

there. Moreover Rome was too far removed from the boundaries of the Empire, and for these reasons Constantine founded a new Capital and called it Constantinople. Rome was now but a Capital in name.

The New Rome of Constantine was none other than ancient Byzantium restored and enlarged. Constantine made of it a Christian city, built many churches and monuments, and prohibited therein the erection of any temple to the false gods.

In 381, the Bishop of Constantinople received the title of Patriarch and was considered in rank next to the Patriarch of Rome.

Government. — 62 Constantine completed the organization of the government of the Empire. He multiplied officers in order to lessen the authority of each, but this organization was defective, for he thought more of his own power and greatness than of the happiness and welfare of his people.

The expenses necessitated by this system of government required the levying of taxes which ruined the rate-payers, for some were obliged even to sell their children to pay off these taxes.

The last years of Constantine's reign, rendered illustrious by victories over the barbarians, were saddened by domestic tragedies.

Constantine died in 337, at Neocomedia, shortly after receiving baptism. Some hold that he was baptized several years before by Pope St. Sylvester II.

After Constantine's death, St. Helen, his mother, visited the Holy Land, caused the temples and idols to be overthrown, discovered the Holy Sepulchre and the Cross of Our Lord, erected the Church of the Resurrection and rebuilt Jerusalem.

Julian, the Apostate. — **Valentinian — Theodosius.** — Under Constantine's successors, the Empire again gave signs of its approaching downfall which had been retarded during the reign of the great Emperor, but was now being precipitated by the fresh attacks of barbarians.

Julian, the Apostate (361) tried to prevent this ruin. His military and political talents might have insured his success had