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# CHAPTER 1

## Constantine the Great: The New Rome and Christianity

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Icon depicting the Council of Nicaea. Date and author unknown.

### INTRODUCTION

**Summative Statement:** Provide a 1-2 sentence summary/main idea of the entire chapter.

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### Summative Quote

*"The empire, long divided, must unite; long united, must divide. Thus it has ever been."* —Luo Guanzhong, opening lines of *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*

### Hook

What is more important in society: unity or truth? Explain your answer.

**KEY TERMS:** For each term, provide a 1-2 sentence definition.

1. Constantinople: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. *Lapsi*: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. *Traditor*: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. *Homoousion* clause: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**KEY FIGURES:** For each figure, provide a 1-2 sentence definition; make sure to include the person's relevance and major actions in the chapter.

1. Constantine: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Arius: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**KEY DATES:** For each date, find and briefly explain what happened on that date.

1. 325: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**KEY STRUCTURES:** For each key structure, provide a 1-3 sentence summary of how each changed, experienced alteration, or encountered difficulty.

1. Government: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Religion: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Society: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS:** Answer each question as prompted; typical answers should range from 3-8 sentences, depending on the detail of the question.

1. Why was Constantinople primarily founded?

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2. Compare and contrast the cities of Constantinople and Rome.

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3. What was the great purpose and function of the city of Constantinople?

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4. Why were Romans, especially of the educated class, opposed to Christianity?

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5. Describe the persecution the Church experienced and how the Church responded.

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6. Detail what drove Constantine to convert.

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7. Explain Constantine's view of his role regarding the Church.

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8. Summarize the doctrinal divide within the Donatist controversy.

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9. Explain the doctrinal debate of the Arian controversy.

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10. What role did Constantine play in the Council of Nicaea?

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11. Considering his overall actions toward the Church, what did Constantine seem to be concerned with? Explain.

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