



Ancient Rome
& The Origin of Christianity
**OUTCOME: GEOGRAPHY
& EARLY REPUBLIC**

Geography & Early Republic

1. Setting the Stage

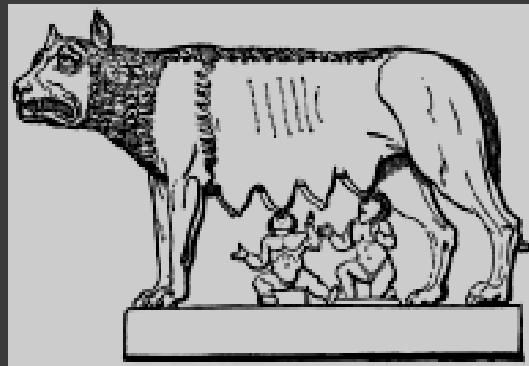
- a. With the defeat of the Persians by Alexander and the eventual decline of the Greek Civilization, power would eventually shift west towards the Italian peninsula
- b. The Romans would build an amazing empire filled with many different cultures and help spawn a brand new religion: Christianity



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2. Origins of Rome

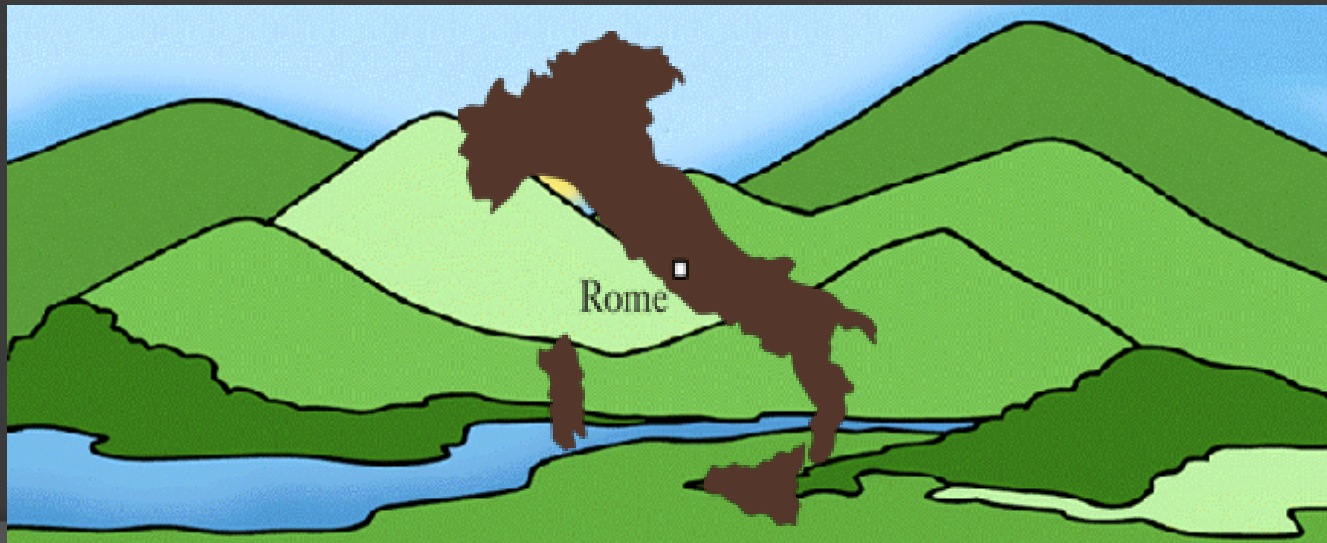
- a. Legend says that twins **Romulus** and **Remus** were abandoned on the Tiber River and raised by a **she-wolf**
- b. Later the two boys decided to **build a city**
- c. Eventually Romulus **kills** Remus & city of **Rome** is named after Romulus



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3. Geography

- a. Rome was built on 7 rolling hills of Tiber River
- b. Located on Italian Peninsula (Italy)
- c. Bordered by Adriatic Sea to the east
- d. Near midpoint of Mediterranean Sea
- e. Mediterranean Climate: warm year round- encouraged outdoor activities



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4. The First Romans

- a. Three groups settled on Italian Peninsula from 1000-500 B.C.
 - i. The Latins
 - 1. Built original settlement of wooden huts
 - 2. Considered to be the first Romans
 - 3. Helped spread Latin derived languages to the area



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ii. The Greeks

1. Moved north into Italy during decline of Hellenistic Culture
2. Settled in Southern Italy and Sicily
3. Brought all of Italy, including Rome, into contact with the Greek civilization
4. Brought architecture, democracy, and philosophy



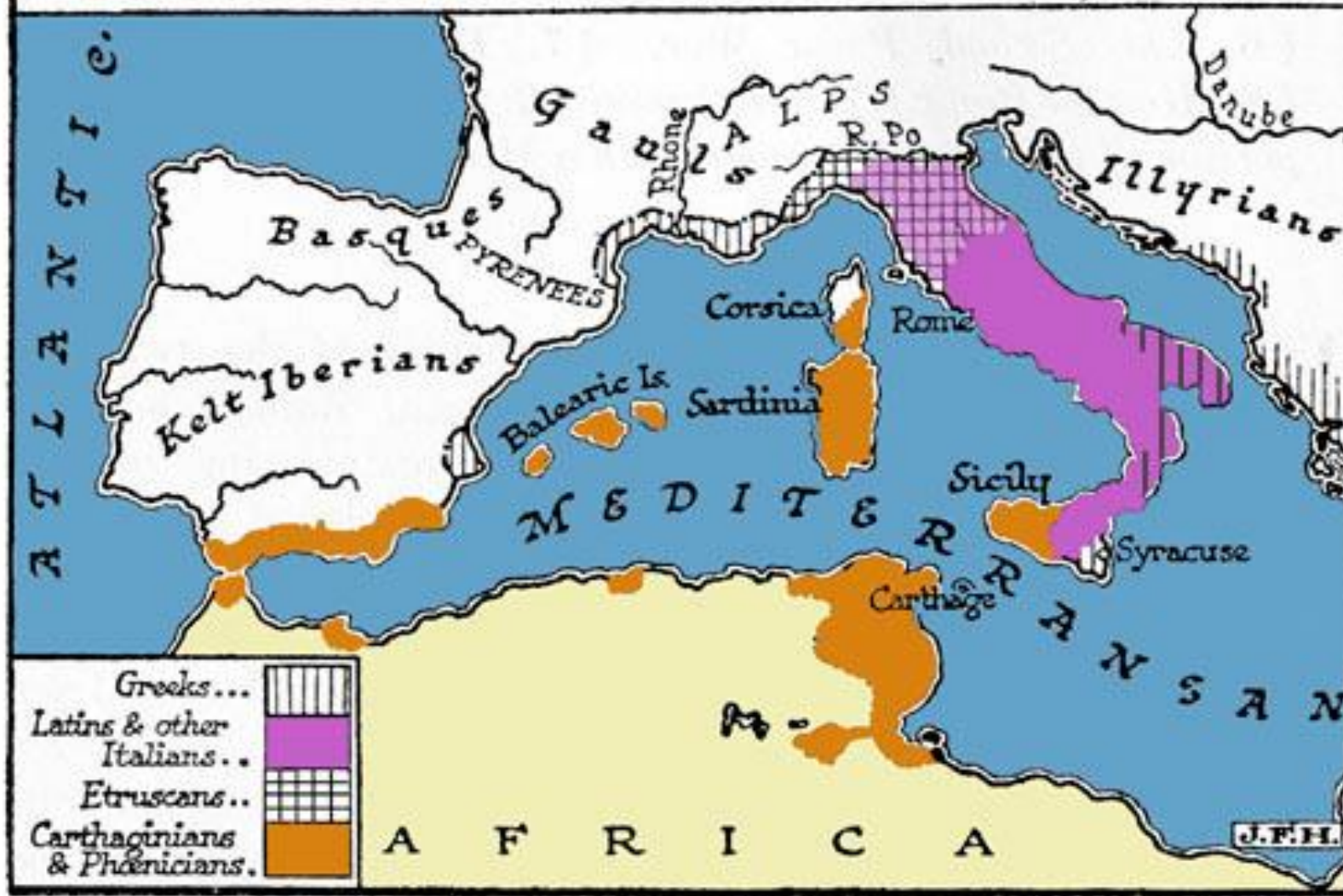
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iii. The Etruscans

1. Skilled metal workers native to northern Italy
2. Strongly influenced Roman civilization
3. Influenced Roman arch
4. Influenced Roman lust for killing (ex. Gladiator battles)



THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN, 270 BC



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5. Early Rome

- a. Early Etruscan kings and successors built temples and public centers in Rome
- b. The Forum was the heart of the Roman political life
- c. After Rome's last king was driven from power in 509 B.C for being too harsh, the Romans declared they would never again be ruled by a king
- d. Instead they established a republic, which meant "public affairs"
- e. A republic is a form of government in which power rests with citizens who have the right to vote for their leaders
- f. In Rome, citizenship with voting rights was granted only to free-born male citizens



The Roman Forum



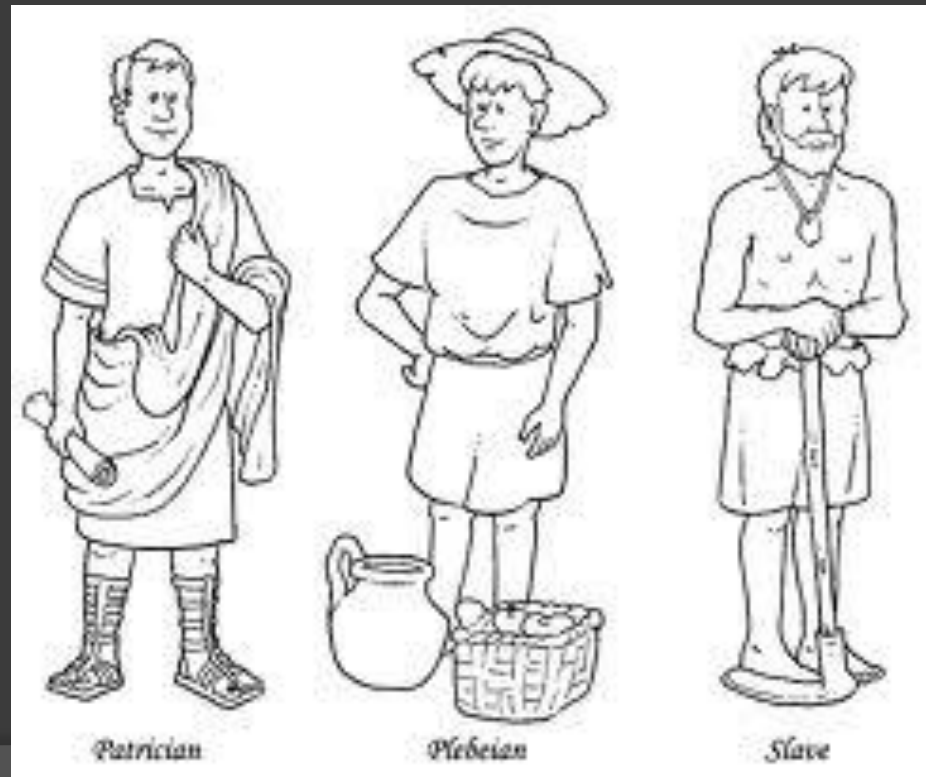
Roman Forum Ruins



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6. People of Rome

- a. Rome was **divided** up into several different groups who struggled for power
- b. **Patricians**: wealthy landowners who held most of the power
- c. **Plebeians**: the common farmers, artisans, and merchants; majority of pop.



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- d. Tribunes: elected representatives who protected the rights of the plebeians from patrician officials



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- e. Consuls: two officials with limited power and one year terms; one controlled the army the other directed the government
- f. Dictator: in times of crisis, the republic could appoint a leader with absolute power to make laws and control the army; power lasted for 6 months
- g. Legions: military units made up of 5,000 soldiers



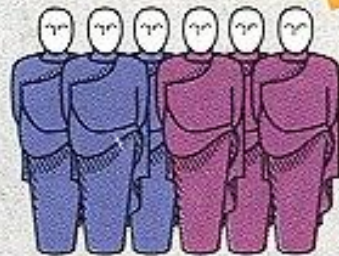
Roman Government c. 264 B.C.

PATRICIANS

PLEBEIANS



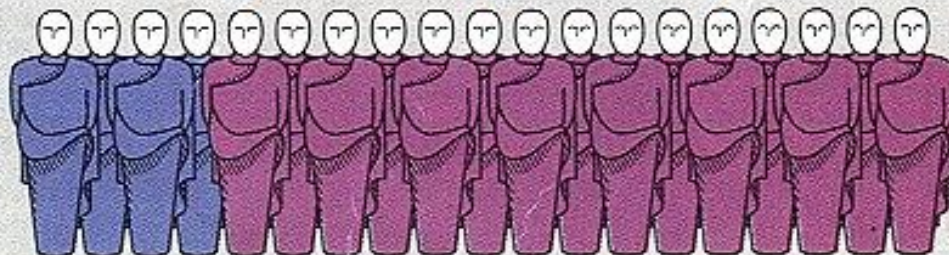
CONSULS (2)



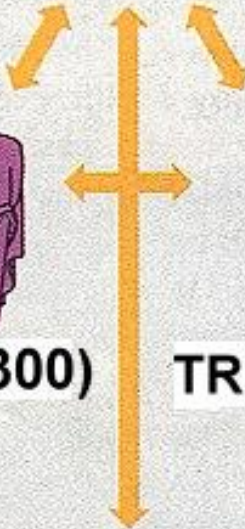
SENATORS(300)



TRIBUNES(10)



CITIZEN ASSEMBLIES(ADULT MALE CITIZENS)

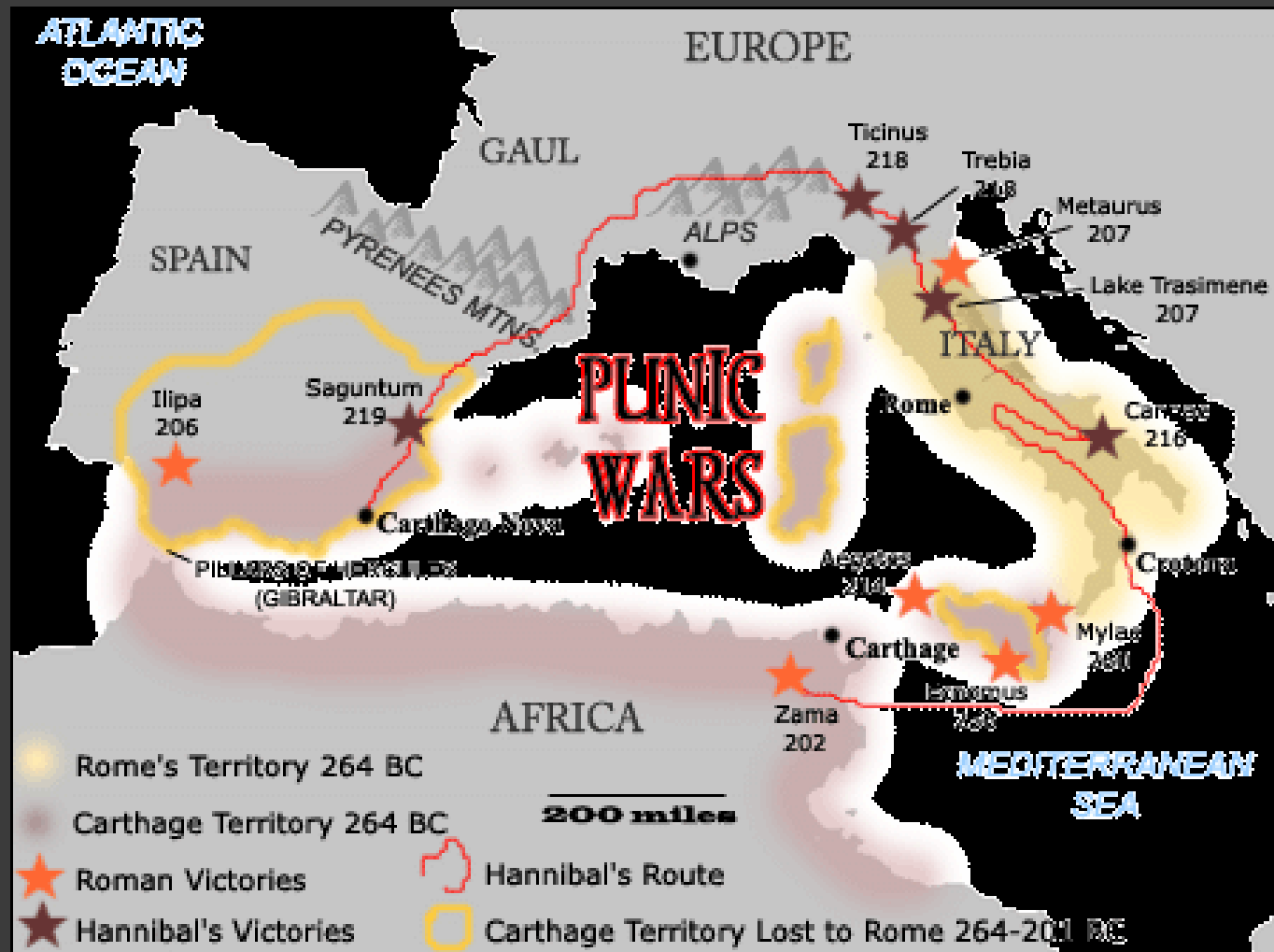


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7. Roman Power Expands

- a. Steadily the Romans conquered the Italian Peninsula
- b. As Rome conquered lands, people were absorbed into their ever growing territory
- c. Some people were accepted as citizens, others simply became allies
- d. Rome went to war against Carthage; a powerful city in North Africa
- e. The struggle became known as the Punic Wars (264-146 B.C.)

The Punic Wars



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- f. Carthage was led by a brilliant general named Hannibal
- g. Hannibal assembled an army of 50,000 infantry, 9,000 cavalry, and 60 elephants intent on capturing Rome
- h. He led his troops up through Spain and crossed the Alps into Italy



Hannibal Crossing the Alps

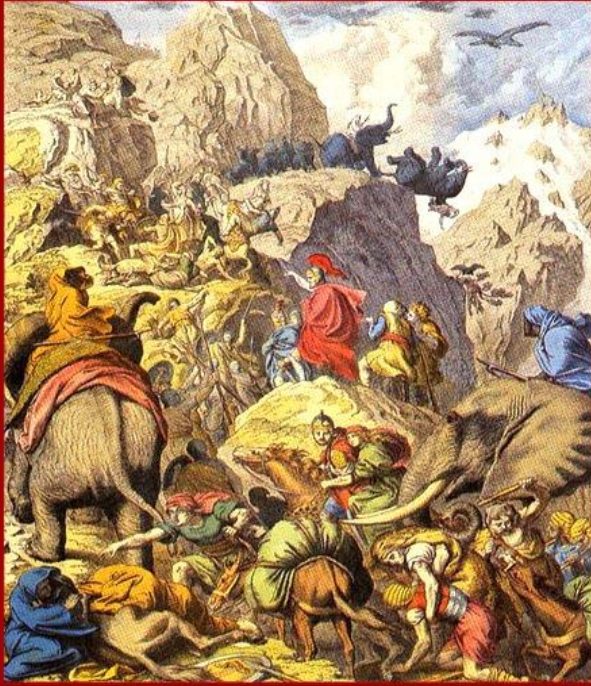




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- i. The Romans **regrouped** and prevented Hannibal from sacking Rome
- j. **Rome defeated Hannibal** in 202 B.C. near Zama
- k. Rome eventually defeated **Carthage** in the third Punic War extending its power across the **Mediterranean Sea**

Rome 3 - Carthage 0



First Punic War
264-241 BC
At sea
Sicily

Second Punic War
219-201 BC
Italy
Spain
Carthage

Third Punic War
149-146 BC
Carthage

← ***In the Second Punic War
Hannibal lost most of his
forces crossing the Alps.***

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- Rome's territory and power would only get bigger and stronger...

