

# The Late Middle Ages

The Crisis Years 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>  
Centuries



# The Black Death

- Named the Bubonic Plague
- In 5 years it killed 1/3 of Europe
  - About 25 million people (worldwide 100 million)
- Originated in Mongolia or China
  - Spread to Europe along trade routes 1347
  - Carried by Fleas that lived on the backs of rats



# Spread of the Plague



# Symptoms

- Fever
- Swelling of lymph gland (Near armpits, groin, or neck usually)
- Vomiting
- Red Rash that turned Black
- Internal Bleeding
- Death could come in matter of hours or days (50% chance of survival)



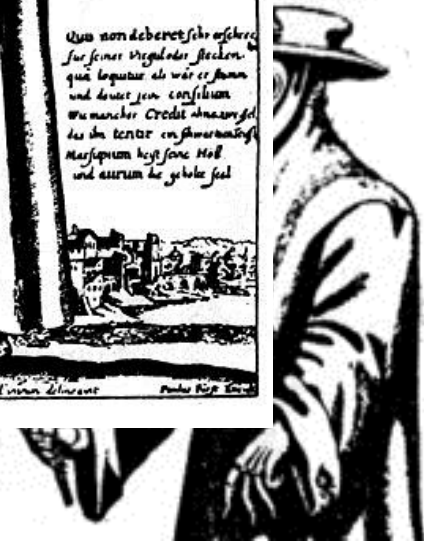
# Causes for the Plague: Or so they thought

- God's Vengeance
  - Flagellants
- Jewish Plot
  - Poisoned the wells



# Dealing with the Plague

- Many barricaded selves inside homes
  - Social Decay
- Plague Doctors
- Mass burials
  - “Bring out your dead”



# Impacts

- Labor Shortages
  - Workers demanded higher wages and rioted
  - Wages drastically went up spurring economic development
- Plague lasted on and off till 17<sup>th</sup> century
- People questioned church's effectiveness



# Problems in the Church

- Church unable to support people during plague
  - 1378 – Re-establishment of Papacy in Rome leads to another Schism
- People question church's authority
  - John Wycliffe
  - Jan Hus





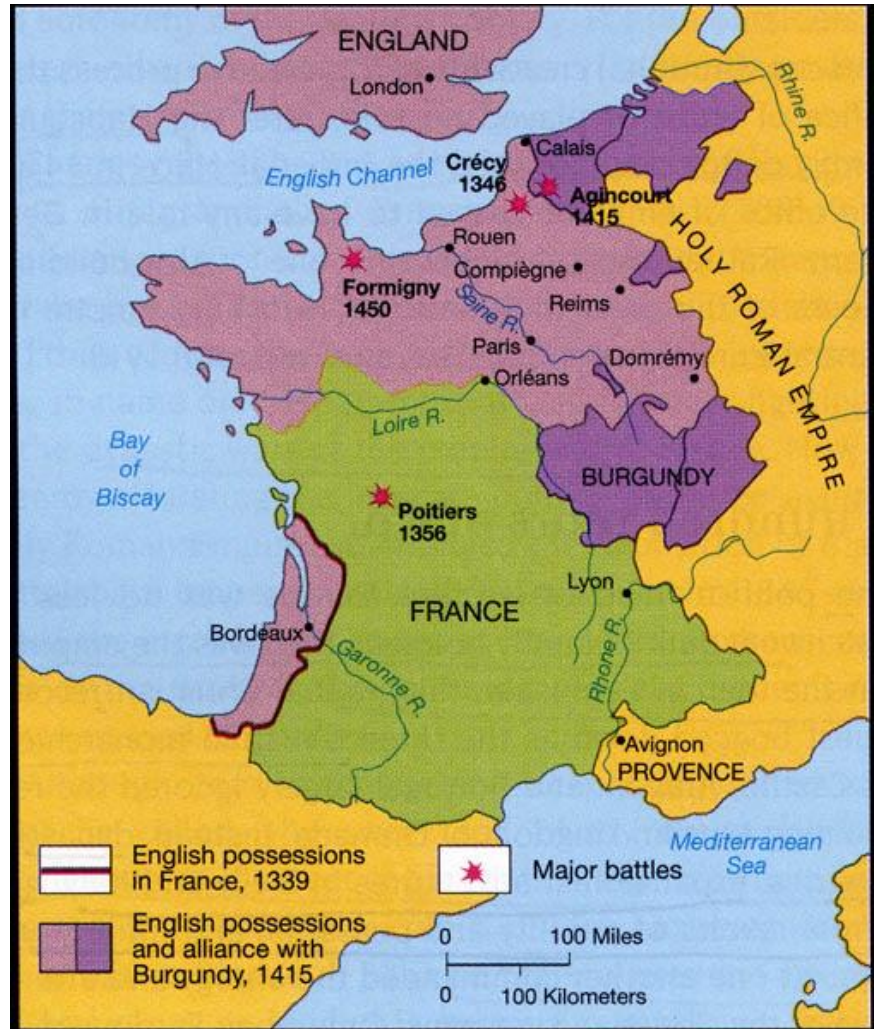
# Problems in England

- 1297 – Scottish resentment over English rule turns into rebellion
- Led by William Wallace
- Many major victories
  - Sterling Bridge
- Eventually captured and killed for treason



# The Hundred Years War

- 1337 – 1353
- England looking to keep France weak
- France looking to extend power and push England across English Channel
- Both wanted control of regional Trade



# Early English Victories

- Crecy 1346
- Poitiers 1356
- Agincourt 1415
- Were able to win using mix of dismounted man-at-arms and longbowmen



# Joan of Arc

- In 1429 French king Charles VII gives command of army to peasant girl named Joan
- Turned tide of war in favor of French
- Captured by English
  - Tried as a witch
  - Became Martyr
  - Sanctified



# Impacts of Hundred Years War

- Introduction of Cannon
  - Destroys vassal system (castles useless)
- French Nationalism rises
  - French King's power increases
- English Parliament Gains power
  - “Power of the Purse”
  - English King's Power Decreases

