

373 [May 2] The death of Athanasius.

374 Epiphanius *Ancoratus*.

374-397 Ambrose, Bishop of Milan

375 **Death of Valentinian**; Gratian succeeds.

In 376 the Roman Empire seemed to stand unshaken.

[i] Even though the legions in Dacia and Carduene, both outlying provinces, had retired the frontiers at the Euphrates, the Danube and the Rhine were OK

[ii] The Persian advance was checked in Armenia by Valens, the Goths were subdued and Gratian had driven the Germans out of Gaul and rescued Britain from the Picts.

However trouble was brewing at the Danube.



### The Gothic war 376-382

The Huns, a small-statured nation, but numerous, had come up from the steppes of Asia.

[i] The Goths fled before them, the Ostrogoths served them.

[ii] The panic-stricken Goths, massed at the Danube, sought refuge on Roman ground

In 376 The Goths were allowed over the Danube, but once over, and finding the provincial commanders Lupicinus and Maximus dishonest, they broke free and spread over the cultivated countryside and raped it. Roman generals were hard pressed.

[iii] The East [Syria] was drained of troops and, Gratian hurried to Thrace from Gaul with their legions. Valens left Antioch and, even while peace negotiations were engaged the Goths impulsively, not waiting for Gratian. The Goths, under Fritigern assembled at Nicopolis and Beroe. Valens left Antioch and, even while peace negotiations were going on, engaged the Goths impulsively, not waiting for Gratian. The Goths routed them and 2/3 of the Roman army fell in one Summer's day, including Valens

378 [Aug 9] Battle of Hadrianople. **Death of Valens**.

379-395 Theodosius Emperor

***The aftermath***

[i] the Christian East withstood the shock of Hadrianople

[ii] Gratian was aware that this was not the time to have religious quarrels. Under his toleration the Nicene benefited. Exiled bishops returned to care for their flocks.

[iii] Theodosius, the Emperor required the Arian capital Constantinople to embrace the Nicene faith.

381 [May] Council of Constantinople

383 Last overtures of Theodosius to the Arians

397 Chrysostom Bishop of Constantinople

410 Sack of Rome by Alaric the Goth

451 The Council of Chalcedon

487-526 Ring of Theodoric in Italy

507 The battle of Vougle

589 Visigoths abandon Arianism

599 Lombards abandon Arianism

800 Coronation of Karl the Frank.