

# The French Revolution

*Very Brief Discussion*

# Essential Questions that you should already be able to answer

- What beliefs and attitudes inspired the leaders of the French Revolution?
- How did the French Revolution reshape social and political institutions in France?
- What were the effects of the French Revolution?

# Key Terms

- You should absolutely be familiar with these terms by the end of this unit
  - Causes of the French Revolution
  - Louis XIV
  - Louis XVI
  - Robespierre
  - The Terror

# Causes of the French Revolution

- Huge debt in France
  - From what?
- Poor harvests led to discontent among the peasants
- The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Estates (Clergy and Nobles) had a small proportion of population but almost all political power.
  - The 3<sup>rd</sup> Estate (Peasants) became tired of this uneven balance of power and created a new **National Assembly**
    - Where did this event occur?

# Radicalism during the Revolution

- The Monarchy was abolished and the king and queen were eventually executed
  - Where else have we seen this before?
  - What does this say about society
- **After the monarchy was abolished the French Republic was born**

# Robespierre and the Directory

- **Leader of the French Revolution who established the Reign of Terror**
- During his time in power, **The Reign of Terror** saw the execution of 40,000 people who were seen as traitors to the revolution
- Robespierre would eventually be executed

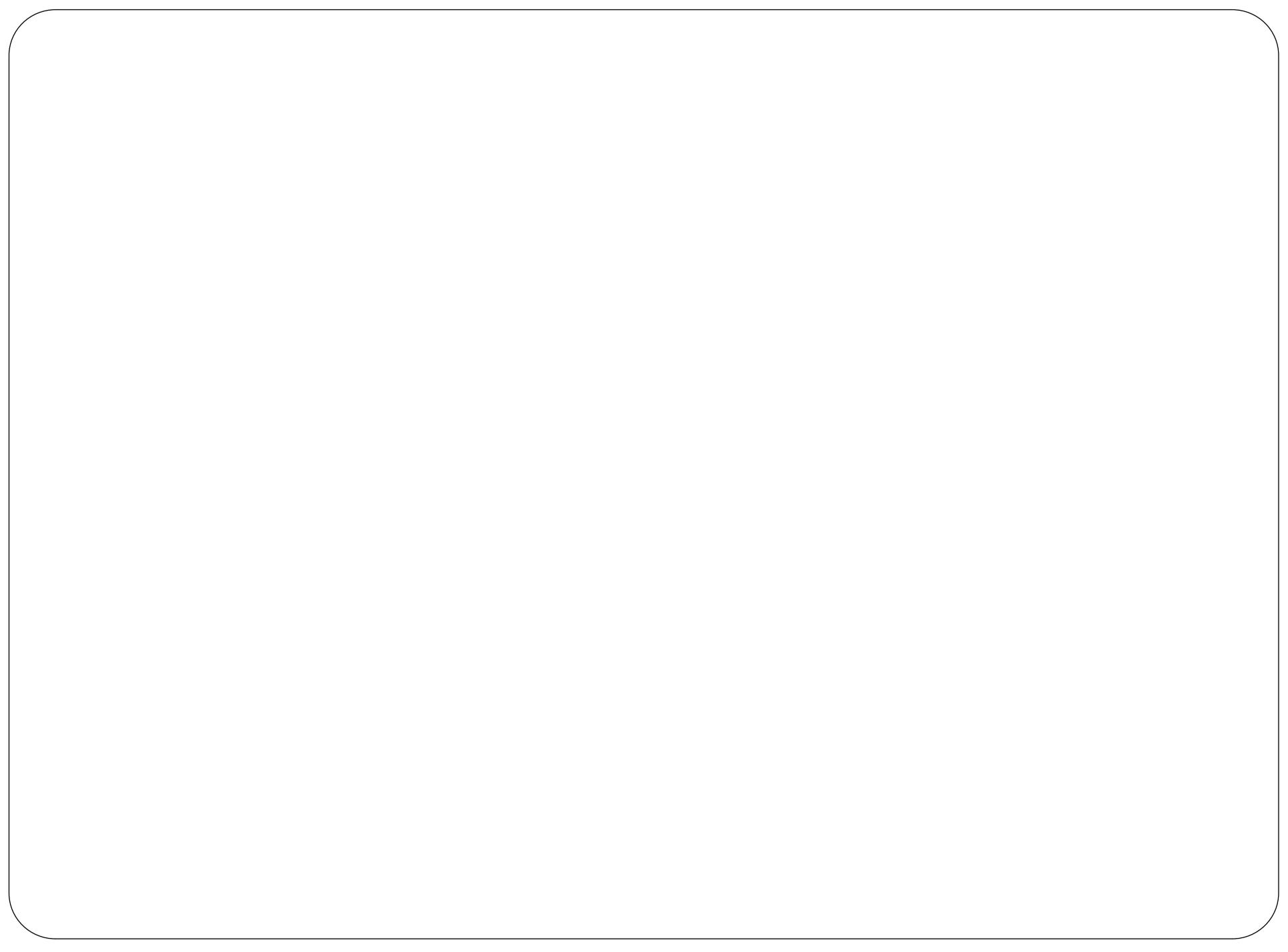
# Influences

- Enlightenment thinkers and the age of reason greatly influenced the French Revolution
  - **Declaration of the Rights of Man**
    - Men are born and remain free and equal in rights (JOHN LOCKE)
    - Liberty, property, security, and resistance to oppression (Locke)
    - Law is expression of the General Will (Rousseau)
    - Government by the people..

3 minute video

# Bell Ringer

- In your notebooks please answer the following questions as detailed as possible
  - What is destiny?
  - Do you believe in destiny? Why or why not?
    - If you believe in destiny how will you find it? Or how will it find you?
  - Pick the quote that you agree with the most
    - "The longest journey  
Is the journey inwards  
Of him who has chosen his destiny"
    - "Sow a habit, and you reap a character,  
Sow a character, and you reap a destiny"
    - "'Tis all a Checkerboard of Nights and Days  
Where Destiny with Men for Pieces Plays."



- On a separate sheet of paper, I want you to do the following,
  - Draw a small centered circle and label it me.
  - Draw at least 6 circles of increasing size around the central circle.
  - Place your most important influences in the larger circles and the least important influences of your life in the smaller ones.
  - Consider thinking about the following”
    - Parents, grandparents, siblings.
    - Your neighborhood
    - Religion
    - Teachers
    - Heroes
    - Hardships
    - Books
    - Living in the US
    - Your ties to another country
    - friends

# I MADE AN UH OH!

- For MONDAY, have all of chapter 22 read and complete the assessment questions for sections 1 and 3.
- IF YOU HAVE ALREADY STARTED THE ASSIGNMENT SEE ME.

# The Age of Napoleon

# Discussion Questions Take 10 Minutes to Answer

- Historians have argued over the importance of Napoleon's Corsican heritage. What do you feel it explains about Napoleon?
- Napoleon so hated having his native country conquered by the French, yet in the name of France he went on to be the greatest conqueror of other European countries the world had ever seen. How do you explain this paradox?
- Napoleon loved his mother and disliked his father. Does this necessarily mean that she influenced him more? How did each parent influence Napoleon? What two sides of Napoleon can we see through the effect of each parent?
- Do you think Napoleon's family did the right thing by deserting Corsica for France?

# Main Ideas

- Napoleon rose to power during the political turmoil that was occurring during the French Revolution
- Many of the reforms made during the revolution were overturned during the time of Napoleon
- Under Napoleon, France quickly developed itself into an empire and spread its power throughout much of Europe

# Who is Napoleon?

- Successful general turned political leader during the French Revolution
- Takes advantage of turmoil during F.R.
- Overthrows directory and eventually names himself emperor with the support of the French population
  - Why is this significant?

# Josephine

- First wife of Napoleon (yes they break up!)
  - Why do you think it does not last?
- While he was away, Napoleon wrote many letters to her.
  - You to whom nature has given spirit, sweetness, and beauty, you who alone can move and rule my heart, you who know all too well the absolute empire you exercise over it!
  - Most of his letters are still intact, few of hers were ever found
    - Why do you think this is?
- Napoleon has several affairs during his marriage to her
  - “Power is my mistress”



# Coronation of Napoleon (1806-7)



Write three things you notice from this picture.

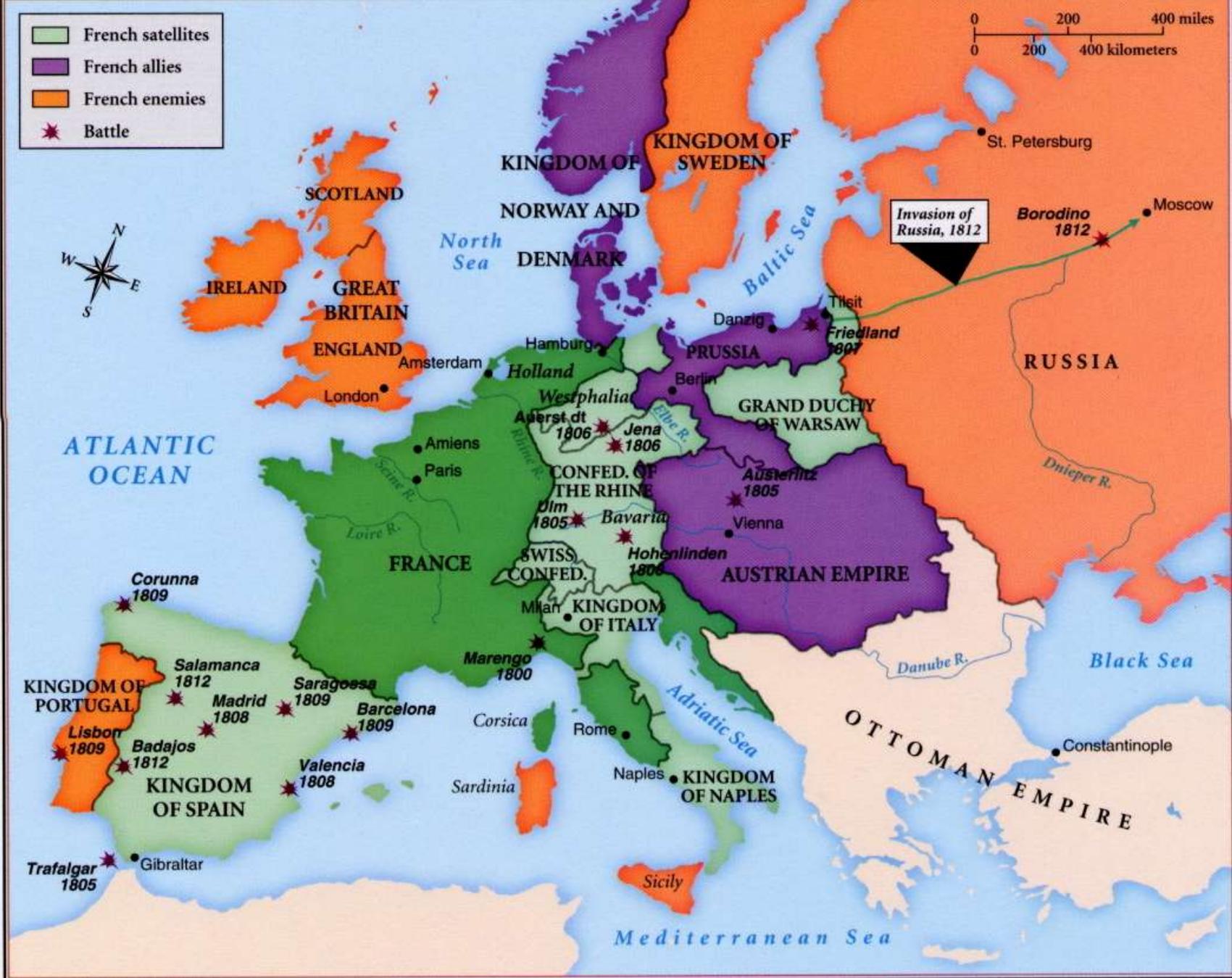
# France under Napoleon

- **Napoleonic Code**

- Equality of all citizens (more with men)
- Religious toleration
- Advancement based on merit

- **Expanded the borders of the French Empire**

- Napoleon was at war constantly
- Led to great nationalism amongst Frenchmen
- **Main rival was Britain**



**MAP 21.1 Napoleon's Empire at Its Height, 1812**

# Decline

- Nationalism began to work against Napoleon and the French
  - Why?
- Overexpansion once again proves disastrous
  - Constant battles across Europe lead to a battered army
  - Case of Russia
- **Exiled** but then returns!
  - Battle of Waterloo is his final battle

# Legacy

- **Congress of Vienna**

- The borders that will shape the maps of Europe for the next 100 years are drawn here.
- Attempts at a balance of power.