

# The Medieval World View

# But First

- As we watch the following [video](#), write down 5 reasons that John Green gives for the fall of Rome in the West

# Main Ideas

- The feudal system in Europe provided a measure of political, economic, and social order during the Middle Ages
- The Roman Catholic Church spread Christian civilization throughout Western Europe.

# Social Ladder of the Feudal System

- Clergy (1<sup>st</sup> Estate)
  - Cared for souls
  - Liable only to church law
- Nobles (2<sup>nd</sup> Estate)
  - Fought, owned land, and governed
- Peasants (3<sup>rd</sup> Estate)
  - Lived miserably
  - No legal rights



# Political

- Feudalism (10<sup>th</sup> century)
  - Lords→Vassals→  
Peasants
- Kings were Lords  
anointed by the Church
- No modern nations
  - Europe today: 50 states
  - Europe in 1500: 1500  
states





# Religious

- The Roman Catholic Church
  - Most powerful social, moral, and political entity in Europe
- The Pope
- Main focus of the average person's life
  - How is this different from what we have seen before?



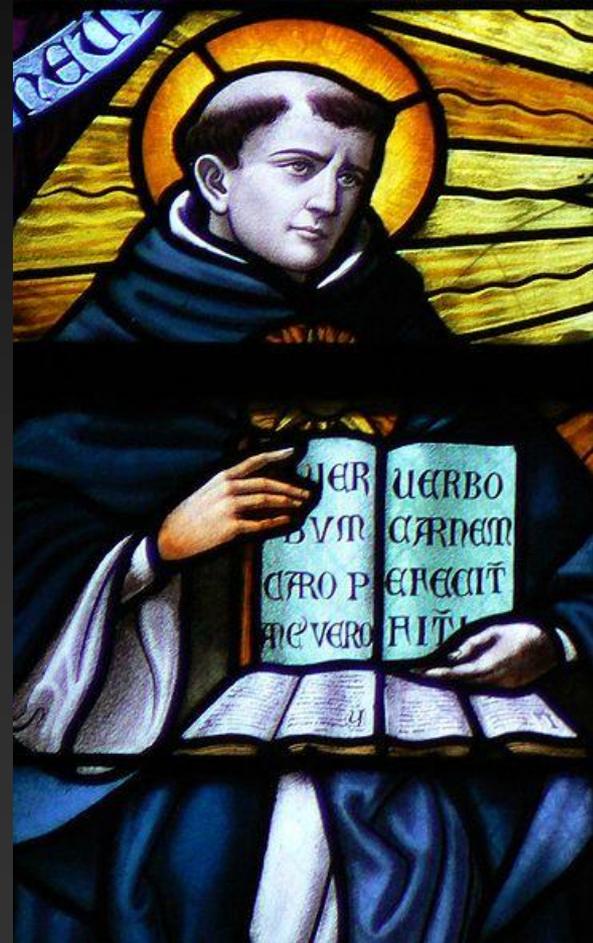
# Economic

- Agricultural- all farming all of the time
- Serfdom- peasants were not allowed to leave the land
- Local



# Intellectual

- Scholasticism
  - Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)
  - Faith and Reason
    - Aristotelian logic + Church tradition
  - Systematic and logical
  - Deductive reasoning



# Crisis in the Late Middle Ages

# The Black Death (The Bubonic Plague)

- Causes:
  - Population explosion
  - Famine
  - Overcrowding



# The Black Death



- Also known as the Bubonic Plague, the Black Death attacked in various waves between 1348 and 1350.
- 2/5 of the population in Europe were dead.

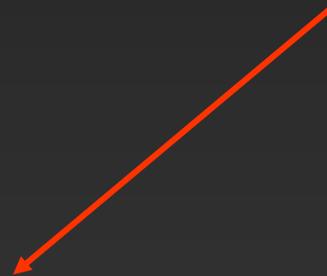
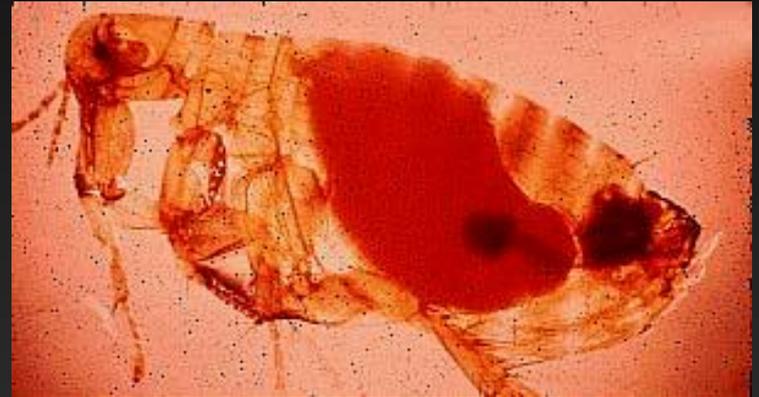
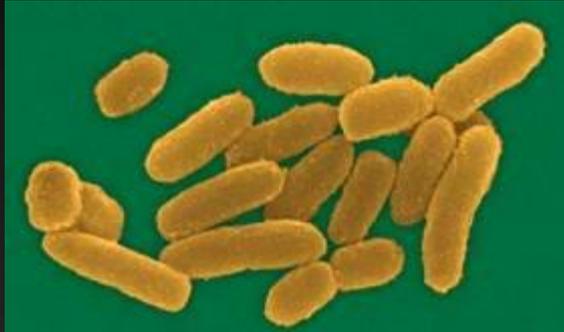
## Preconditions of Plague

- Europe was dangerously overpopulated as the population of Europe doubled between 1000 and 1300
  - *What are some issues that come with overpopulation?*
  - *What are some of the effects of overpopulation?*

## Causes of Plague

- Overpopulation
- Famine
- Bad Health
- Economic Depression

# Bacteria carried by fleas on rats



# Three Types

- Pneumonic
- Bubonic
- Septicemic



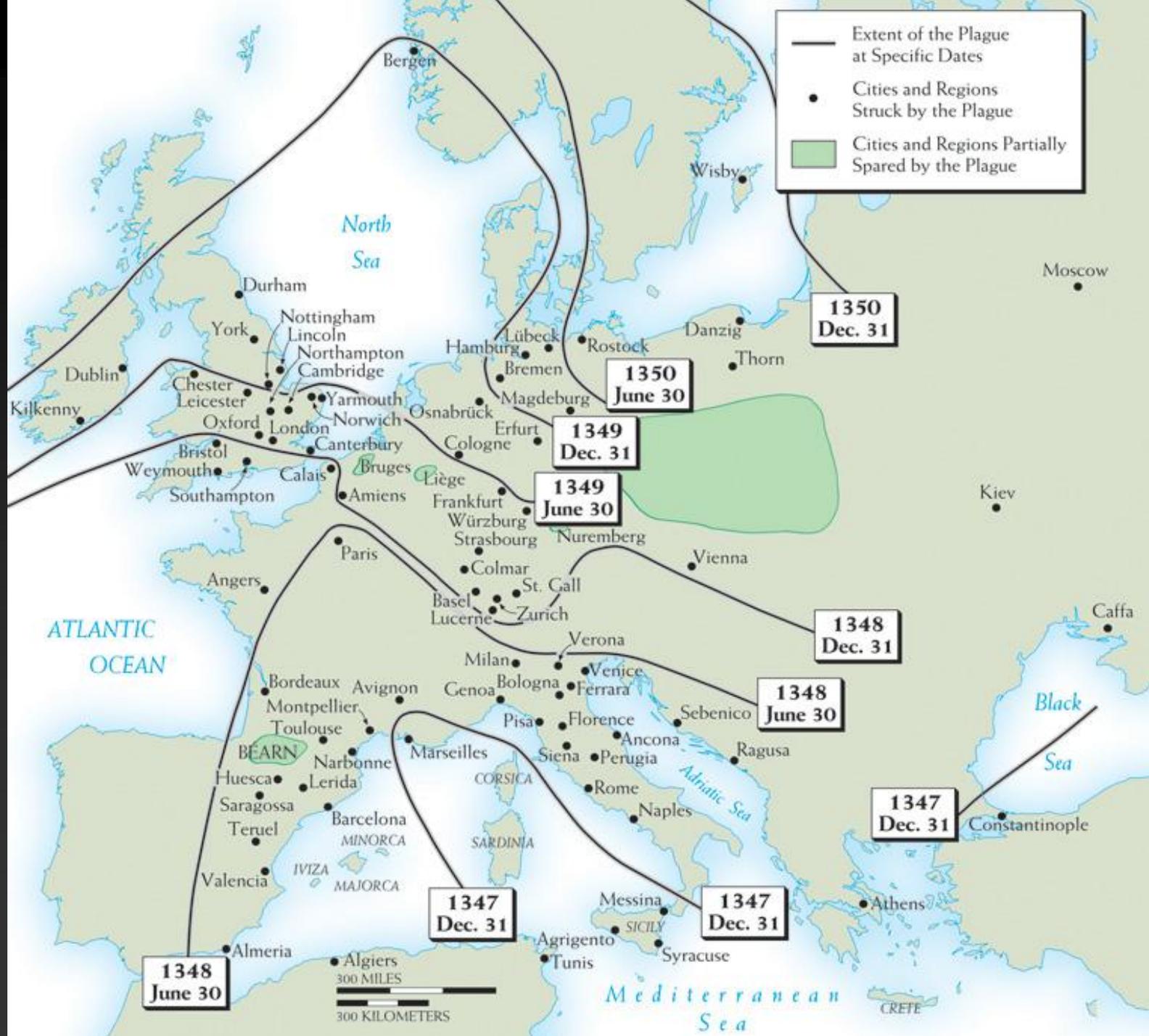
Der Doctor Schnabel von Rom



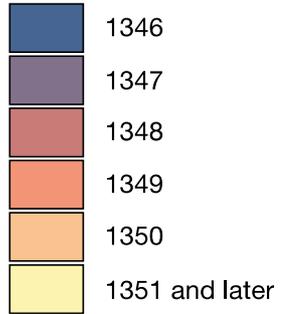
Les Oracles de nos feul  
 quel fribans concluent s'entend  
 de l'apit de Contingem  
 et au fort f'aver l'ain d'avour  
 Caducara f'ubi et au f'iglen  
 gleich wie der Carrer auf der r'ogen  
 Als Oracles. aber nicht der in  
 dem Romit regnet de P'f'ien.

Quo non debet esse uisibilis  
 sed finis uisibilis f'iciliter  
 que loquatur ab uis et f'iciliter  
 und d'ant per conf'iciliter  
 Et mariter Oracles d'iciliter  
 de de l'entit in f'iciliter  
 marit'iciliter h'iciliter f'iciliter  
 und d'iciliter de g'iciliter f'iciliter



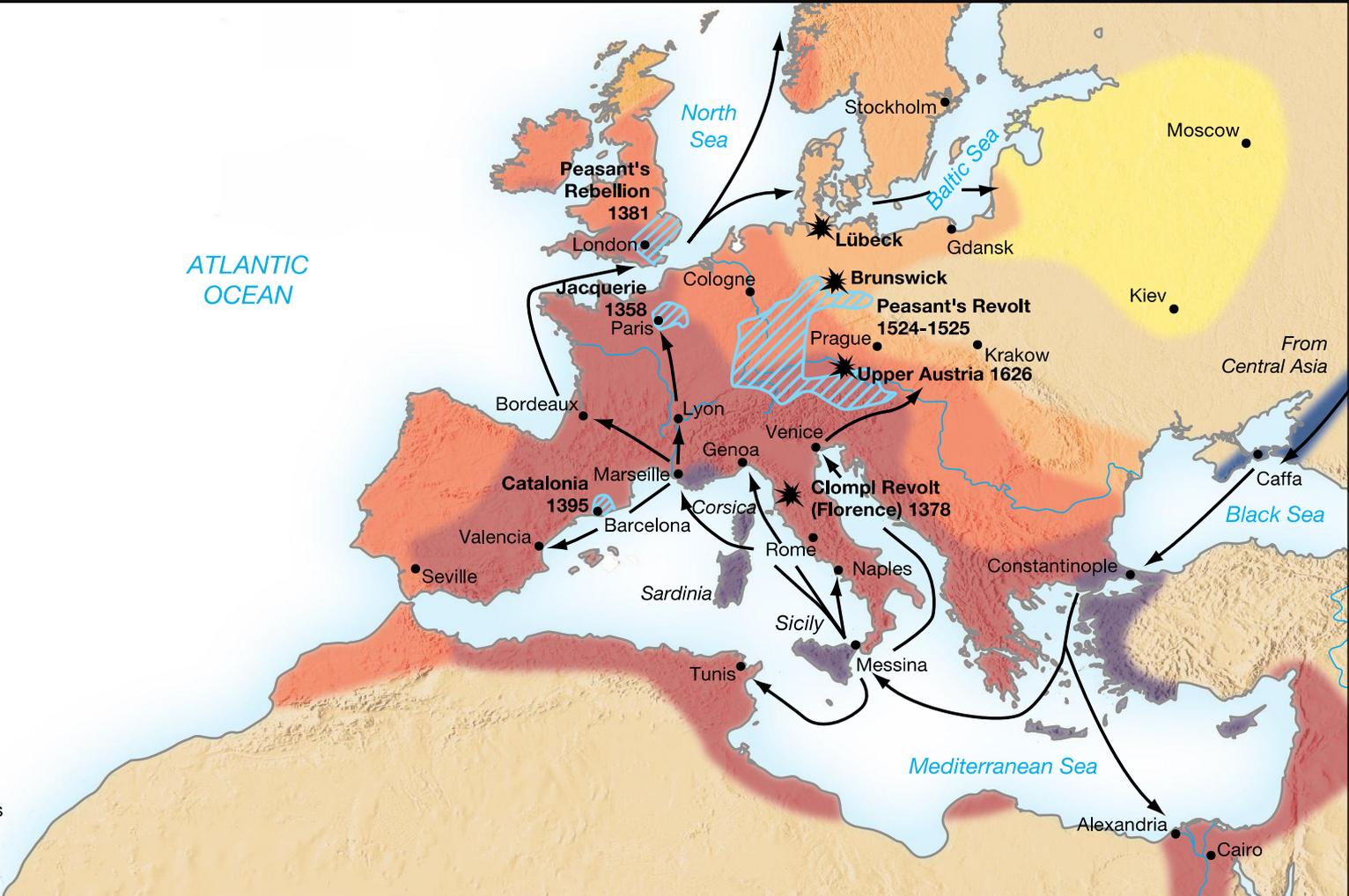
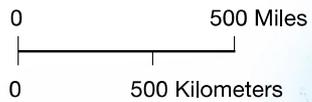


Spread of the Black Death



← General route of the Black Death

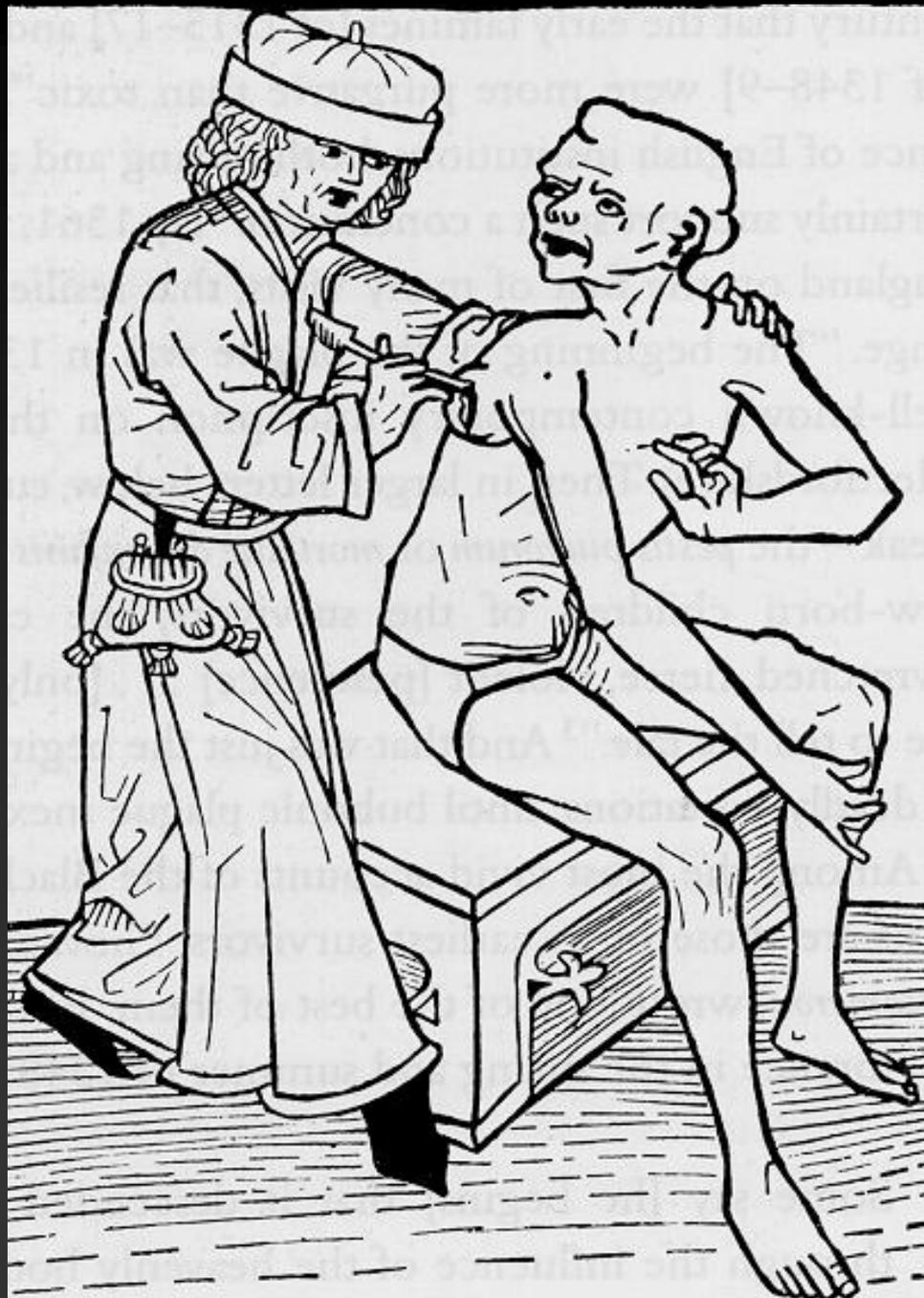
★ Revolts



# Reactions to the Plague

*“The victims ate lunch with their friends and dinner with their ancestors.”*

-Giovanni Boccaccio, the *Decameron* (1353)





# Flagellants



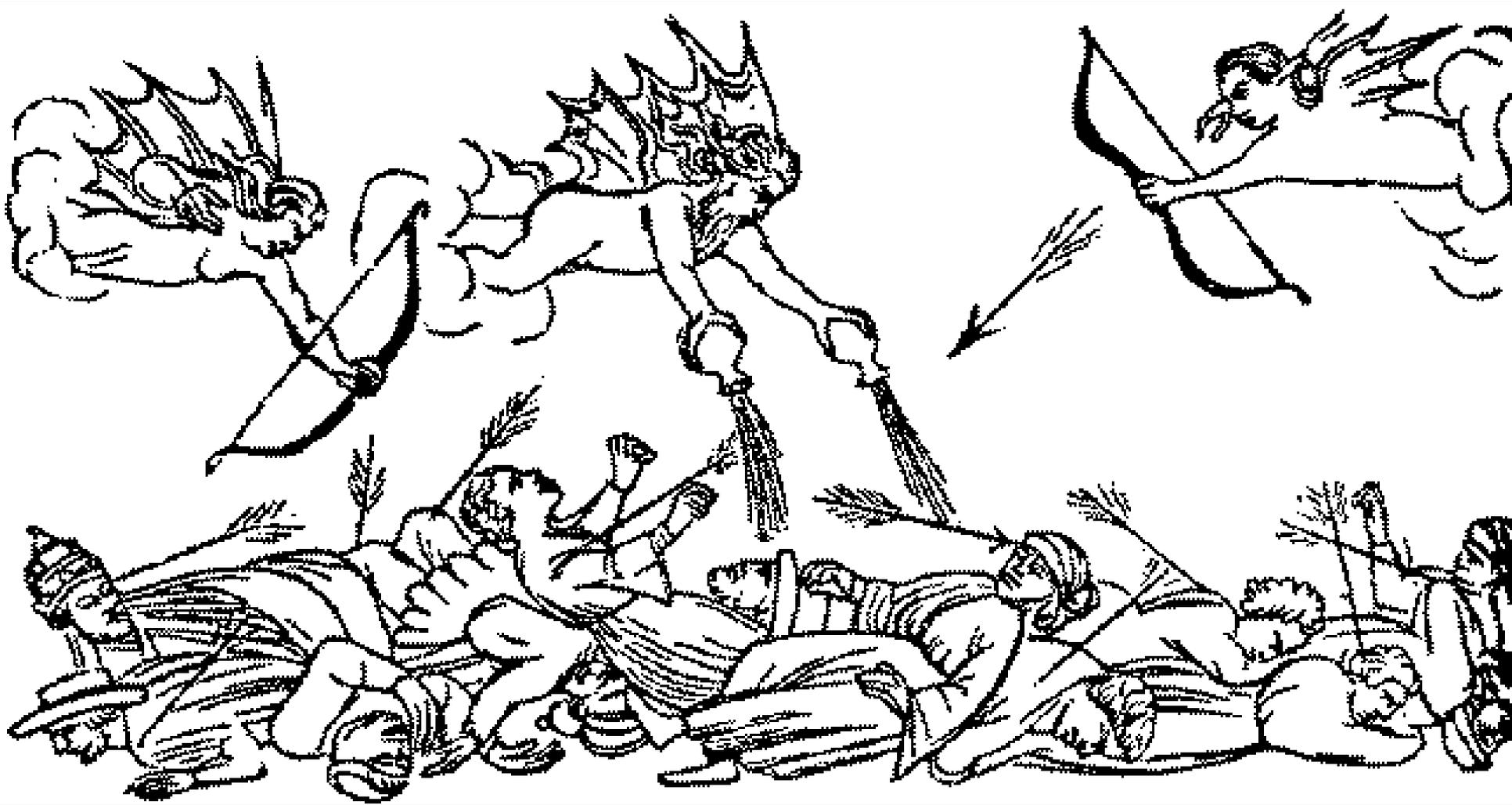


# The “Death Macabre”



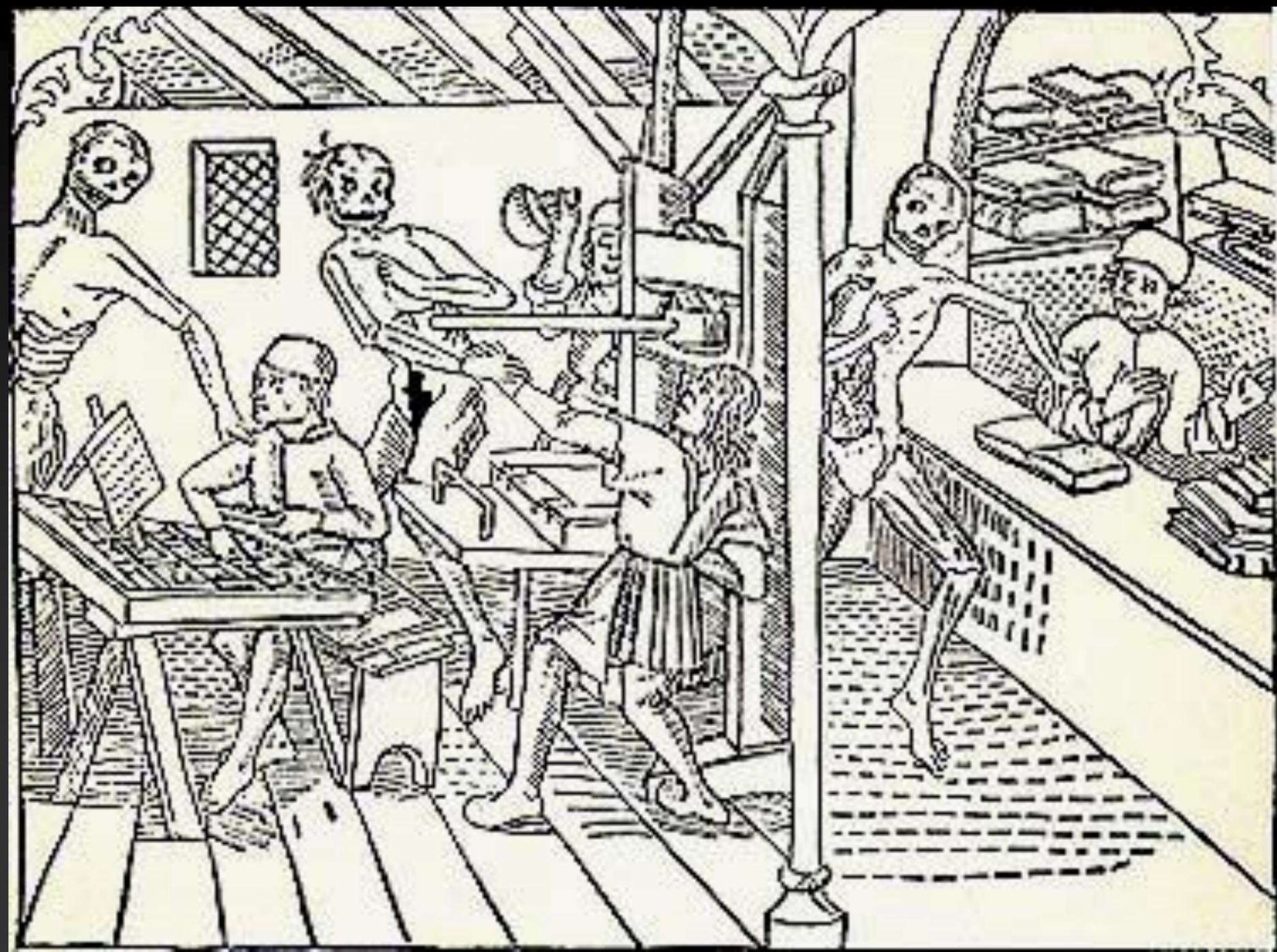














# Imago mortis



# Social Impact

- Up to 2/5 of the population died
- Decrease in labor force
- Peasant revolts
  - England, 1381
  - France, 1351, *The Jacquerie*
- Social distinctions were blurred
  - More power to the middle class
- Prestige of the Church declined

# Economic Impact

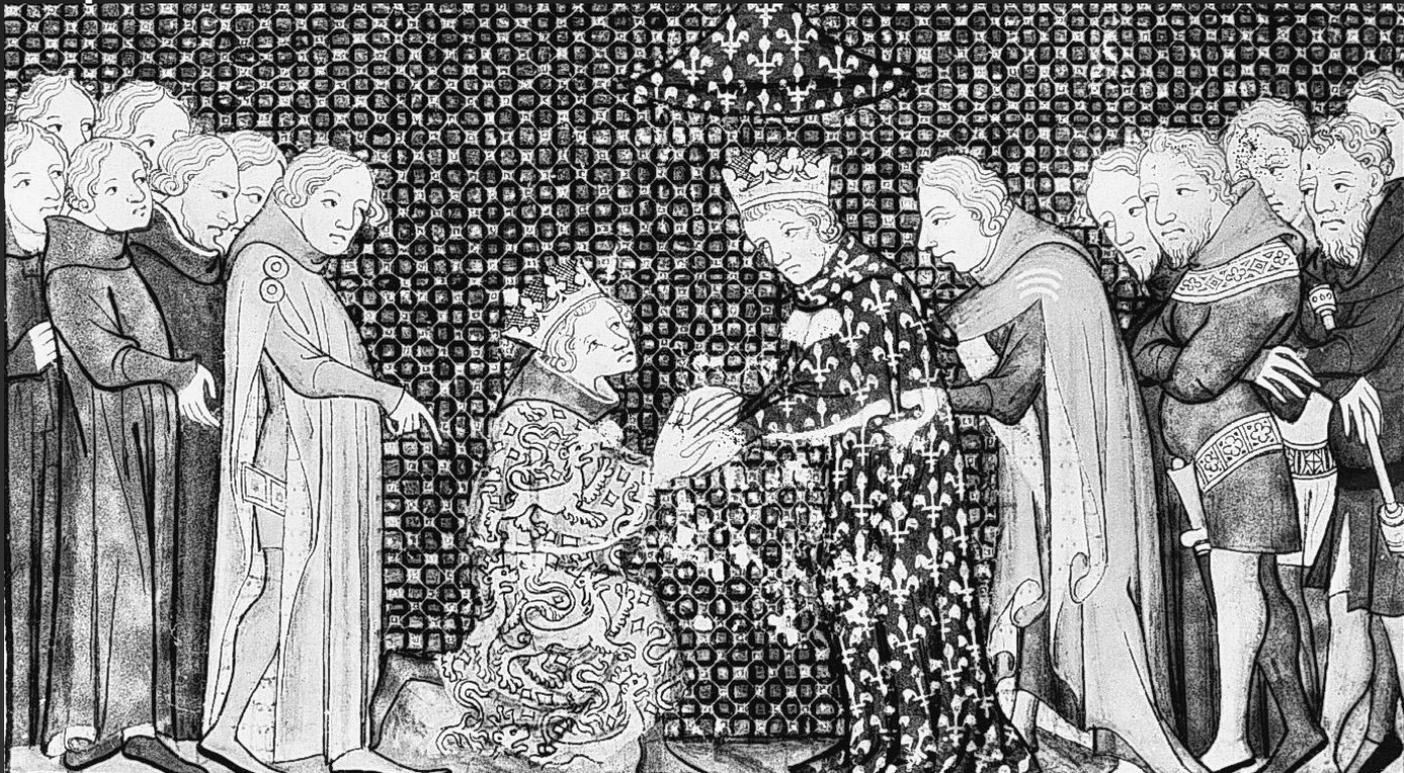
- Increase in wages
- Drop in agricultural prices
- Lower rents
- Towns initially suffered more

# The Hundred Years' War

## 1337-1453

# Causes

- English King Edward III laid claim to France
  - Edward was also a vassal of the French King Philip VI



# Joan of Arc (1412-1431)





# Impact

- Most of the English land is taken back by France
- Hastened the end of feudalism
- Hastened the rise of monarchy and the nation-state