**EARLY MEDIEVAL SUMMARY 800-1150**

- **POLITICS & SOCIETY** – Charlemagne, Ottonian (German) emperors; FEUDALISM
- **ARCHITECTURE** – Romanesque Style
- **ART** – relief sculpture and a fantastic approach to human form
- **IDEAS** – The Culture of the Book; monasteries
- **MUSIC** – consolidation of chant; early notation neumes & staff (staff c.1000)

**EMPIRE OF CHARLEMAGNE**

- Created a cultural revival
- Monasteries expand the network of learning throughout Europe
- Commissioned illuminated manuscripts and supported the arts
- Also established a uniform code of laws, creation of libraries and educational reform

**Holy Roman Emperor!**

- Crowned in 800 by the Pope; legitimacy derives from Church

**Books/Manuscripts**

- Promote learning
- Propagate Christianity
- Standardize church law and practice (including music)

**Early Medieval**

- Beginning designated by the reign of Charlemagne 771-814 (lived 768-814)
- The Carolingian Renaissance – brief

**Empire of Charlemagne**

- European population 500: c. 27 million; 1000, c. 73 million

- Crowned in 800 by the Pope; legitimacy derives from Church
One of the features of this more legible, standardized script was the use of a large capital letter at the beginning of a section, a text layout design still in use today. Oh, and the spaces between words help, too.

See fig. p. 133 5th ed.

Godescalc Evangelistary

St. Mark
781-83
Ink and colors
On vellum

Christ Blessing
- Commissioned by Charlemagne and his wife Hildegard
- Court scribe named Godescalc
- Style is imported — Byzantine (Christ Pantocrator)
- Interlaced patterns in the border — Celtic influence

Not in text

St. John from the Coronation Gospels
9th c.

An attempt to return to naturalism?

• Hint of perspective

• More vigorous style
  - Four evangelists symbolically represented by the Lion, Bull, Man, & Eagle — these are based upon the revelations of St. John the Divine from the last book of the New Testament
  - Lecterns the same size — not in perspective, BUT it is set in a landscape, not a plain gold background

Not in text
The 4 Evangelists
early 9th c.

- Matthew – man
- Mark – lion
- Luke – bull
- John – eagle

St. Matthew, from the
Gospel Book of
Archbishop Ebbo of Reims

(former KEY IMAGE)

SAN MATEO

Monastery of Saint Gall

Discussed on p. 140-142, 5th ed.

Ebbo Gospels

- commissioned by Ebbo – son of Charlemagne
- Painting style new and vigorous – Celtic (Hiberno-Saxon)
- 816-40
- St. Matthew
- Created in Reims, another important center for the creation of manuscripts during the Medieval period

Monasteries

- The focus of Charlemagne’s plans of reform
- Art and education were the focus
- Religious and administrative center
- Agricultural production, some fermented
- Monasteries follow the rule of Saint Benedict – monks live communally
Based upon a plan

- 100 people lived there
- Area of 500x700 feet – compact!
- Designed in the form of a perfect village

MAIN POINT: Monasteries reflected the self-sufficiency of feudalism, and thus could develop their CULTURE OF THE BOOK in isolation.

Bayeux Tapestry c. 1088

Who is depicted:
The 4 Evangelists

Doing what:
Writing the Gospel

And that reflects the:
Culture of the Book

That we associate with:
monasteries

When:
Medieval

Battle of Hastings
1066
FEUDALISM

KEY IMAGE p. 138

5th ed