

# Byzantine Empire and Medieval Europe

History · Answer Key · 20 Questions

---

## 1. Who was the last Byzantine Emperor?

**A) Constantine XI Palaiologos**

B) John VIII Palaiologos

C) Manuel II Palaiologos

D) Michael VIII Palaiologos

## 2. What year did the Ottoman Turks conquer Constantinople?

**A) 1453**

B) 1204

C) 1461

D) 1350

## 3. Which Byzantine successor state was founded by Theodore I Laskaris?

A) Empire of Trebizond

B) Despotate of Epirus

**C) Empire of Nicaea**

D) Principality of Achaea

## 4. What was a primary motivation for the Fourth Crusade, according to the text?

A) To liberate the Holy Land from the Arabs

B) To support the Byzantine Emperor

**C) To conquer Constantinople**

D) To gain economic advantages in the East

## 5. Which city was the capital of the Empire of Trebizond?

**A) Trebizond**

B) Constantinople

C) Nicaea

D) Thessalonica

## 6. What was the main goal of John VI Kantakouzenos's economic policy?

**A) Self-sufficiency and limiting imports**

B) Promoting luxury goods

C) Expanding overseas trade

D) Increasing agricultural production

**7. Which event marked the beginning of the Latin occupation of Constantinople?**

**A) The Fourth Crusade**

- B) The fall of Constantinople
- C) The Battle of Manzikert
- D) The Schism of 1054

**8. Who was the Byzantine Emperor during the period 1449-1453?**

**A) Constantine XI Palaiologos**

- B) John VIII Palaiologos
- C) Manuel II Palaiologos
- D) Michael VIII Palaiologos

**9. What was the primary economic activity that flourished in Venice and Genoa during the 12th century?**

**A) Maritime trade**

- B) Agriculture
- C) Manufacturing of textiles
- D) Mining of precious metals

**10. What was the significance of the Battle of Varna in 1444?**

**A) It was a decisive defeat for the Ottoman Turks**

- B) It marked the end of the Byzantine Empire
- C) It was a victory for the Crusaders
- D) It led to the decline of the Balkan states

**11. Which Byzantine Emperor is associated with the restoration of the Byzantine Empire in 1261?**

**A) Michael VIII Palaiologos**

- B) Constantine XI Palaiologos
- C) John VIII Palaiologos
- D) Andronikos II Palaiologos

**12. What was the main reason for the decline of the Byzantine Empire, according to the text?**

**A) Internal political and economic weaknesses, and external pressures**

- B) The rise of the Ottoman Empire alone
- C) The loss of Constantinople to the Crusaders
- D) The lack of strong leadership

**13. What did Pope Urban II call for in November 1095?**

**A) The First Crusade**

- B) A peace treaty with the Turks
- C) The establishment of new trade routes
- D) The coronation of a new Byzantine Emperor

**14. What was a major characteristic of the Fourth Crusade's impact on Constantinople?**

**A) It led to the sacking and occupation of the city by the Crusaders**

- B) It resulted in a military victory for the Byzantines
- C) It fostered closer ties between the Byzantines and the Crusaders
- D) It weakened the Ottoman threat

**15. Which of the following was NOT a Byzantine successor state after 1204?**

- A) Empire of Trebizond
- B) Despotate of Epirus
- C) Kingdom of Serbia**
- D) Empire of Nicaea

**16. What was the primary concern of the Byzantine Emperor John VIII Palaiologos in his attempts to seek aid from the West?**

**A) Securing military and financial assistance against the Ottomans**

- B) Negotiating a religious union between the Eastern and Western Churches
- C) Establishing new trade agreements
- D) Forming an alliance against the Venetian Republic

**17. What was the main objective of the Council of Florence-Ferrara (1438-1439) concerning the Byzantine Empire?**

**A) To achieve a union between the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches**

- B) To organize a military alliance against the Ottomans
- C) To discuss economic reforms within the Byzantine Empire
- D) To establish new diplomatic relations with Western powers

**18. What was the approximate duration of the Empire of Trebizond?**

**A) 250 years**

- B) 100 years
- C) 500 years
- D) 750 years

**19. Which empire eventually conquered the Byzantine Empire?**

- A) Ottoman Empire**
- B) Mongol Empire
- C) Holy Roman Empire
- D) Venetian Republic

**20. What was a key factor contributing to the development of maritime companies in Venice and Genoa?**

- A) The demand for luxury goods and raw materials**
- B) The decline of agricultural production
- C) The lack of safe travel routes
- D) The absence of foreign competition