

Early Medieval Europe

I. Western Europe in Decline

A. Rome collapsed after economic, political, military decline.

B. From 500 to 1000 Western Europe was considered the “dark ages” due to lack of leadership and chaos.

II. Germanic Kingdoms

A. Between 400-700, Germanic tribes, such as the Goths, Vandals, Saxons, and Franks, created small kingdoms.

B. In 732, the Franks stopped the Muslim’s from advancing into Europe.

III. Charlemagne

A. Charlemagne created a unified Christian empire

B. Attempted to reunited much of the old western Roman empire

IV. Europe after Charlemagne

A. Charlemagne was an example to later medieval rulers

B. The new empire did not remain together

C. Invaders, such as Vikings, settled in Europe