

“A World Lit Only By Fire” William Manchester

Please be prepared to turn this in on the first day of school for a test grade.

Part I – The Medieval Mind (pp. 3-28)

1. Read the first eight pages and give one example of the violence of the age.
2. How was this a paradox with the Church?
3. Give one example of why the pagan gods were still so appealing.
4. Briefly explain the origin of sainthood.
5. In what pagan way(s) were saints used? (The answer is not stated directly in the book, so you'll have to think about it.)

Part II – The Shattering (Social Problems and Corruption in the Church, pp. 31-86)

1. Read the first six pages and give one example of how secular rulers used torture or execution.
2. Give one example of how religious leaders used torture or execution from pp. 37-40.

3. What is nepotism and how was it used by the popes? Give an example.
4. What was the Holy Roman Empire?
5. Give one example of how table manners have changed since the Middle Ages.
6. Describe, in detail, Count Fulk's punishment for his crimes.
7. Describe one of the superstitions on page 61.
8. Defend or refute: "Robin Hood robbed from the rich and gave to the poor."
9. Who were the cleanest people in Europe and why were they so clean?
10. How did Alexander VI use his daughter, Lucrezia, for political gain? (Hint: think of annulment).

Part II – The Shattering (The Arts and Learning, pp. 86-131)

1. What was Copernicus' theory of the universe and how did the pope react to it?
2. What is the overall estimate for male and female illiteracy?
3. . What were the three main disciplines taught at medieval universities?
4. What did Renaissance professors declare to be superior to the three traditional fields of study?

5. True or False. Humanists were more concerned about the here and now instead of the afterlife.

Part II – The Shattering (The Protestant Reformation, pp.131-219)

1. According to Luther's father, since children were born wicked, it was virtuous for parents to do what?

2. True or False: Luther made an attempt at reconciliation with the pope.

3. Why did Luther publish in German instead of Latin or Greek?

4. What was the major issue that divided Protestants?

5. What title was Henry VIII given by the pope in return for his efforts in suppressing Lutheranism?

6. What kind of reputation did the Boleyn women have? Was it deserved?

7. Which of Henry's daughters finally restored order to England?

Putting it all together...this can be typed or written. Please write until you feel you have adequately answered the question.

How does Manchester perceive the medieval period? Give at least 3 examples or quotes from the book supporting his viewpoint that the Middle Ages was in a world lit only by fire? [provide page numbers in parenthesis for each example].

Martin Luther is rightfully credited with changing history and creating a new religion. But he certainly was not the first person to challenge the Catholic doctrine, practices, and behaviors. What other people in European history spoke out against the Church? Why was Luther more successful at staying alive and challenging the clergy?