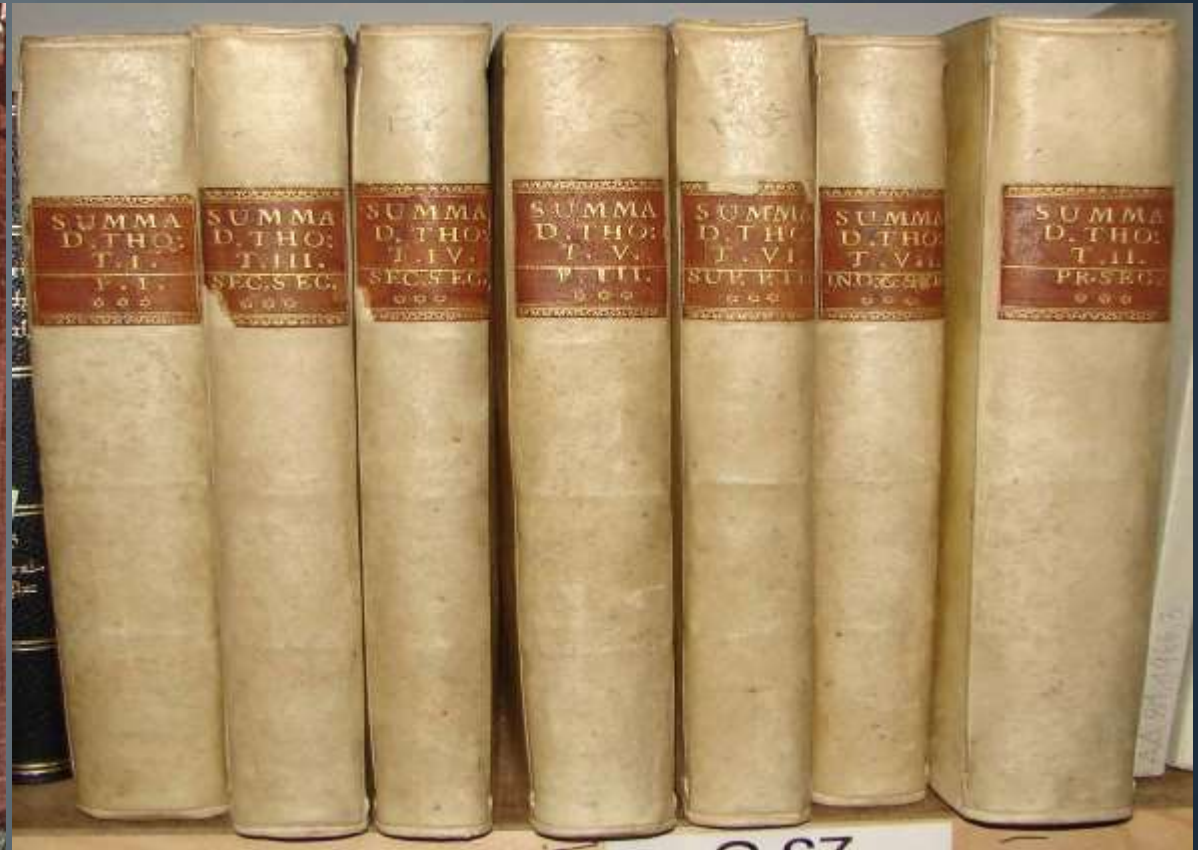
Who Was Thomas Aquinas?



- Aristotle's ideas upset many Christian thinkers because he used reason, not faith, to arrive at his conclusions about life.

Who Was Thomas Aquinas?

- In the 1200's, Thomas Aquinas wrote several works explaining that Aristotle would have agreed with many Christian teachings.



- Around 1267, Aquinas began writing **Summa Theologica**, or a summary of knowledge on theology...in this book Aquinas asked hard questions such as “**Does God Exist?**”

Who Was Thomas Aquinas?

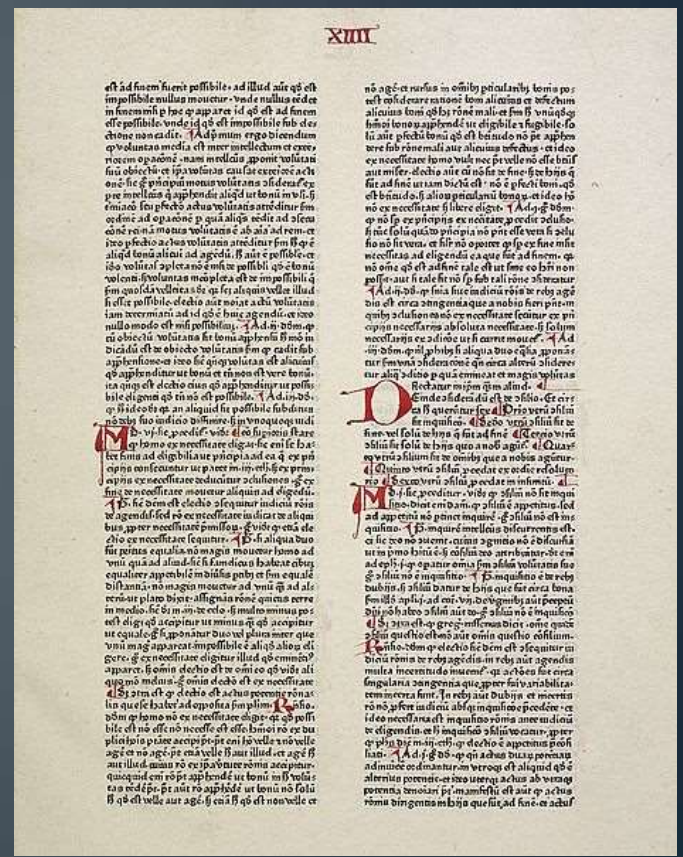
- Aquinas wrote about government as well as theology, with an emphasis on the idea of natural law.



- People who believe in natural law think that there are some laws that are part of human nature...these laws do not have to be made by government.

Who Was Thomas Aquinas?

- Aquinas claimed that natural law gave people certain rights that the government should not ever take away.



- These included the right to live, to learn, to worship and to have children.

Who Was Thomas Aquinas?

- Aquinas's writings on natural law have influenced governments throughout the ages and continues to inspire governments today.
- Our belief that people have rights can partly be traced back to the ideas of Thomas Aquinas.

The Bill of Rights

Ratified December 15, 1791

Article I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Article II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Article III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Article IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Article V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any Criminal Case to be a witness against himself, nor be

deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Article VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining Witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

Article VII

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise reexamined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Article VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishment inflicted.

Article IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Article X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

*A reminder to be ever vigilant in the protection of these rights
Presented in loving memory of Corliss Lamont 1902-1995*

National Emergency Civil Liberties Committee
New York, NY 10010

Who Was Thomas Aquinas?

- **Questions:**
- 1) What does the term Scholasticism mean?
- 2) Who was Aristotle?
- 3) What religious scholars preserved the books of Aristotle in libraries?
- 4) What was the name of the book Thomas Aquinas wrote describing natural law?

Who Was Thomas Aquinas?

- **Questions:**
- 1) What does the term Scholasticism mean?
 - A new way of thinking that used more critical thinking
- 2) Who was Aristotle?
 - A Greek philosopher and student of Plato
- 3) What religious scholars preserved the books of Aristotle in libraries?
 - Jewish and Muslim scholars save the books in Muslim libraries
- 4) What was the name of the book Thomas Aquinas wrote describing natural law?
 - Summa Theologica

Medieval Literature

- During the Middle Ages, educated people throughout Europe generally spoke and wrote in Latin.



- The Church used Latin in its workshop and daily affairs, university teachers taught in Latin and authors would write in Latin.

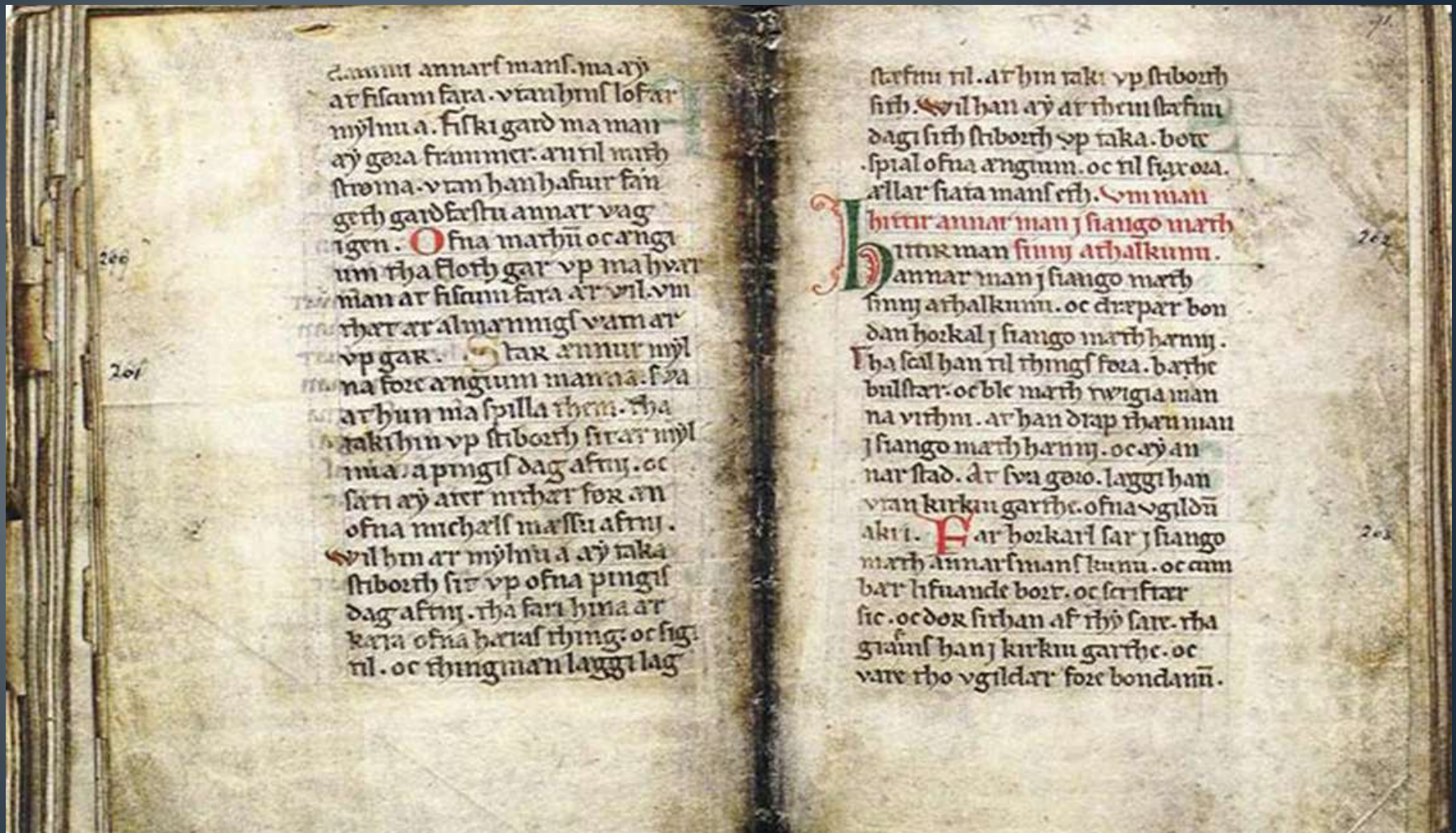
Medieval Literature

- In addition to Latin, each region had its own local language that people used everyday.



- This everyday language is called the **Vernacular**.

Medieval Literature



- The Vernacular included the early versions of Spanish, French, English, Italian and German.

Medieval Literature

- During the 1100's, new literature was written in the **Vernacular**.



- Educated people enjoyed vernacular literature, especially troubadour poetry, which was often poems about love, knights and chivalry

Medieval Literature

- Another type of vernacular literature was the Heroic Epic!
- In Heroic Epics, bold knights would travel on colossal adventures and fight in wars against chaotic evils.



Medieval Literature



- In the Heroic Epic Poem, **Beowulf**, a hero of the Geats in Scandinavia, comes to the help of Hroðgar, the king of the Danes, whose mead hall has been under attack by a monster known as Grendel.

Medieval Literature

- After Beowulf slays Grendel, his mother attacks the hall and is then also defeated.



- Victorious, Beowulf goes home to Geatland in Sweden and later becomes king of the Geats.

Medieval Literature

- After a period of fifty years has passed, Beowulf defeats a dragon, but is fatally wounded in the battle.



- After his death, his attendants bury him in a tumulus, a burial mound, in Geatland.

Medieval Literature



- A **tumulus** is a mound of earth and stones raised over a grave.

Medieval Literature

- Questions:
- 1) What does the term Vernacular mean?
- 2) What is Heroic Epic Poetry?

Medieval Literature

- Questions:
- 1) What does the term Vernacular mean?
 - Everyday Language spoke by people .
- 2) What is Heroic Epic Poetry?
 - Poems that would follow knights fighting evil.

Medieval Literature

- **Reading Check?**
- Answer the following question in a paragraph response.
 - Explain what is Natural Law?

Medieval Literature

- **Explain:**
- Answer the following question in a paragraph response.
- What were Thomas Aquinas's beliefs related to government?

Medieval Literature

- **Persuasive Writing:**
- Write a letter to a medieval university telling them why you would like to become a student there. Be sure to discuss the subjects you would like to study.