

Byzantium

Christian eastern R.E.
300CE? - 1453

Greece
Balkans
Anatolia

smaller territory

Political

shrank after 1085 because...

Western European sniping
Catholic crusaders
Turkic Muslim invaders

Centralized in Constantinople

ongoing military struggle with Persia

China
Islam
Central Asia
Russia
Western Europe

long distance trade

Links to the world

preserved Greek thinking & passed on to

Islamic world
W. Europe

Culture spread to

Balkans
Russia

Orthodox Christianity divergence

Emperor both "king" & "pope"
Church language is Greek instead of Latin
doctrine in terms of Greek philosophy

disagreed w/ Roman Cath.

nature of Trinity
relative imp. of faith & reason
veneration of icons
Orthodox priests, beards & marriage
Orthodox ceremony, leavened bread
that the Catholic pope spoke for God

thought of as continuation of old Roman empire

same as classical

roads
military structures
centralized admin
laws
Imperial court
Christian organization

different from classical

continued political/military fights with Persia
gave generals civil authority in the provinces
raised armies from the landowning peasants
caesaropapism

Impact on Russia

Architecture
Cyrillic alphabet
use of icons
monastic tradition
political control of the church