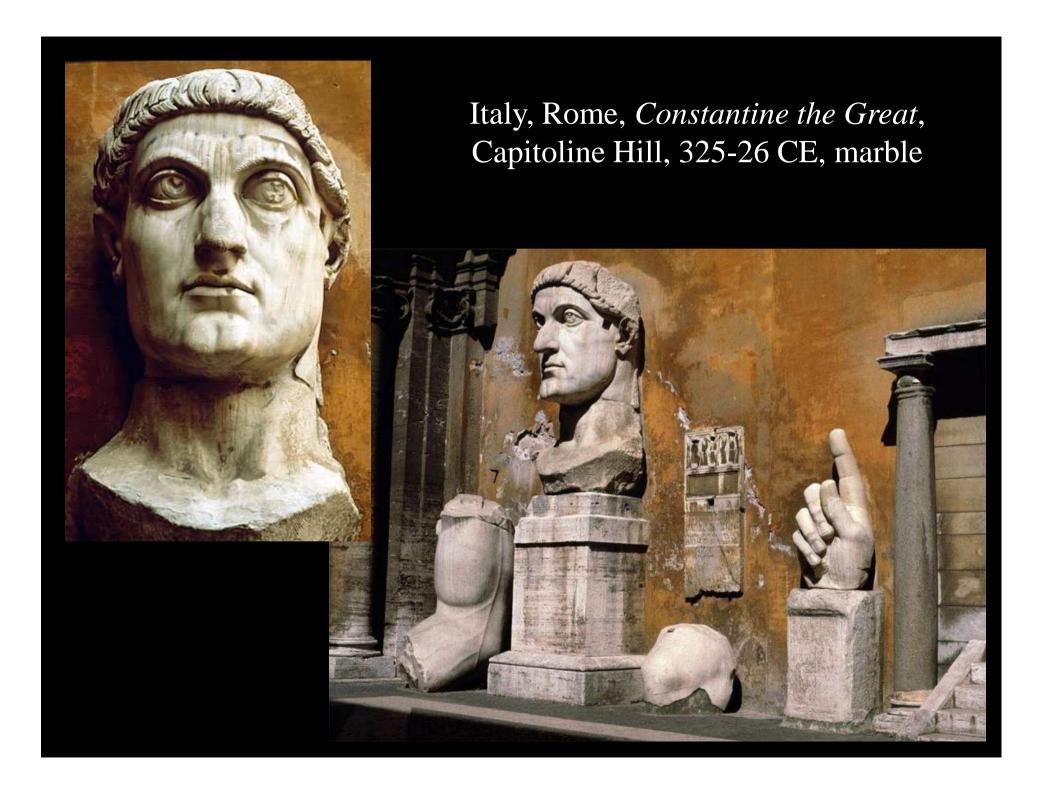
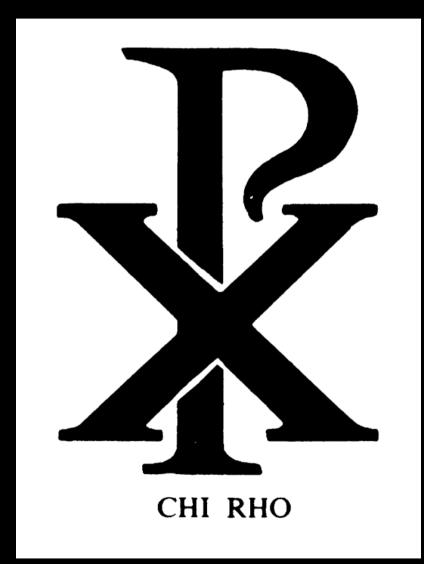
# Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Art: Origins and Ideas



### Constantine's *labarum* (standard) – drawing from a silver medal



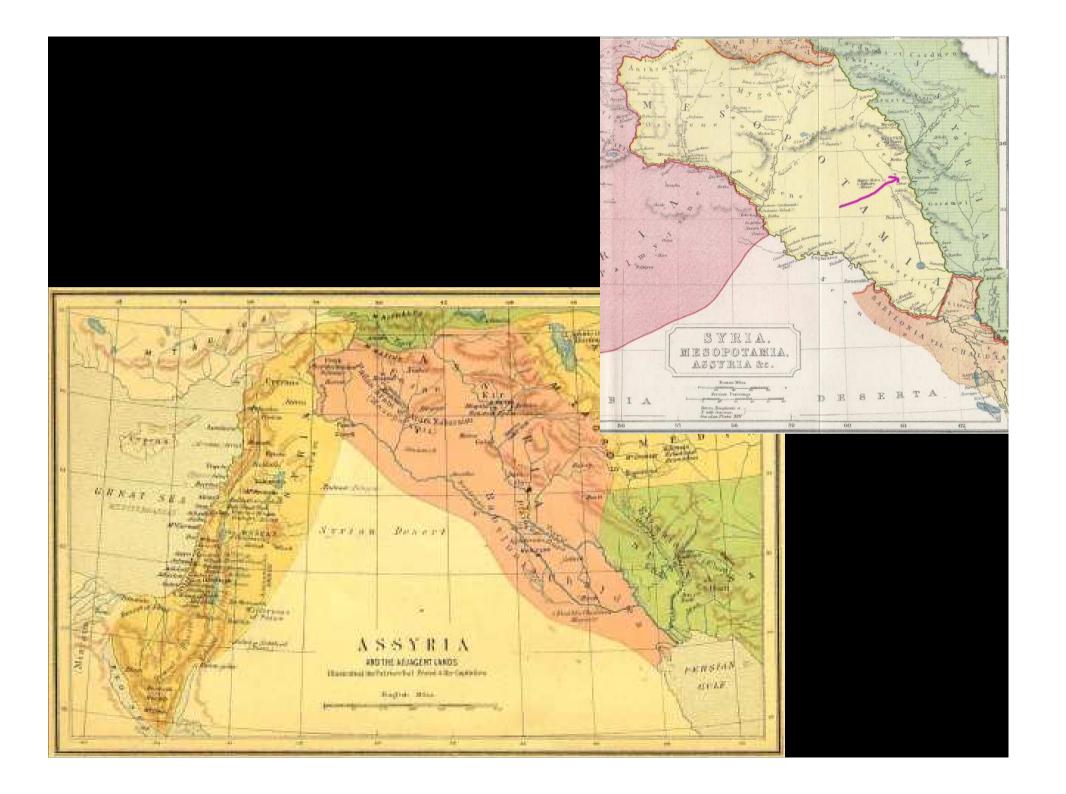


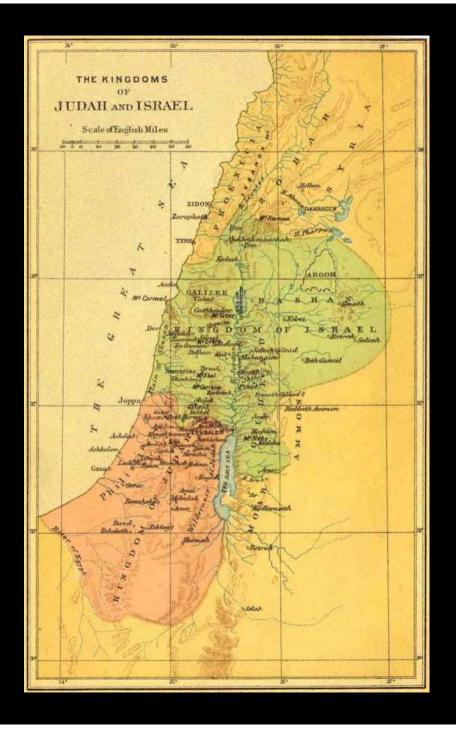
### **Key Ideas: Religions of the Book**

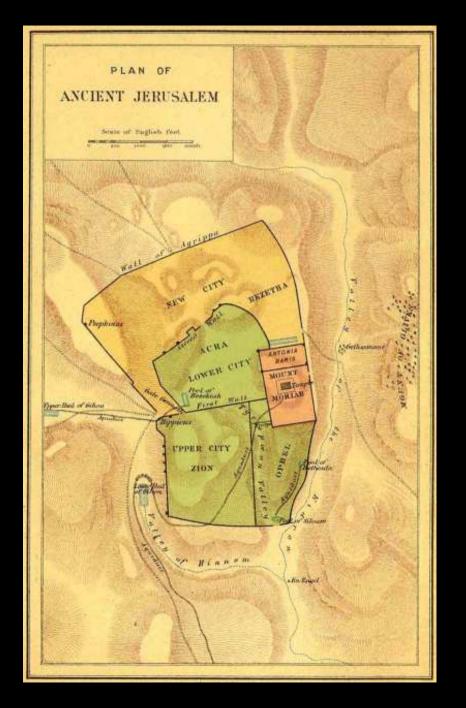
- Monotheistic: one God created and rules the universe (all develop within polytheistic societies)
- Word of God is revealed in writing: Hebrew Scriptures/Bible, Christian Bible, Islamic Qur'an
- Build on beliefs and traditions of one another
- Religious art objects are used for teaching purposes and incorporate elements from other cultures

Early Jewish Art

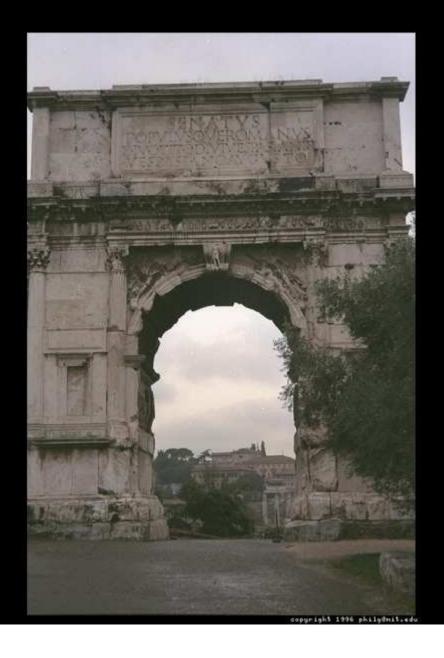
up to the 6<sup>th</sup> century CE







## Rome, *Arch of Titus*, 81 CE, marble over concrete core







#### Early Jewish Art



11-2: Interior of house-synagogue from Dura-Europos, 245 CE

#### Early Jewish Art

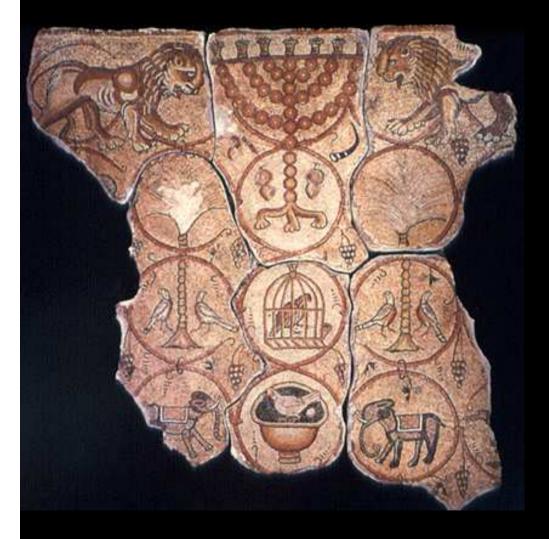
The Finding of the Baby Moses, in Dura-Europos house-synagogue



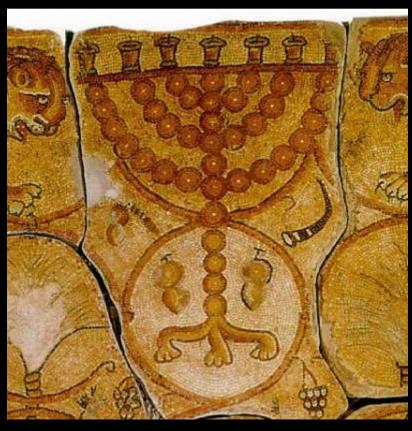
# Rome, Villa Torlonia, *Menorahs and Ark of the Covenant*, Jewish catacomb, 3<sup>rd</sup> century, wall painting







Maon, Synagogue floor, c. 530 CE, mosaic



20th c., silver, enamel, 98.136.18



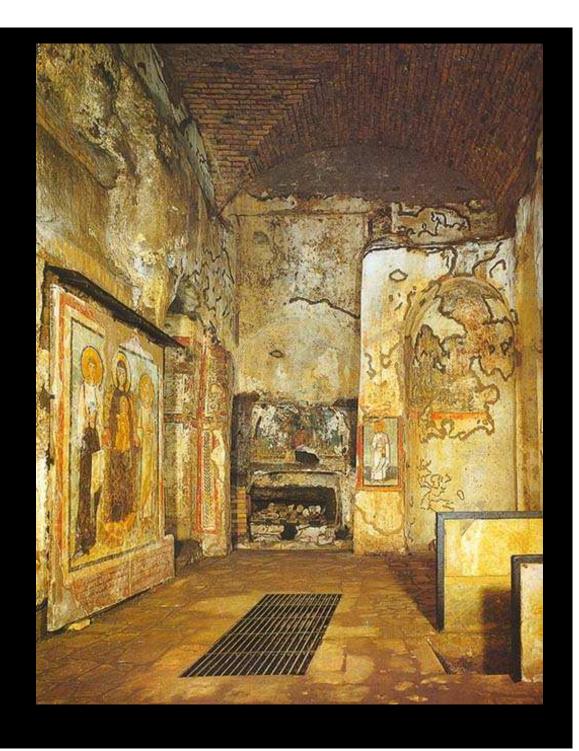
Etrog (citron fruit) box, Hanukkah lamp, 20th c., silver, 98.136.6a,b

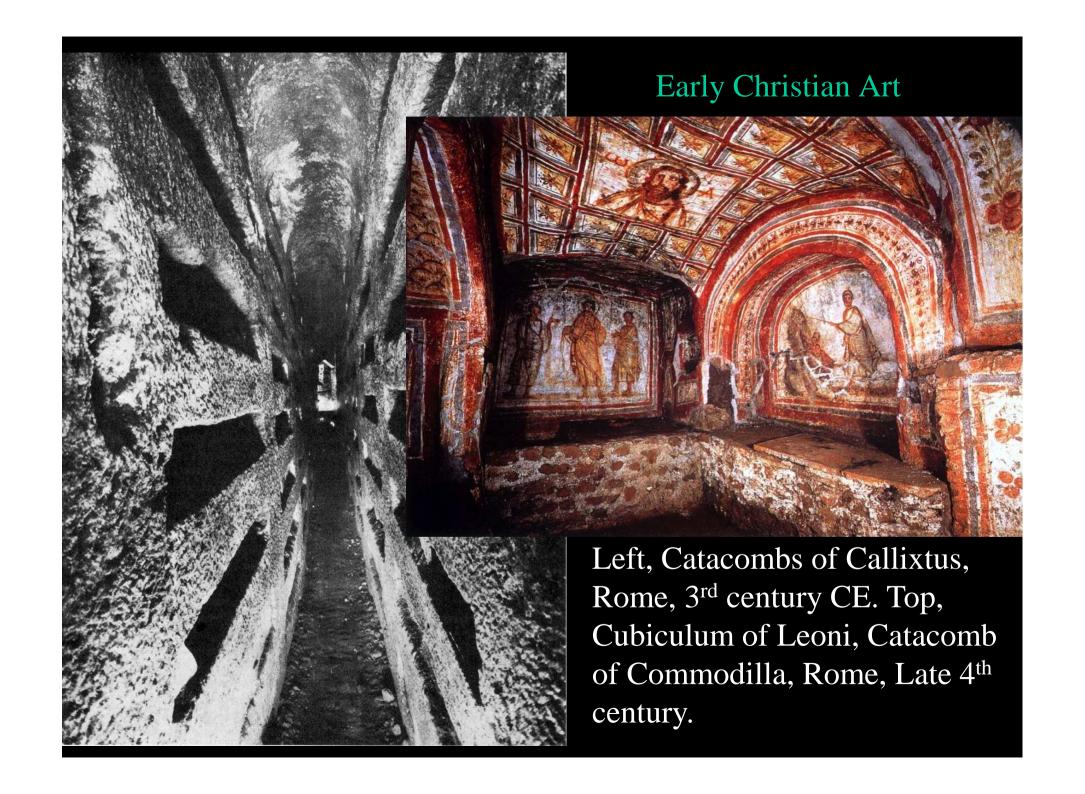


### Early Christian and Byzantine Art

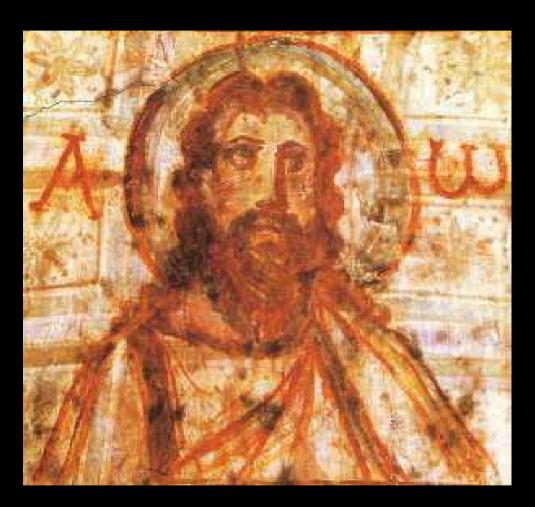
 $3^{rd}$  c.  $-15^{th}$  c.

Catacomb of Commodilla, Rome, late 4<sup>th</sup> century CE





# Catacomb of Commodilla, Rome, late 4<sup>th</sup> century CE



## Catacomb of St. Priscilla; Rome, early 3rd century CE





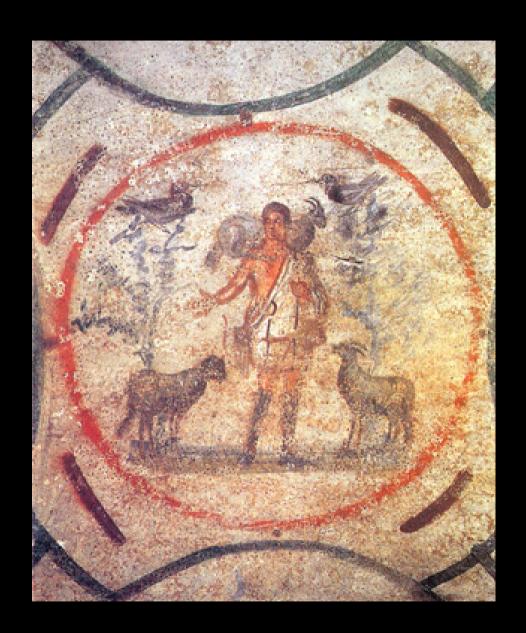
#### Early Christian Art



The Good Shepherd

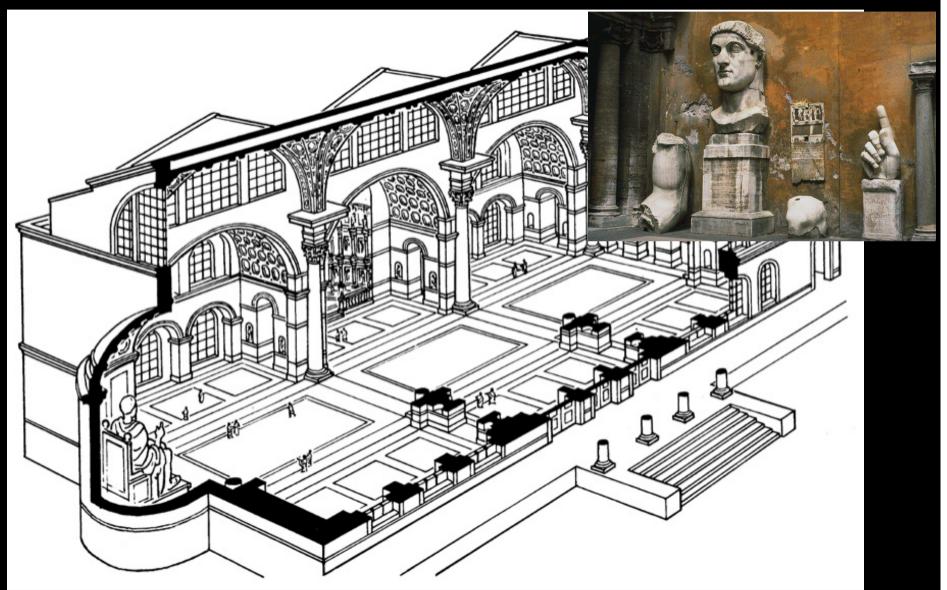
In the earliest depictions of Christ, he is young and beardless, with NO markers of divinity.



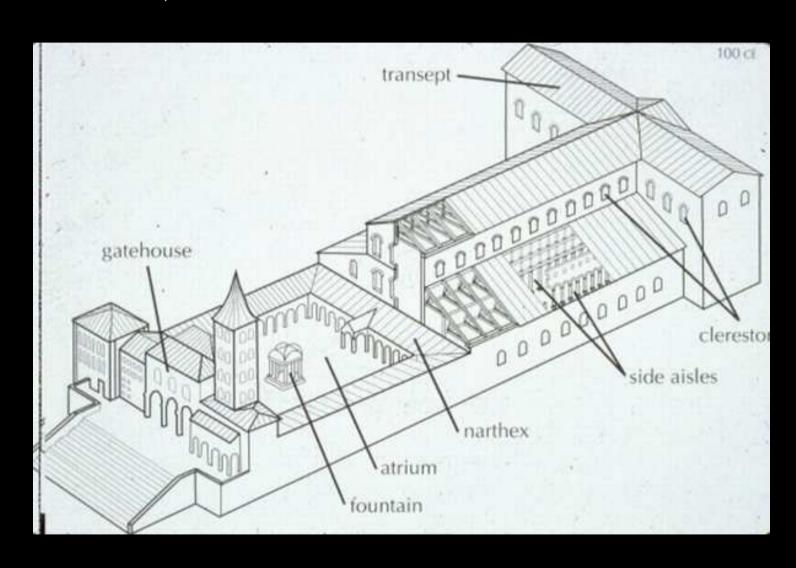


Roman Civic
Architecture: Basilica
Nova

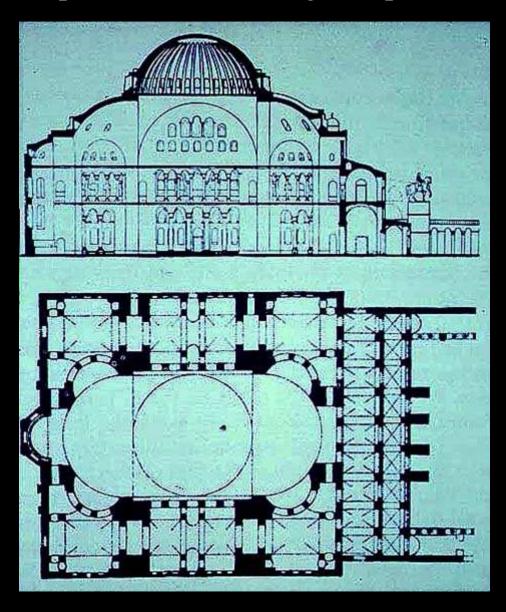
6-67: Basilica Nova, built by Constantine. A basilica is an all-purpose administrative building with nave, apse, and clerestory.



## Rome, Reconstruction drawing of Old St. Peter's Basilica, c. 320-27

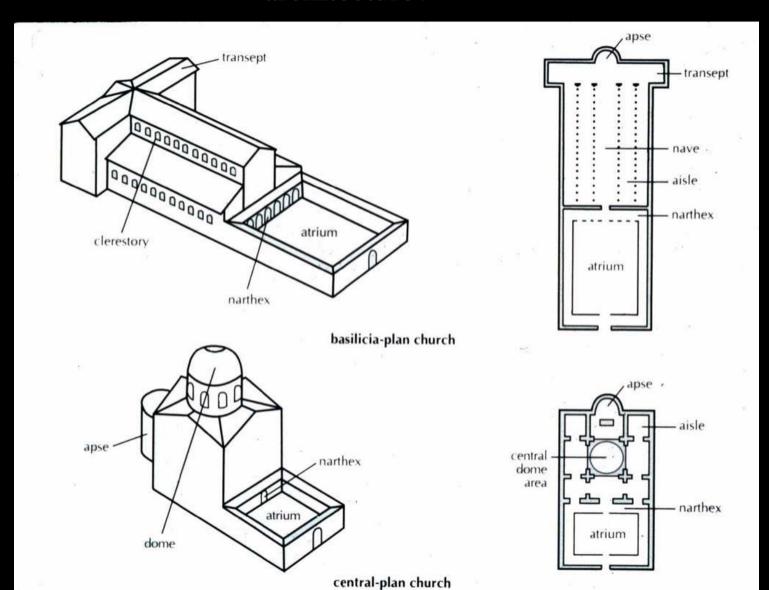


#### Central plan, Church of Hagia Sophia, 532-37



### Early Christian Architecture

How is the Christian faith expressed in sacred architecture?

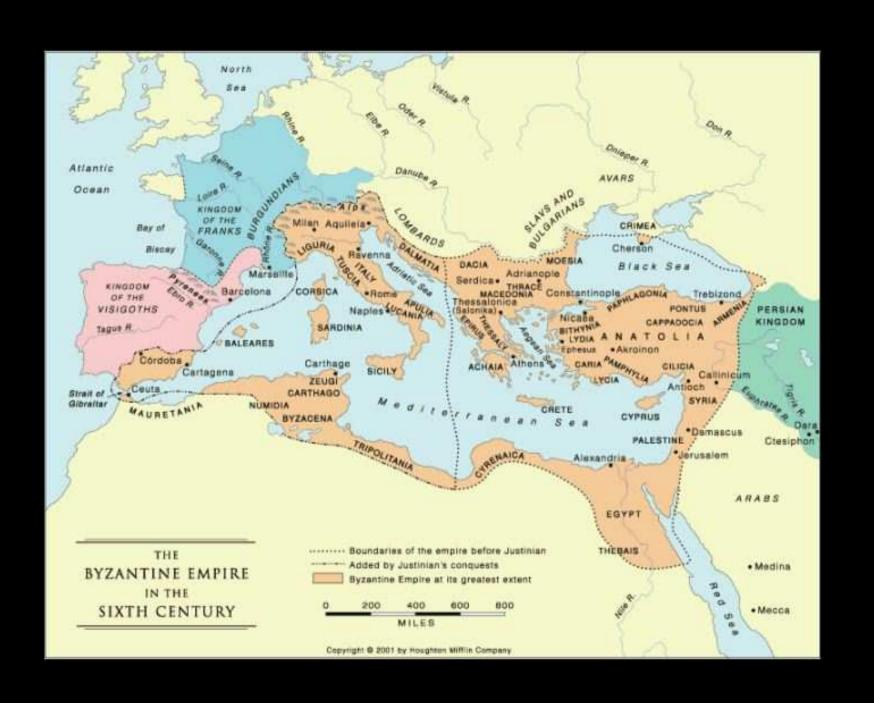


Basilica plan: Church with a nave.

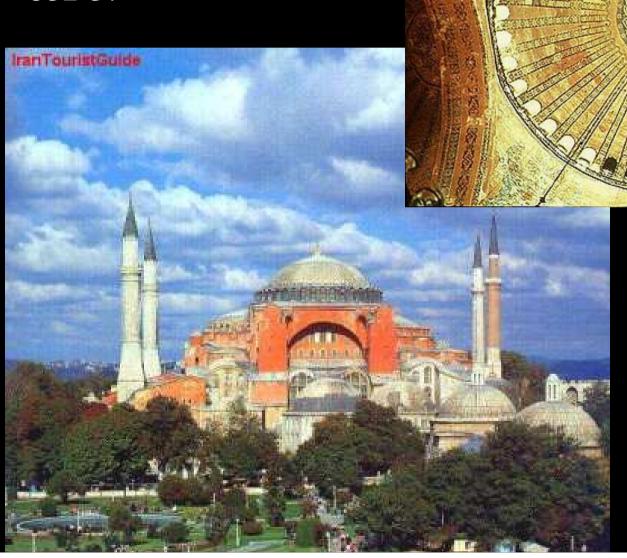
Central plan: Church with a dome.

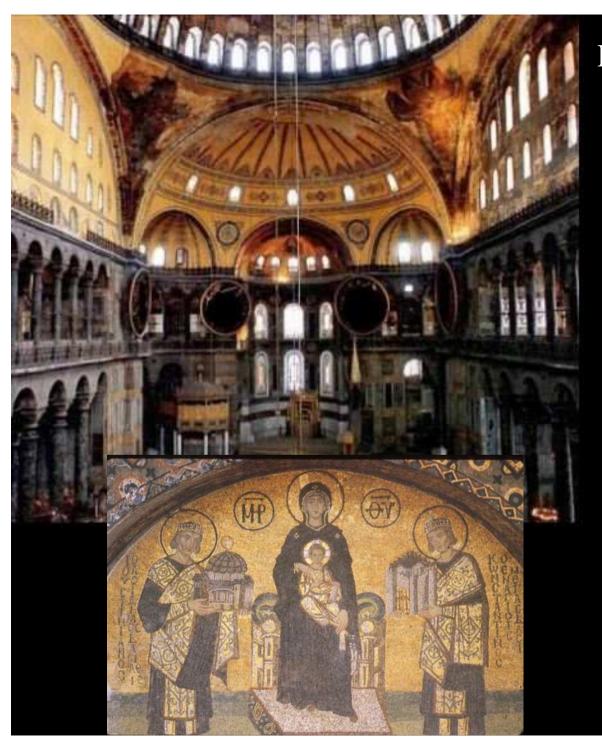
Good Shepherd, mosaic in lunette, Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, Ravenna, c. 425-26





Church of Hagia Sophia/ Aya Sofya, Istanbul, Turkey, 532-37



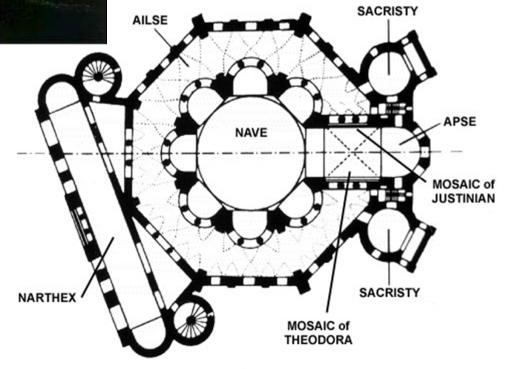


### Hagia Sophia, interior





Church of San Vitale, Ravenna, Italy, 526-47



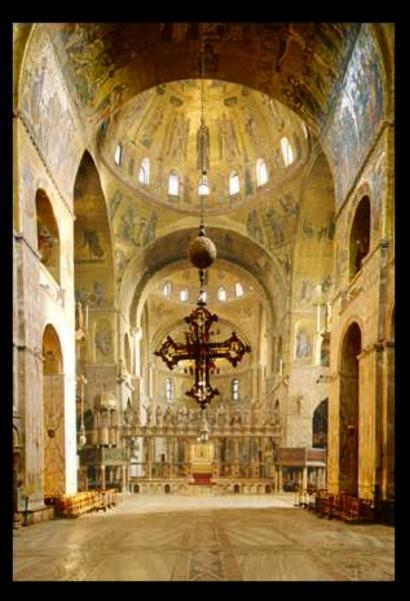
### Empress Theodora and Attendants, south apse wall mosaic, Church of San Vitale, Ravenna, Italy, c. 547



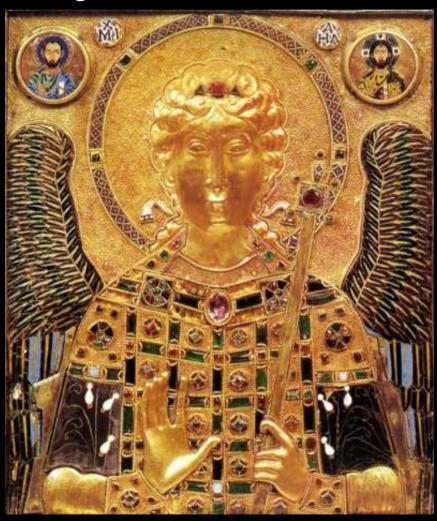
Emperor Justinian and Attendants, north apse wall mosaic, Church of San Vitale, Ravenna, Italy, c. 547



# Cathedral of San Marco, Venice, begun 1063



Archangel Michael, icon, 10<sup>th</sup> c., originally from Constantinople, brought to Venice



Virgin of Vladimir, icon, Constantinople, 12<sup>th</sup> c., tempera on panel, Moscow



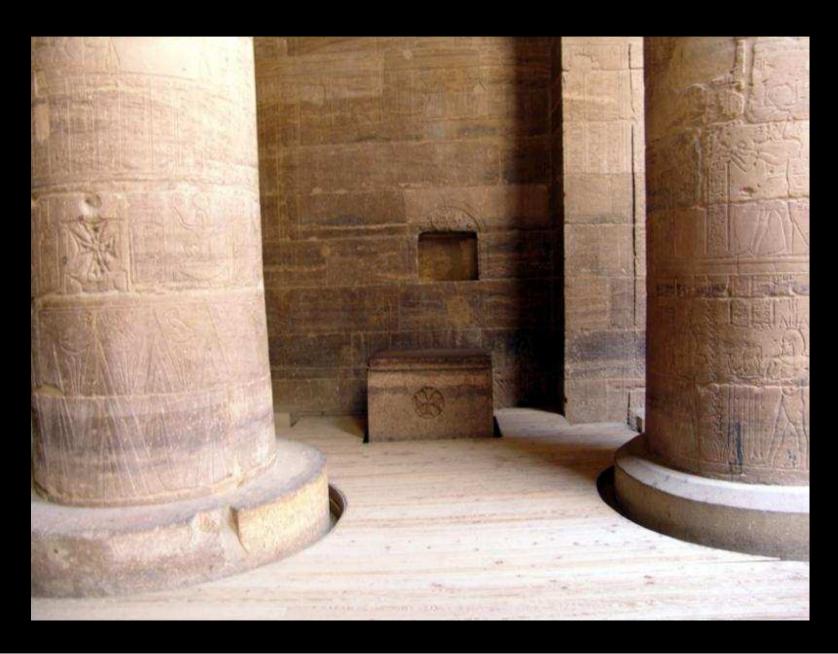
### Coptic Christianity (1st-9th c. CE)

- Egyptian Christianity originates with teaching of Christ's apostle, Mark, in Alexandria
- Adopted and adapted aspects of ancient Egyptian religion
- Christian monasticism had beginnings in Coptic practices
- Major split in early church over divine/human nature of Christ

Egypt, Coptic period, Shenute Codex, Account of the life of a holy man, Coptic script, 7th c. CE, papyrus

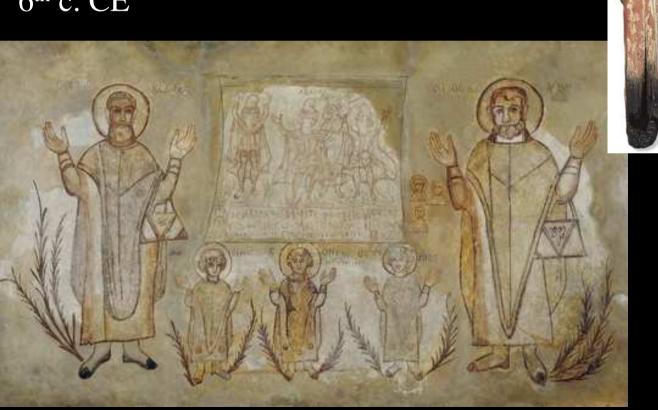


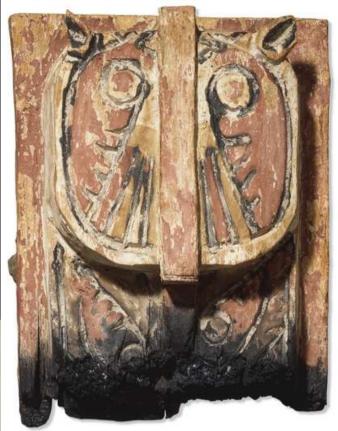
### Coptic altar, Temple of Isis, Cairo



Egypt, Coptic period, *Painted wooden lion's head*, 7<sup>th</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> c. CE

Wall painting of the martyrdom of saints, 6th c. CE





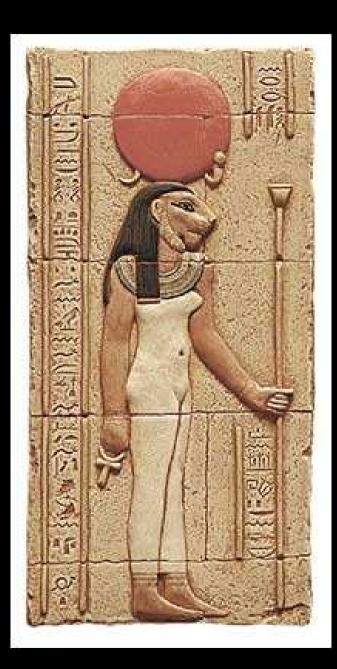


Coptic, Sanctuary Curtain, 5th-6th c. CE, linen and wool, tapestry weave, 83.126



# Egyptian *ankh*, carried by Sekhmet

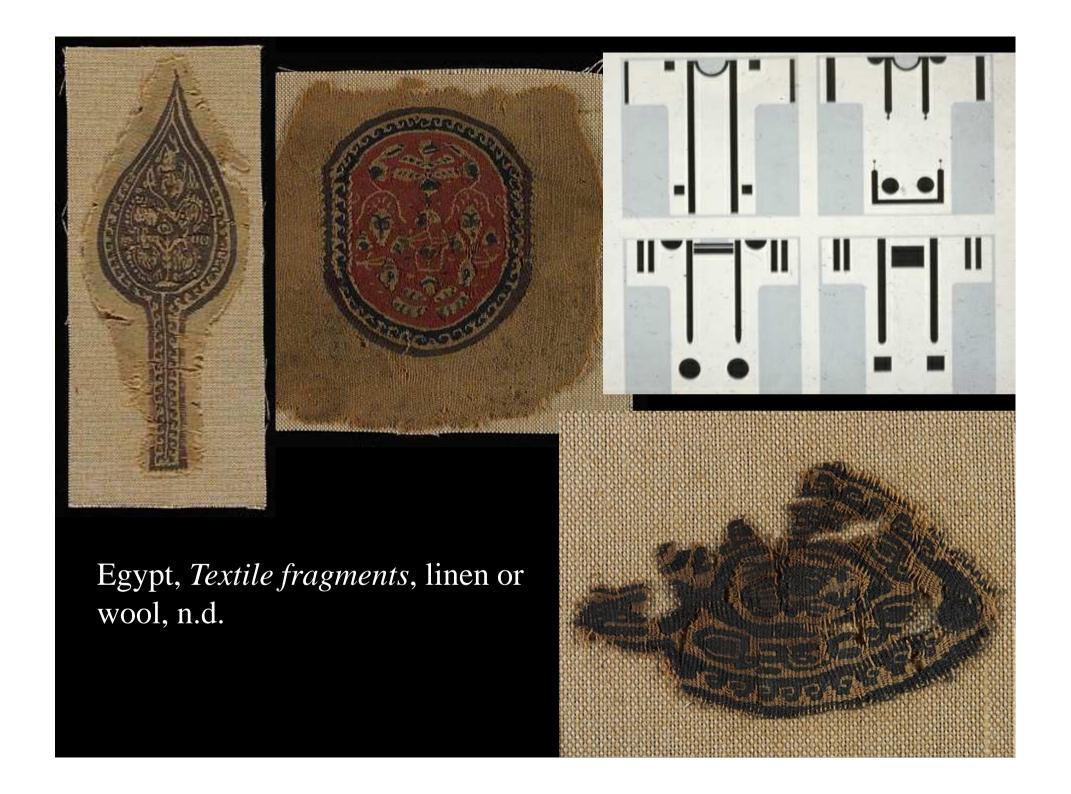




#### West Cross, Monasterboice, County Louth, Ireland, 10th c.







# Graeco-Egyptian, Figure of a Ram, 5th century CE, 62.53



Italy, Etruscan, *Cinerary Urn and Lid*, 6<sup>th</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> c. BCE, terracotta



Roman, *Cinerary box with* cover, 1st c. CE, marble







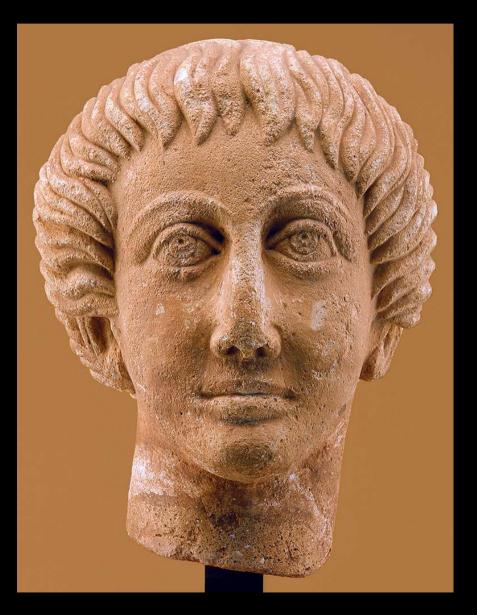
# Syrian Christianity (1st-9th c. CE)

- Syrian Christianity originates with teaching of Christ's apostles, Peter and Paul, in Antioch
- Spreads rapidly; many churches are built
- Monasticism flourishes
- Involved in controversy over divine/human nature of Christ

Rome, *Bust of a Young Nobleman*, 2<sup>nd</sup> c. CE, marble, 68.9.2

Syria, *Head of a Young Man*, c. 400-420 CE, sandstone, 70.68



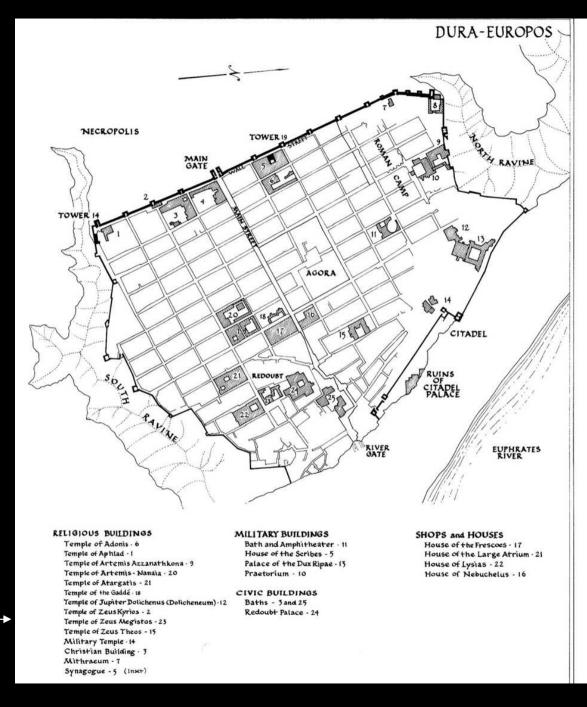


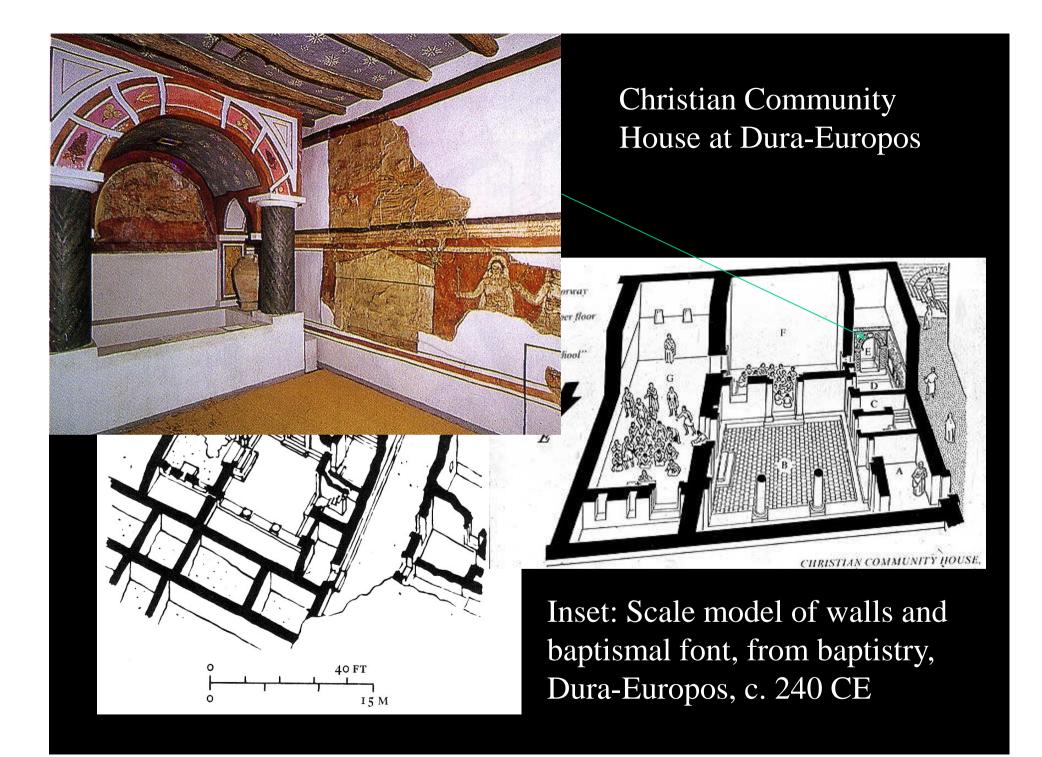
#### Roman home, atrium, Mosaic, tesserae



Plan of Dura-Europos, Syria

Religious shrines found for Jewish, Christian, Greek, and other gods.





#### Syria, Stylized Cross, late 4th- mid 5th century, mosaic, 69.78



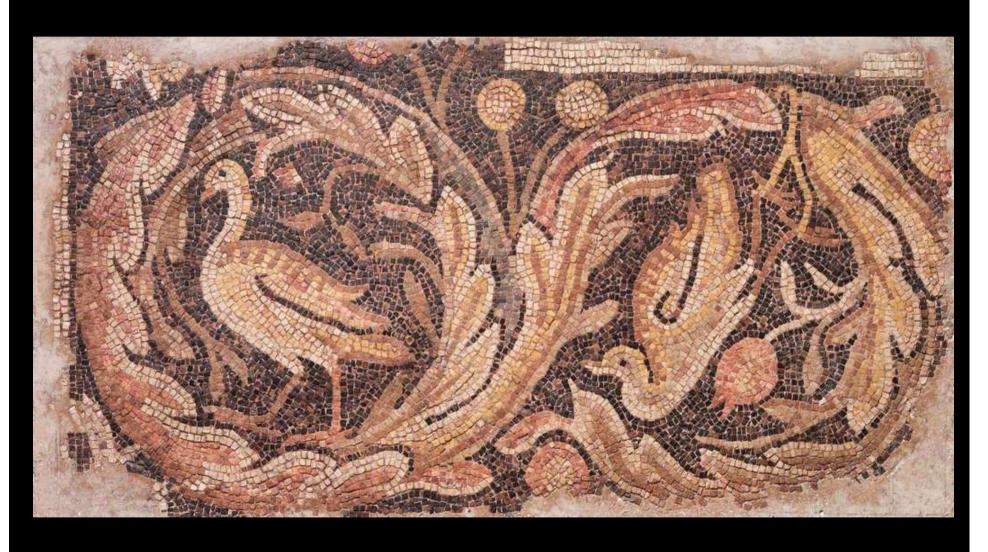
Pompeii, *Floor Mosaic with Crab Motif*, 1<sup>st</sup> c. BCE, marble tesserae, 72.55



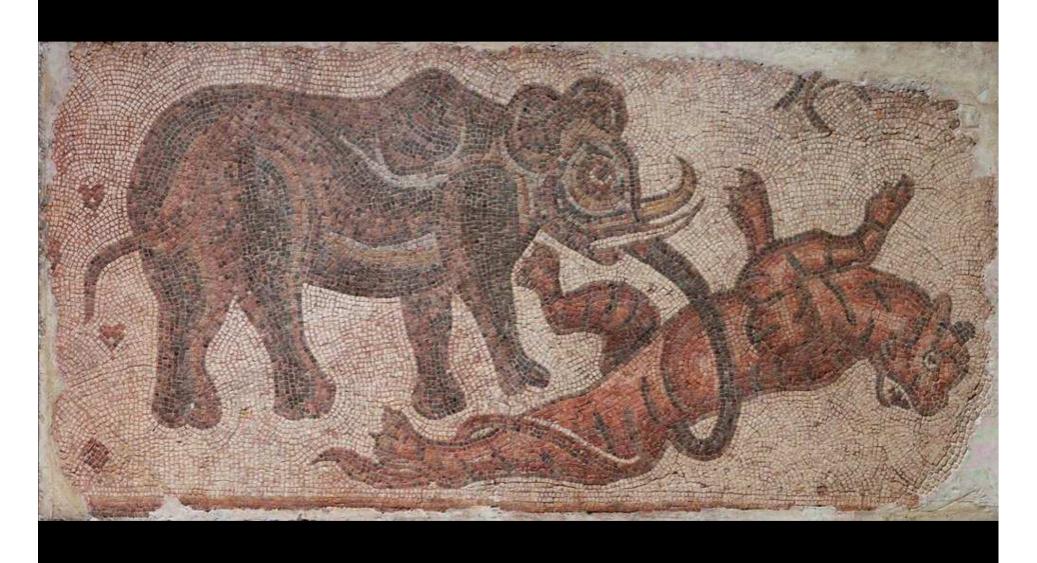
#### Turkey, Ephesus, Mosaic, 5th century CE, tesserae



# Syria, Birds with Foliage, Late 4th-mid 5th c., mosaic, 69.49.1



Syria, Elephant Attacking a Feline, late 4<sup>th</sup>-mid 5<sup>th</sup> c. CE, mosaic, 69.49.2



# Origins: Islamic Arts and Culture 600-1000 CE

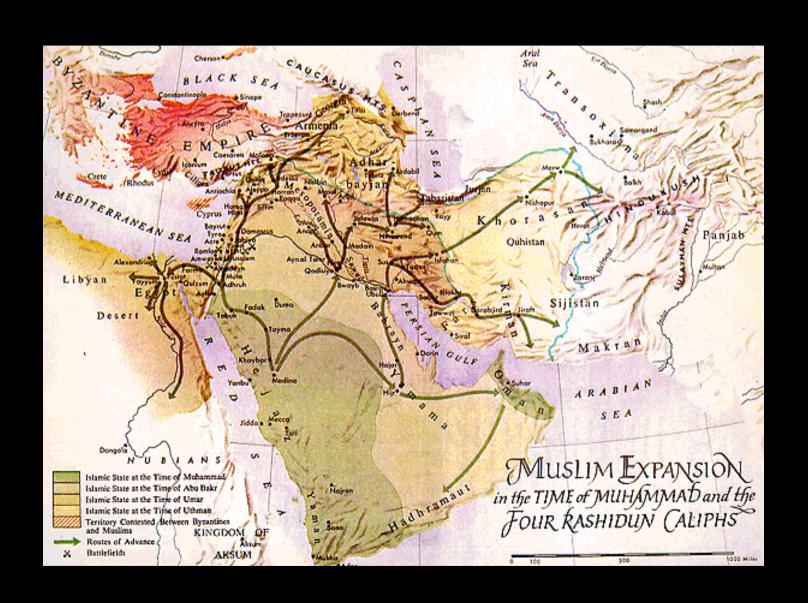
#### Istanbul, Hagia Sophia (6<sup>th</sup> c.), Allah medallion



#### Mt. Hira, near Mecca



#### Muslim expansion in the time of Muhammad







# Muslim expansion 7<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries



#### **Five Pillars of Islam**

- Shahada profession of faith
- Salat ritual prayer, 5 times per day
- Zakat charitable giving
- Sawm fasting during Ramadan
- Hajj pilgrimage



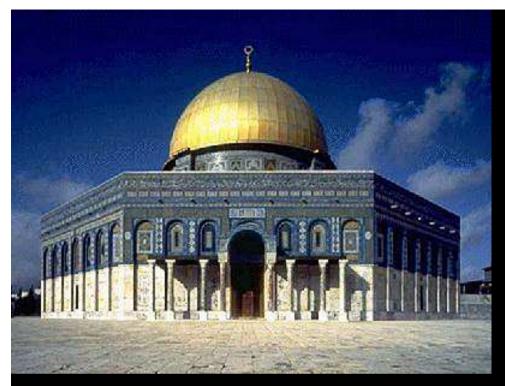
Certificate of completion of pilgrimage



#### **Characteristics of Islamic Art**

- Made for religious practices and settings as well as secular purposes
- Made by and for Islamic peoples of many cultures; incorporates diverse traditions
- God is unique and cannot be represented in figural form; humans and animals can only be created by God
- God is worshipped without intercessors (no saints to depict)
- Little or no narrative in the Qur'an to depict with images





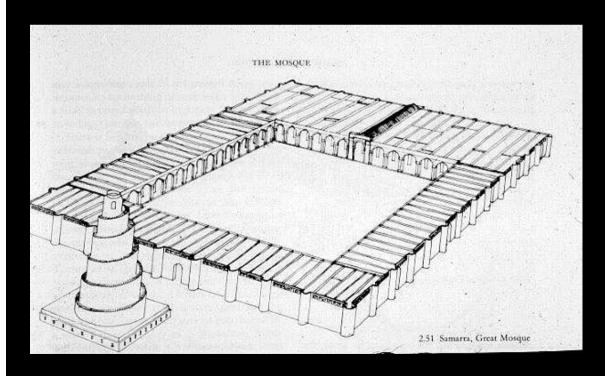


Jerusalem, Dome of the Rock, begun 692

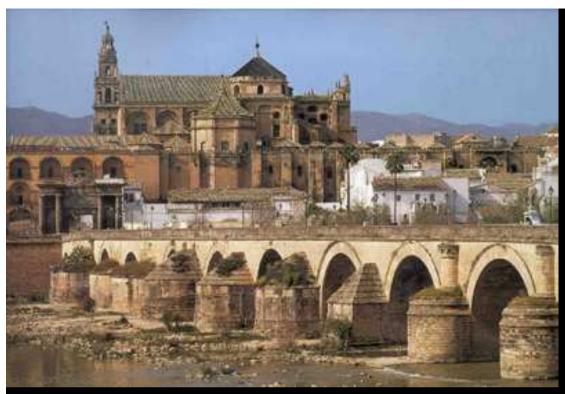




Iraq, Samarra, Great Mosque, 847







Córdoba, Spain, *Great Mosque*, begun 785-86



# Córdoba, Spain, Great Mosque, dome, 965



#### Córdoba, Spain, Great Mosque, dome, 965



Hispano-Moorish, *Lion Statuette*, 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> c., gold, 72.12





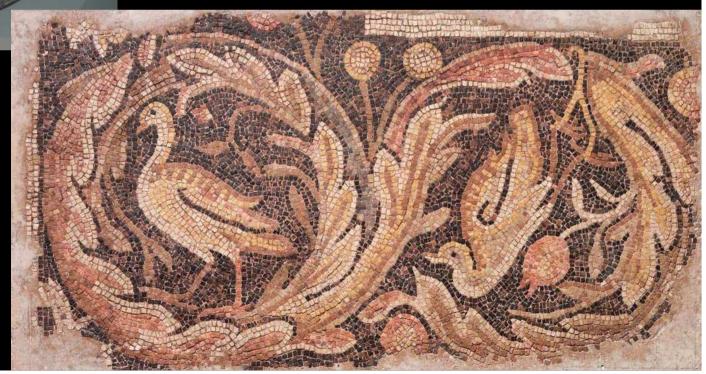
Iran (Persia), *Plate*, 9<sup>th</sup> c., earthenware with underglaze brown slip, 68.80.4





Persia, *Plate*, 9<sup>th</sup> c., 68.80.4, earthenware

Syria, *Birds with Foliage*, late 4<sup>th</sup>-mid 5<sup>th</sup> c., mosaic



#### Iran (Persia), Large Bowl, 10th century, 2003.98.2



Iran (Persia), *Bowl*, 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> c., Samarkand ware, 50.46.438



### Iran or Trasoxiana, Bowl, 10th-11th century, 2002.89.2



Iraq, Bowl, 9th c., earthenware with painted cobalt blue

designs, 32.32.3-5







Persia, Abbasid dynasty, *Page from the Koran*, 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c., 51.37.7





Egypt, Mamluk dynasty, *Page from the Koran*, mid-14<sup>th</sup> c., 51.37.21

