WHI.6 Rome- Part 2

**The Punic Wars: The Wars that Made Rome**

Between the years 264 BC and 146 BC Rome fought three wars against a country named Carthage, their rival neighbor to the south across the Mediterranean Sea. These wars are called The Punic Wars

**The Punic Wars**

The main reason for these wars was that both Rome and Carthage were both growing and competing for control over the Mediterranean region

Both sides want to be able to control territory and trade all around the Mediterranean

In the first Punic War Rome and Carthage fought over Sicily (the soccer ball island that the Italian boot is kicking) **Result**: Rome Wins

In the second Punic War, Carthage invaded Rome for payback. A Carthaginian general named Hannibal invaded Italy by going over the Alps with elephants. However, it's not enough. **Result**: Rome Wins

In the third Punic War, Rome takes it to Carthage, aiming to wipe them off the map. The city is eventually destroyed by the Romans, and the ground is salted so nothing can ever grow there again. **Result**: Rome Wins

**Results of the Punic Wars**

Rome destroys Carthage and becomes the most powerful force in the Mediterranean region

Rome expands trade across the region and becomes very rich

Everyone remembers that Hannibal used three dozen elephants, but they forget that most died of the cold or fell off icy cliffs and he didn't get the W.

**Spread of Roman Empire and Culture**

Rome starts small, as a city. Then, it extends itself across the Italian peninsula. After Carthage is destroyed Rome takes their territories over. Finally, Rome expands over the territory that once belonged to the Hellenistic empire of Alexander the Great

Rome also expanded north, into what was then called Gaul, (now known as France) and into the British Isles (England).

**Rome Changes From Republic to Empire**

From the founding of the Roman Republic in 510 B.C., through the year 23 B.C. (about 500 years) Rome operated as a republic.

However, the Roman Republic began to have some internal troubles that caused it to become unstable and ripe for civil war and change.

The result of all this trouble and change is Rome will change from a republic to an empire.

Republic: People vote for representatives who make laws

Empire: A single leader is in charge of a country or a several jointed states

**How Rome Changes from Republic to Empire**

The Main Characters:

Julius Caesar: Patrician Senator and Roman general

Crassus: Filthy rich Roman general, friend of Caesar

Pompey: Roman general, frenemy to Caesar

Around 60 B.C. these three men make up something called the First Triumvirate- basically they use their power and money to run Rome

**The Rise of Julius Caesar**

Julius Caesar, most recently governor of Spain for Rome, uses his fame, and the money of his friend Crassus, to get appointed one of the two consuls in Rome.

While consul, Caesar uses Pompey's army to twist the Senate's arm to do what he wants.

After his one year term as consul is over, Caesar gets a sweet job being the governor of southern Gaul (France)

**Conquering Gaul**

While Governor of Gaul, Caesar conquers northern Gaul for Rome. He then went on to conquer the British Isles (England) too.

Caesar didn't exactly have permission to do this.

While he was away, Crassus was killed in battle fighting in Syria and Pompey was elected consul.

Caesar becomes very popular with his soldiers and the people he meets, giving them bread and land.

**Caesar Takes Power**

Pompey begins to worry about Caesar's popularity and growing power and gets the Senate to recall Caesar back to Rome.

Caesar knows if he goes back to Rome without an army Pompey will probably have him put in jail or killed.

Caesar does return to Rome, but brings his army with him and Pompey runs away.

Caesar is made both consul and dictator and had near total control of Rome.

**Being Caesar**

Caesar tracks down Pompey in Egypt where he had been hiding, but when he arrives he finds that Pompey had already been killed by the Pharaoh.

With his chief rival dead, Caesar's term as consul and dictator keeps getting extended by the Senate.

As dictator, Caesar made some popular changes, like creating a new calendar, giving away land, reforming debt and changing the tax code

However, there was a small group of senators who believed the Caesar had too much power and was more like a king than a leader

**Beware the Ides of March**

The worried senators, led by a friend of Caesar named Brutus, decide the only way to stop Caesar is to kill him.

On March 15, 44 B.C. while on his way to meet with the senate, Caesar is surrounded by the gang and stabbed to death.

The senators thought they were restoring Rome to a republic, but instead Rome fell into civil war.

**After Caesar**

After Caesar's assassination the second triumvirate came to power in Rome. It was made up of:

* + Octavian: Caesar's grand-nephew and heir
  + Marc Antony: Caesar's second-in-command general
  + Lepidus- Good friend of Caesar

For a while it worked ok, until:

Marc Antony started hanging out with Cleopatra in Egypt

Octavian convinced the Senate to declare war on Egypt, and after losing a major battle (Actium) both Marc Antony and Cleopatra committed suicide

Lepidus retired and Octavian was left sole ruler of Rome, changing his name to Augustus and making himself emperor

**Augustus Caesar**

Being emperor Augustus (formally Octavius) didn't have to listen to the senate or worry about a term because he had total power for life

The Roman Republic is now an empire

The Roman Empire expanded under Augustus

**How Did This Happen?**

Causes for the decline of the Roman Republic

• Spread of slavery in the agricultural system

• Migration of small farmers into cities and unemployment

• Civil war over the power of Julius Caesar

• Devaluation of Roman currency; inflation