Chapter Ten: A World in Turmoil (1789 -- 1814)

1. French Revolution

The French Revolution which began in 1789, caused turmoil throughout the world for 25 years and had a profound permanent impact on all aspects of society.

2. Bourbons

The royal family of France and Spain.

3. Hapsburgs

The royal family of Austria and the family that was elected as Holy Roman Emperors.

4. Innocent XIII

He had resigned 2 years earlier as bishop of a small Italian diocese because of ill health. When he is elected as pope he will not be a strong leader.

5. Clement XII

He was 79 years old when he was elected as pope. He will be blind and bedridden for the last 8 years of his pontificate. Again not a strong leader.

6. Jansenists

A group of Catholics who emphasized God's harsh punishment, fear of death and hell instead of God's love and mercy. Have been described as "Catholic Puritans." They are opposed to the Jesuits.

7. Clement XIV

In 1773, Pope Clement XIV suppressed the Jesuits throughout the world in order to maintain peace within the Church and to avoid schism.

8. Suppression of the Jesuits

The suppression of the Jesuits was a terrible blow to the Catholic Church everywhere. They had to abandon 100's of colleges and 1000's of missionaries were expelled. A sign of the lack of strong papal leadership.
9. Estates General

The French legislature was called the Estates General. It was comprised of three chambers.

10. First Estate

This chamber was comprised of the clergy.

11. Second Estate

This chamber included the nobility.

12. Third Estate

This chamber included all the common folk, including the new socio-economic group, the merchant class.

13. Louis XVI

He is the King of France in the late 1700's. He may be an absolute monarch, but his monarchy is bankrupt. He calls together the Estates General on May 4, 1789 to help him raise taxes and solve the economic problem. The Estates General had not met for over 100 years.

14. liberty, equality, fraternity

This is the motto of the French Revolution.

15. National Assembly

The National Assembly is the new one chamber legislative body that replaces the Estates General. During June of 1789 the members of the First Estate helped members of the Third Estate transform the Estates General into the National Assembly. The mandate of the National Assembly was to create a new form of government for France; a constitutional monarchy.

16. constitutional monarchy

A constitutional monarchy is a form of government in which the king’s power is limited by an elected parliament.

17. Civil Constitution of the Clergy

This is a new law passed in 1790 by the National Assembly designed to regulate the Church and her affair in the new constitutional monarchy. The National Assembly turns against the Church and this law calls for the election of pastors and bishops (no kingly or papal appointments), makes the clergy swear an oath of allegiance to the government, ends the Church tithe and closes down monasteries. The Church is being persecuted and losing its freedom to preach and teach the Gospel.
18. Pius VI

In the summer, fall and winter of 1790 is quiet about the Civil Constitution of the Clergy but in the spring of 1791 not only condemns the Civil Constitution of the Clergy but also the National Assembly as Godless and the French Revolution going astray.

19. Reign of Terror

Takes place from 1793 to 1794. It is a bloody and violent campaign of repression to destroy any opponents of the Revolution. Organized by the Committee for Public Safety. Executed 40,000 royalists, nobility, political moderates. King and Queen are executed. Declares Catholicism illegal and proclaims the Goddess of Reason. Attempts to create a whole new social order with a new calendar system and system of weights and measurement.

20. the Directory

This group comes to power in France in 1795 and will remain in power until 1799. The will bring to end the violence of the Reign of Terror and attempt to return stability to French society. There remains a strict separation of Church and State. The Church will be tolerated but the government continues to hold on to Church property, priests need to swear allegiance to the government, priests are spied upon. During the time of the Directory with will export their revolutionary ideas. They invade the Papal States, forcing Pius VI to flee Rome. A year later he is captured, deported to France and imprisoned. He will die in prison in 1799. The papacy will be vacant for the next 7 months. The Directory declared a Roman Republic in place of the Papal States.

21. Napoleon Bonaparte

He rises up in the ranks of the Revolutionary Army from foot soldier to victorious general. He returns to France from Egypt and by November of 1799 has pushed the Directory out of power and is ruling the country. In 1804 he will proclaim himself Emperor of the French.

22. Pius VII

In March of 1800 the cardinals are able to have their conclave in Venice and they elect Pius VII. He was a monk most of his life. Was the bishop of a small Italian diocese before being elected pope. He will become one of the greatest popes in modern history. He will help to restore peaceful relationship between the Church and France. When he refuses to support Napoleon in war against the English, Napoleon will invade the Papal States and imprison Pius VII there for ten years.

23. Concordat of 1801

Napoleon and Pius VII work out this treaty that restores peaceful relationship between the Church and France. Napoleon recognizes Catholicism as the religion of the majority of the French people. The pope is recognized as the head of the Catholic Church even in France. Pius is able to appoint new bishops. Catholicism is legal once again in France.