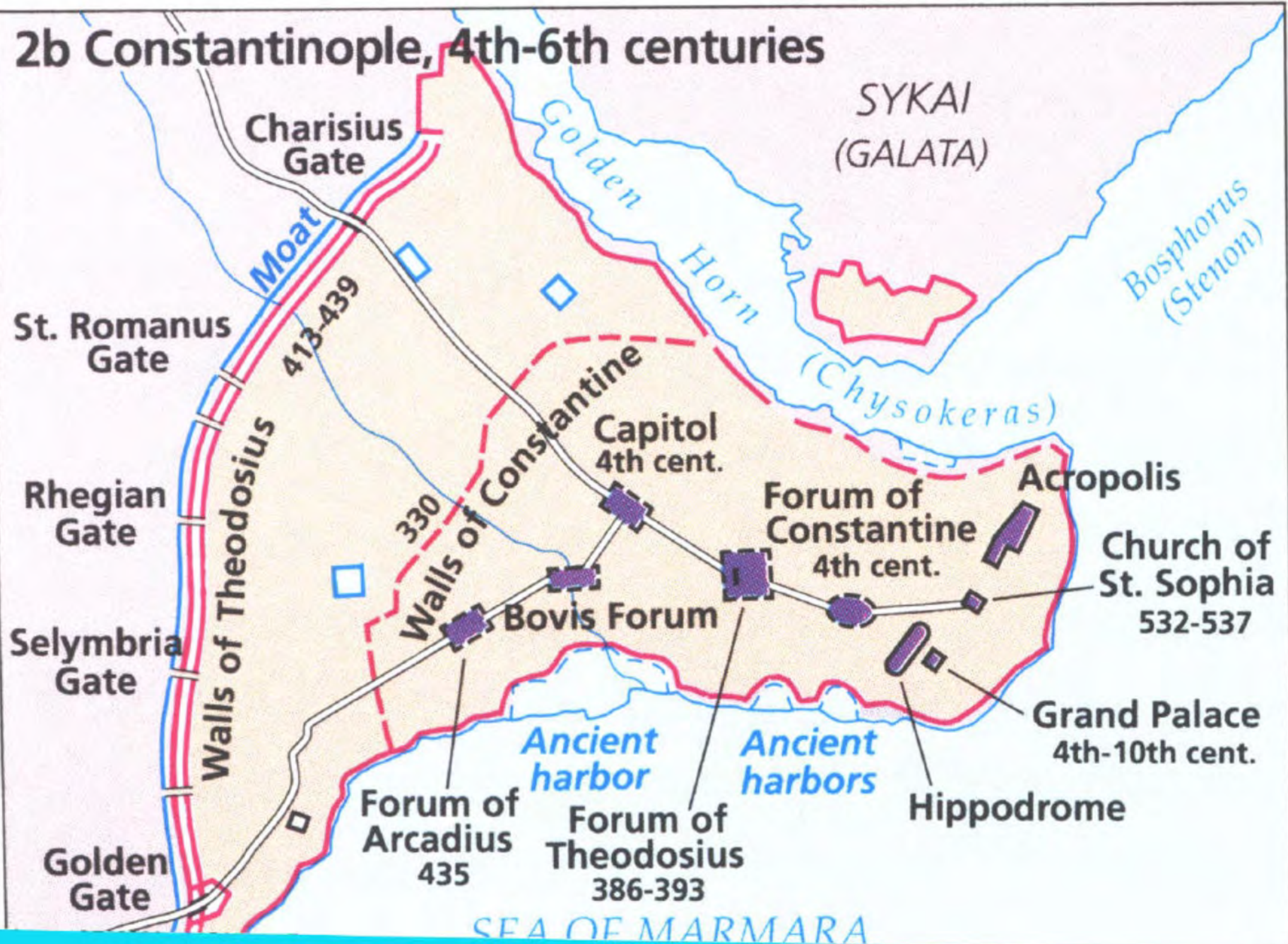


The Dark Ages, 476 - 1000 CE

Week III: The East Roman Empire

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Sonoma State University

2b Constantinople, 4th-6th centuries



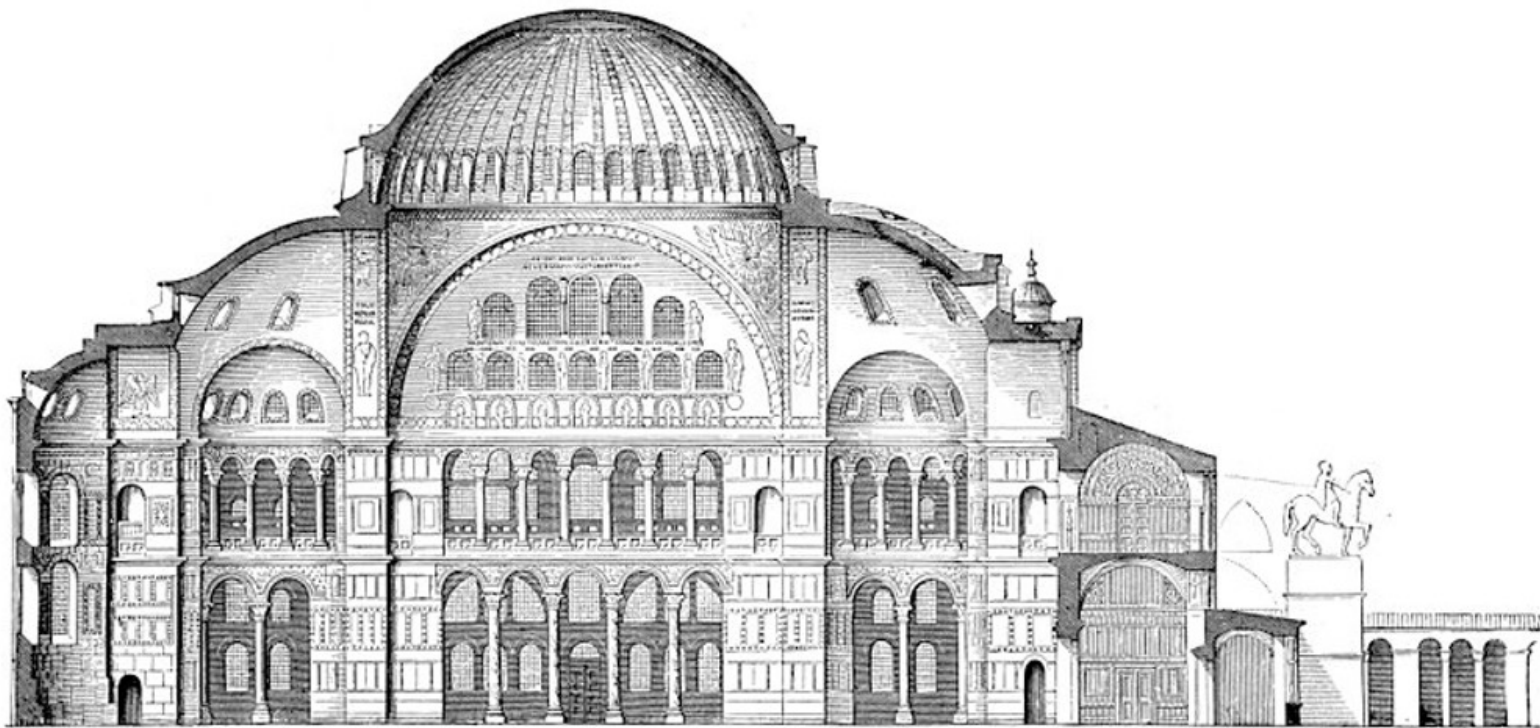


Theodosian Walls

Built during the reign of Theodosius II (408-450)



Theodosian Walls



Hagia Sophia (above), built
between 532-537



San Vitale (526-547)



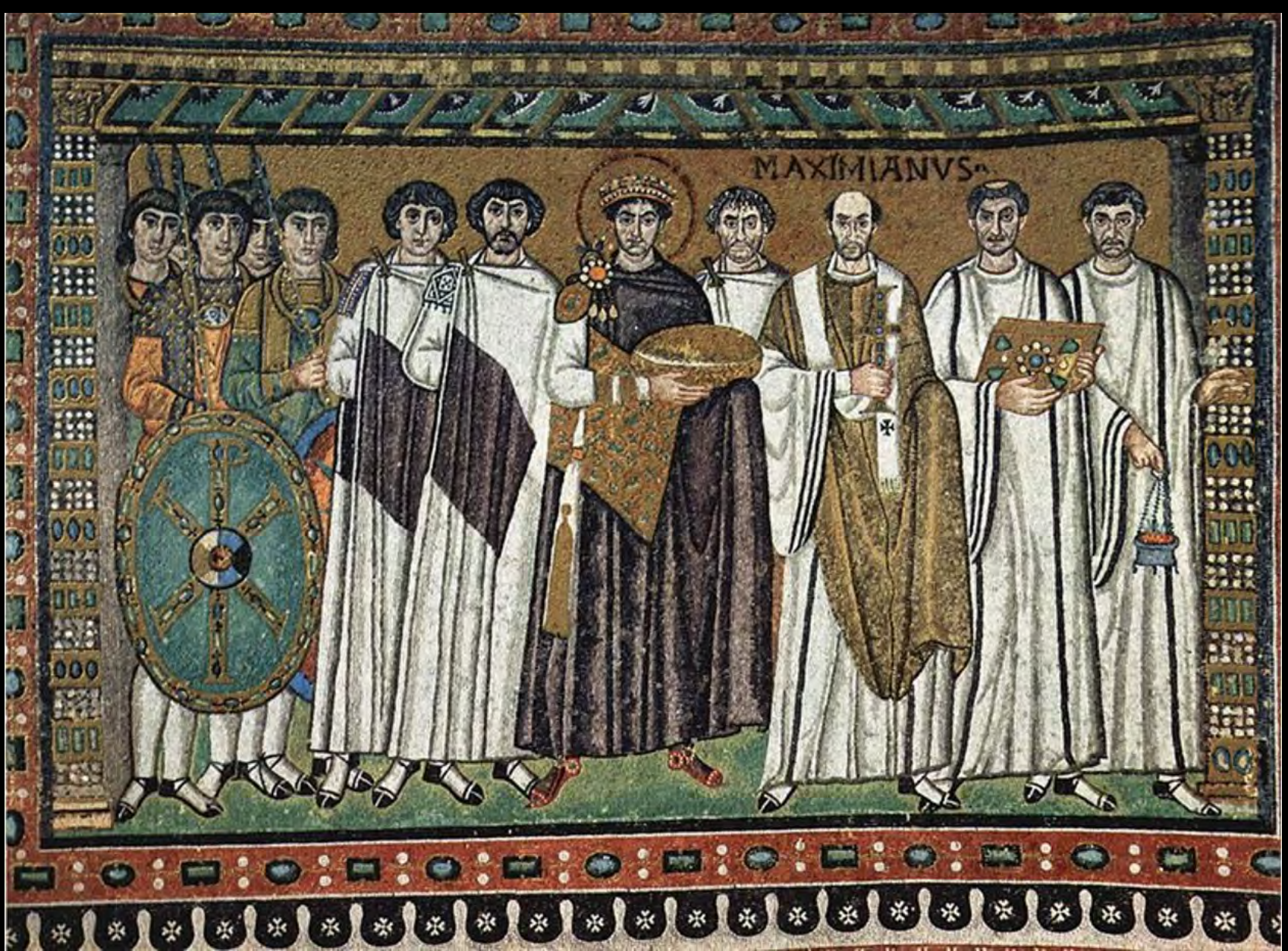
The Imperial Door, Hagia Sophia





The Imperial Door, San Vitale





From left to right: Six *scholae palatinae* (aka the *scholares*), a civil servant, Belisarius, Justinian (centre), Julianus Argentarius, Archbishop Maximianus, two priests



Apse mosaic depicting JC offering the crown to Justinian



From left to right: two palace officials (perhaps Narses?), Theodora (centre), Antonina (wife of Belasarius) and their daughter, Julia Anicia (a princess), four misc. ladies in waiting

The Empire Strikes Back! The East Roman Empire and the reconquest of the west



The Gothic War (535-554): Aftermath



Expansion of the Byzantine Empire between 527 and 565

The Gothic War (535-554): Aftermath

- Rome suffered massive damage; it is left largely abandoned and in ruins
- Milan and other cities destroyed
- Senate disappears (578-580)
- Lombards invade and take much of Italy by the end of the 6th c.



The Gothic War (535-554): Aftermath

The reign of J as turning point

- Power in the Med shifts WEST to the Lombards and esp. the Franks
- Italy is fragmented (Imperial and Lombard territories)
- The Empire was bankrupt and exhausted
 - Also exclusively GREEK in character and language
 - The west...left on its own...



