

strenght of the Roman Empire, so that there was darkness at the beginning of the ~~Roman~~ Middle Ages. ~~NEWXX~~

Now we have the medieval period then, and the medieval period comes to an end somewhere between fourteen hundred and fifty and 1500. Or say 1550. Somewhere between those two the medieval period comes to an end and the modern age begins. That is because there were a number of important developments at that time, that were, perhaps symbols, but not any one of them the real change. But symbols of the fact that the Middle ages were about to pass over into a period when there was quite a different general viewpoint. A viewpoint much more like the ancient viewpoint than like the medieval. Now these vents we will mention two or three of them.

One of them, in 1453 the Mohammedans conquered Constantinople. Now that put an end to the continuance of the eastern branch of the Roman Empire, but our interest is mainly in the western part, because most of our ... (4) go back into that part. And as far as the western part is concerned, that meant that great numbers of manuscripts of the ancient classics, and of scholars of the ancient classics, and people who had an idea of the ancient civilization, fled to the west, and it opened up a new world to the people in the west, to rediscover so much about the ancient world. That was in 1453, just about the same time, a little bit after, the printing press was invented. And it became possible to distribute this knowledge more quickly than was the case before.

And then in 1517 Martin Luther began the protestant reformation, which had a tremendous effect upon the world. Which would have been impossible ~~if~~ apart from the spread of printing, which did so much to spread it, the use of printing. And so these events all coming together, then, make the change from the medieval to the modern age.

(question) The so-called Holy Roman Empire is an organization which is ~~neither~~ neither holy, nor Roman, nor an empire, and which ended in 1814 when Napoleon seized Rome, the last of the emperors of the so-called Holy Roman Empire. The Holy Roman Empire was an organization which took the ideas of the Roman Empire and tried to maintain it. It was a medieval organization, and it