

## Chapter 11

### Pagans, Christians, and Jews

#### The Art of Late Antiquity

##### 1. Define or identify:

- lunette
- orants
- Sol Invictus
- Theodoric
- codex
- diptych
- illuminated manuscript
- vellum

##### Short Answer:

2. How might the images from the walls of the synagogue at Dura Europas be explained in view of the 2<sup>nd</sup> commandment forbidding the making of graven images?
3. What were the catacombs, and what was their importance for Early Christians?
4. What did the story of Jonah symbolize for the Early Christians?
5. How was Christ most often represented during the Period of Persecution? List 3 attributes (symbols/elements) he acquired during this time.
6. What is the significance of the following themes that appear on the Sarcophagus of Junius Bassus (11-5):
  - Christ seated between Sts. Peter and Paul
  - Christ on a donkey
  - Adam and Eve
  - Daniel and the lions
  - Abraham and Isaac
  - Christ before Pontius Pilate

7. Discuss two architectural sources for the Early Christian Basilica of Old St. Peter's in Rome.
8. How did Early Christian builders modify the plan of the Roman pagan basilica in order to convert it to Christian use?
9. Draw the plan of St. Peter's (11-7) and label the following parts: atrium, apse, narthex, nave, transept.
10. How does the Church of Santa Costanza (11-9 and 11-10) differ from basilican churches? What may have been its original purpose?
11. In what ways, other than subject matter, can Early Christian mosaics be distinguished from earlier Roman examples? What qualities of the mosaic medium made it the favorite of Early Christian and Byzantine artists?
12. What Roman illusionistic elements were retained into the Early Christian mosaic *The Parting of Lot and Abraham* (11-13)? What was their purpose?
13. Discuss two remnants of Roman illusionism that can be found in the mosaic *Christ as the Good Shepherd* (11-15).

**Discussion Questions:**

14. Compare the basilica of Old St. Peter's (11-7) with the reconstruction of the Basilica Nova (10-79). What similarities and differences do you see in the plans, elevations, and building materials used? How did the purposes of the varying parts of the 2 buildings differ? How was the more "spiritual" purpose of the Christian building reflected in the structure?
15. Compare the changes in the representation of Christ and how the changes reflect the spread of Christianity and its acceptance by the Romans. Select 2 or 3 examples from 11-3, 11-5, 11-6, 11-12, 11-15, 11-20 and 11-21.

