

<i>Clovis (466-511)</i>	first king of the Franks to unite the Frankish tribes, to conquer Gaul and to convert to Christianity.	Clovis
<i>Constantine</i>	the emperor following Diocletian, he ruled from 306 to 337. He was the first Christian emperor, and built Constantinople (present-day Istanbul), which remained the capital of the Byzantine Empire for over a 1000 years.	Konstantin
<i>Diocletian</i>	Roman Emperor from 284 to 305, he was acclaimed emperor by the army, ended the crisis of the third century by enforcing reforms dividing the empire into four prefectures. His reforms eventually separated the empire into an Eastern Empire and a Western Empire.	Diocletian
<i>Eastern Empire (Byzantine)</i>	the area south and east of present-day Bosnia-Herzegovina.	Byzanz / Das oströmische Reich
<i>Iconoclastic Controversy</i>	This controversy occurred between the mid-8th century and the mid-9th century in the Byzantine Christian Church. The question was whether or not Christians should continue to worship icons (=images). Educated believers thought that worshipping icons was a form of idolatry and wanted them destroyed. The controversy started in 726 when Byzantine Emperor Leo III ordered that the image of Christ be taken down from the gate of the imperial palace. After much controversy, worship of icons was officially restored and sanctioned during a council meeting in Nicaea in 787. Until the present day, icons play a very important role in the Eastern Orthodox Church; they are considered "windows" to heaven.	Bilderstreit (Ikonoklasmus)
<i>Justinian</i>	Roman Emperor from 527 to 565, second member of the Justinian Dynasty (following his uncle, Justin I). He is considered one of the most important figures in late Antiquity. His reign is marked mainly by his uniform rewriting of Roman law, the "Corpus Juris Civilis," which is still the basis of civil law in many modern states. His reign also marked a blossoming of Byzantine culture, and among other things, he built the Hagia Sophia, the Church of the Holy Wisdom, which was the center of Eastern Orthodox Christianity for many centuries	Justinian
<i>Leo III</i>	Byzantine emperor from 717 until his death in 741. He put an end to a period of instability and forbade the veneration of icons (see below).	Leo III
<i>Odoacer</i>	first official non-Roman king of Italy in 476.	Odoacer

<i>Ostrogoths</i>	the other East Germanic tribe (cf. Visigoths), they established a short-lived succession to the state of Rome, eventually being defeated by Rome.	Ostgoten
<i>Roman Empire</i>	around 300, the Roman Empire roughly consisted of present-day Great Britain (without Ireland), France (the Rhine as the eastern border), Spain, Portugal, Italy, the coastal areas of North Africa, Turkey, the Balkan states, Syria, Libya, Israel and Greece.	das Römische Reich
<i>Theodoric</i>	leader of the Ostrogoths (471-526), defeated Odoacer several times between 488 and 493.	Theodoric
<i>Theodosius</i>	Roman Emperor from 379 to 395, last emperor of both the Western and Eastern Empires; under his rule, Nicene Christianity became the official religion.	Theodosius
<i>Venerable Bede / Saint Bede</i>	He lived from 672 to 735 and is considered the “Father of English History” after publishing his “Historia ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum” (The Ecclesiastical History of the English People). He lived as a monk in a monastery in present-day England.	Beda "Venerabilis", d.h. Der Verehrungswürdige
<i>Visigoths</i>	one of two East Germanic tribes (cf. Ostrogoths); initially emerging in the Balkans, they eventually defeated Rome in 410. They settled in southern Gaul where they were defeated by the Franks (under King Clovis I).	Visigothen / Westgoten
<i>Western Empire</i>	the area north and west of present-day Bosnia-Herzegovina, including Italy and the coastal areas of North Africa west of Libya.	das Weströmische Reich