

But the Eastern Empire kept alive knowledge of the Roman Classics, then when the Eastern Empire, fell, then men fled to the West, carrying the knowledge of this material and the West was already filled with interest in it, and so the beginning of the modern era came with the ~~rediscovery~~ rediscovery of the great mass of material about the ancient classics. So, in some ways modern history is closer to ancient history than is medieval. (question) Yes, it is a relative date, and I don't ~~want~~ want to give ~~an~~ an exact date, because you can't pin an exact date on it. But we will give the relative date.

The ~~Ravenna~~ coming of the barbarians begins before the time of Christ, Julius Caesar led two great tribes of them, and destroyed them. They began to come into the empire in great power and in considerable numbers in about 200 A.D., but you do not find them in such numbers as they can't be assimilated, that they over flood the empire until about 450. So, around 400 or 450, some time around in that period, they said they came in in great force in one section, and another section, and another section of the empire, is the period when they come to these peoples, over blanketed the great Roman Empire. Now sometimes the fall of the Roman Empire is ~~thought~~ supposed to consider at 476 A.D., that is perhaps as good a date as any. The reason for that is that ~~a~~ one of these Germanic chieftains in 476 A.D. dethroned a puppet ~~an~~ emperor of Rome, and made himself the ruler of Rome, and so some people say that this was the fall of the Roman Empire. This man whose name was Romulus Augustulus, included the names of the two great founders of the..... (2½) who was just a young boy with no power at all, a puppet of this Germanic chieftain, was dethroned, and this ~~German~~ Germanic chieftain said why have a puppet when we can rule ourselves? Well, that as you see, is not particularly important, but it is a symbol of the change that was taking place. So 476 is often considered as the date of the end of the Roman Empire.

But actually it is something that occurred over two or three centuries. When you get to 650 you are in the full flow of the Middle Ages, and really up until about 500 is the Roman civilization still pretty strong. But somewhere along in there the transition was more or less transitionally made, but the great