Church History

Mr. Myers

**The Major Split**

1. Background
   1. Shift to a Germanic majority in the western part of the Roman Empire (refer to p, 86 in text)
   2. Though culture was Germanic, the language remained Latin
   3. The eastern part of the empire spoke Greek and lacked German influence
   4. Over time the two regions grew farther and farther apart in culture, theology, and organization
2. The Great Schism
   1. The Roman Empire had been divided into two sections—east and west—before the fall of Rome
   2. Major differences existed between the two sections
      1. Language—Latin vs. Greek
      2. Culture—Latin/German vs. Greek/Slavic
      3. Politics—Germanic tribes vs. Byzantine Empire
      4. Theology—One view vs. another view
      5. Church authority—Pope of Rome vs. Patriarch of Constantinople
   3. These differences came to a head in 1054, and a major split occurred between the churches in the West and the churches in the East (see Gonzalez 265)