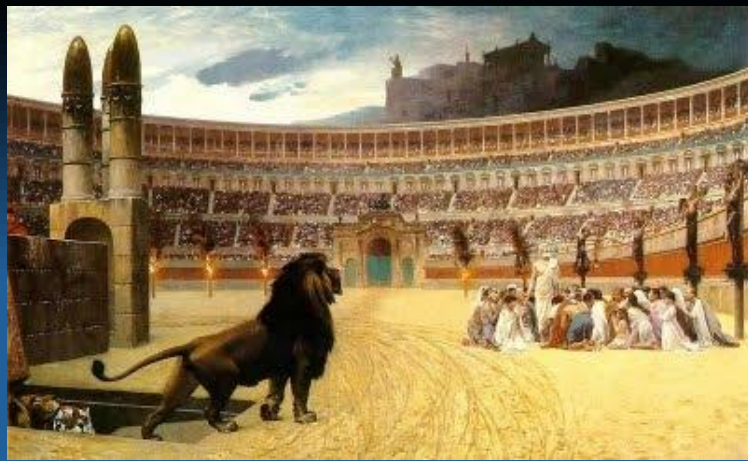


Pergamon Altar, 29BC





Roman Persecution of the Christians

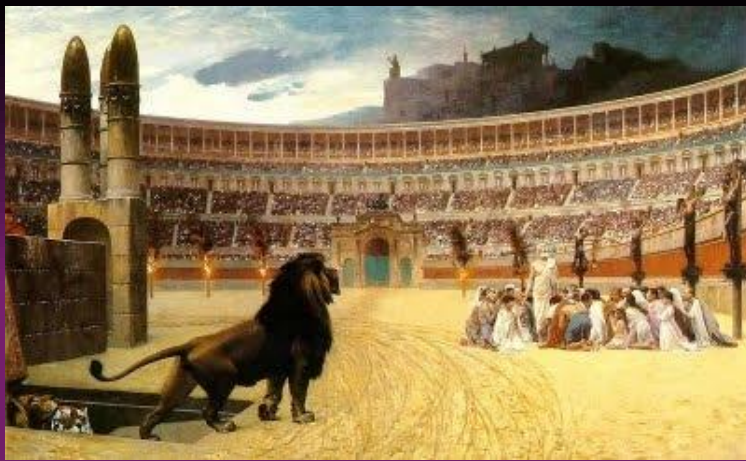


Nero – 64 AD Fire in Rome, executed Paul



Titus – Destroyed Jewish Temple in 70 A.D.





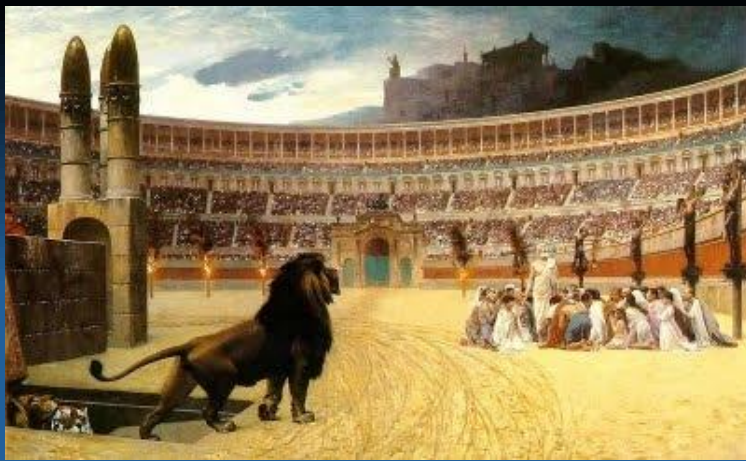
Roman Persecution of the Christians



Trajan – Christianity outlawed under penalty of exile (98-117AD)



Marcus Aurelius - Property Confiscation (161-180AD)

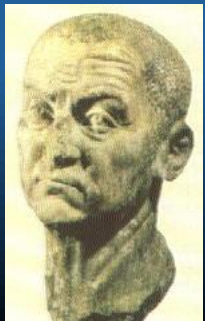
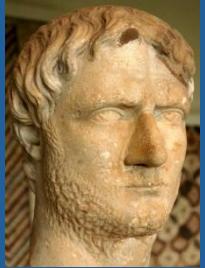
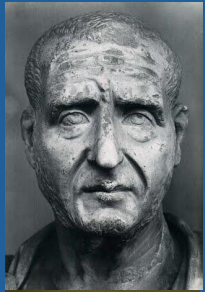


Roman Persecution of the Christians

Decius – Requires public sacrifice to pagan gods (249-251AD)

Valerian – Clergy required to publicly sacrifice to pagan gods (253-260AD)

Diocletian – “The Great Persecution”



Constantine the Great



313 AD the persecutions stopped!











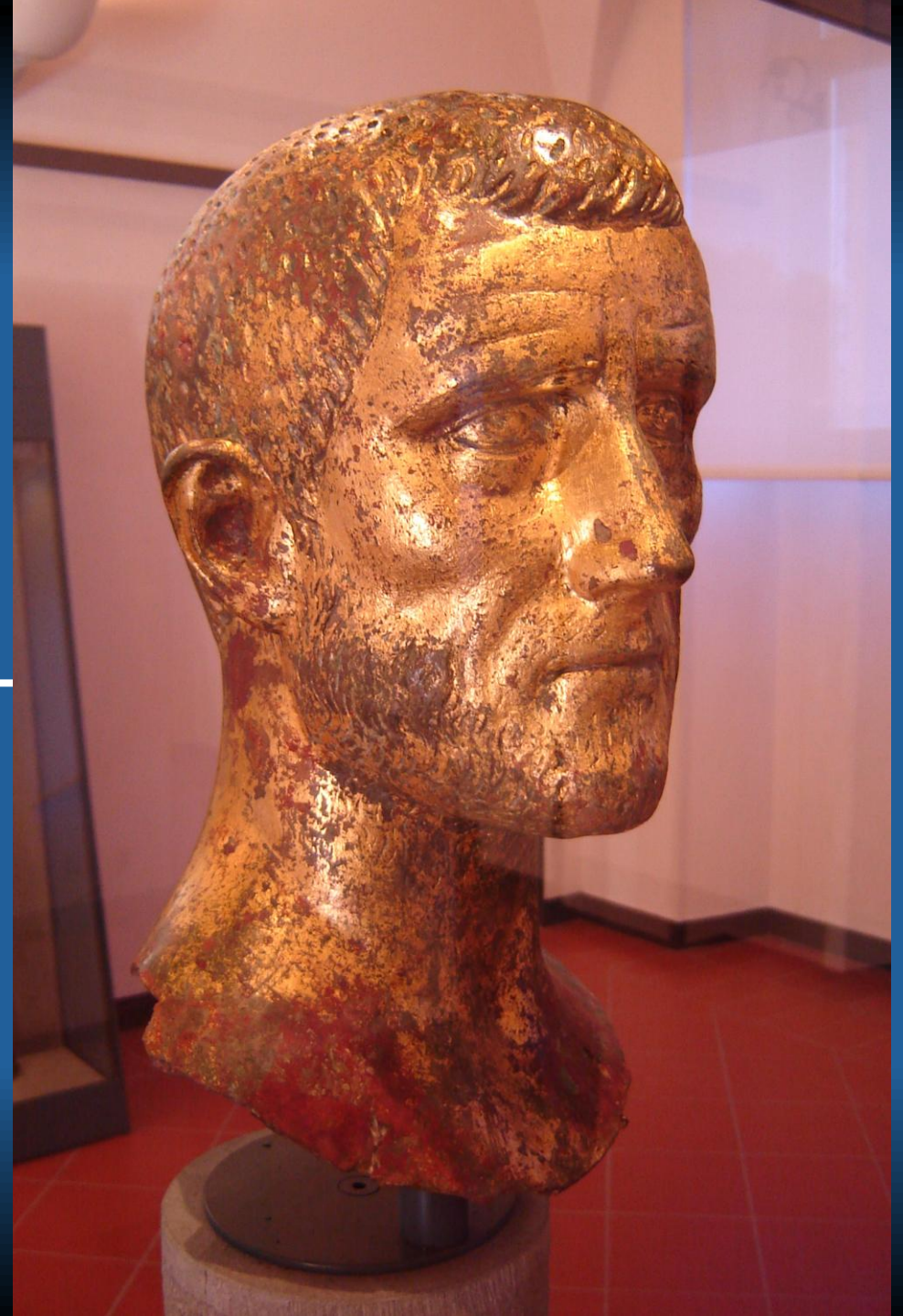
220 AD The sun
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274 AD Under Emperor Aurelian, the Roman empire adopted Sol Invictus. The Unconquered Sun became the official sun god of Rome.



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315 AD The arch of Constantine was built in Rome.



Arch of Constantine



Sacrifice to Apollo



Sacrifice to Hercules





March 7, 321 AD "Let all the
judges and town people, and
the occupation of all trades
rest on the venerable day of
the sun"

Corpus Juris Civilis Cod., lib. 3, tit. 12, Lex. 3, given in Latin and in English in Philip Schaff's History of the Christian Church, Vol. 3, 3d period, chapter 7, sec. 75, p.380, fn 1

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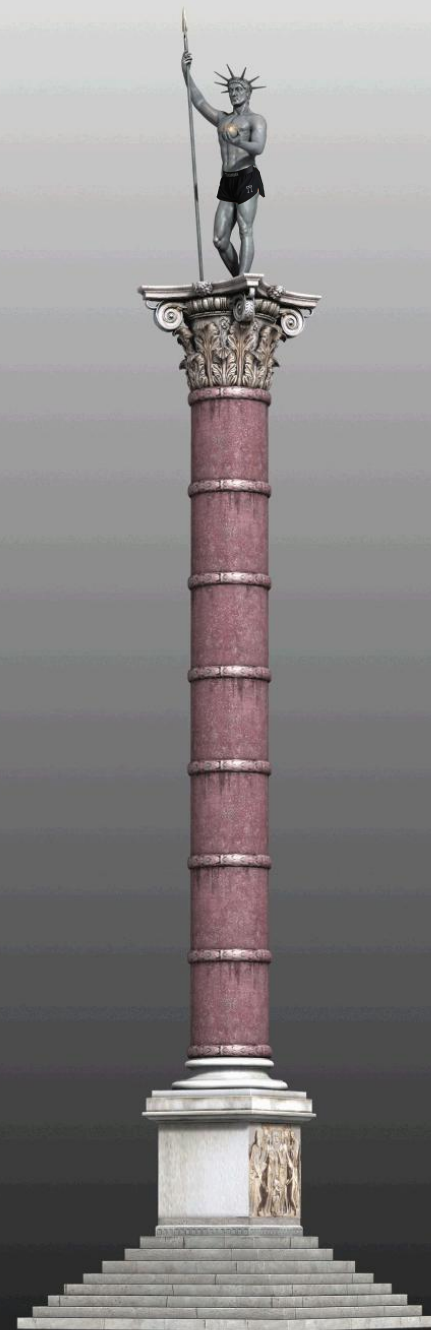


Rome •

900 Miles

• Istanbul





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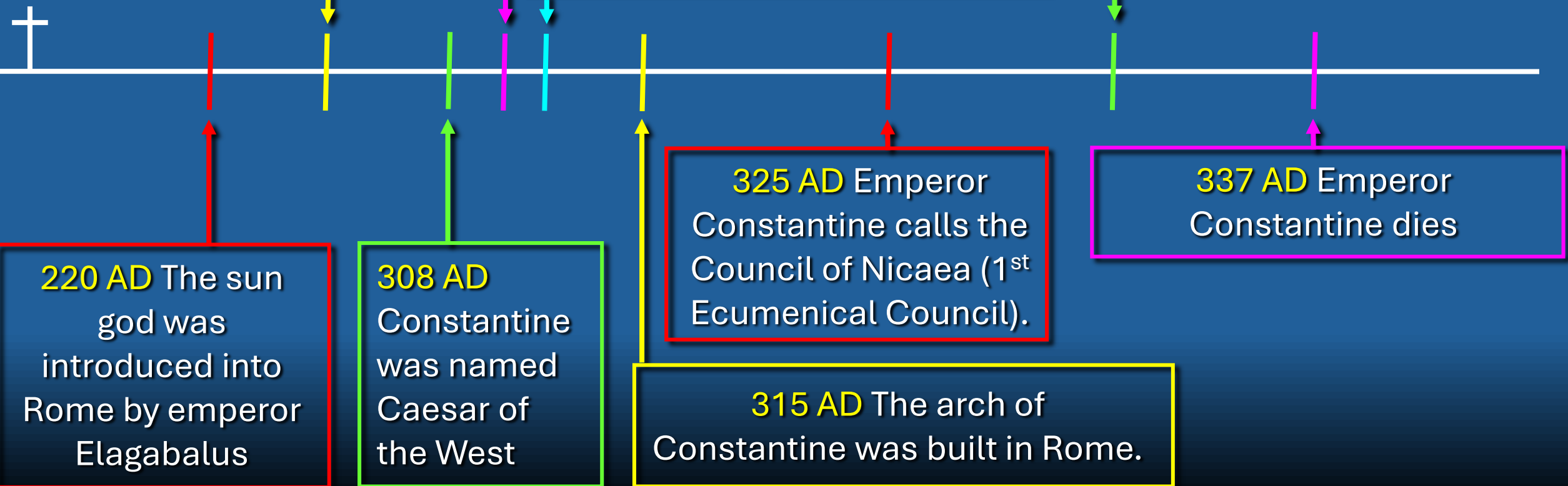
220 AD The sun god was introduced into Rome by emperor Elagabalus

308 AD Constantine was named Caesar of the West

325 AD Emperor Constantine calls the Council of Nicaea (1st Ecumenical Council).

337 AD Emperor Constantine dies

315 AD The arch of Constantine was built in Rome.



Constantine the Great



But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.



II Peter 2:1

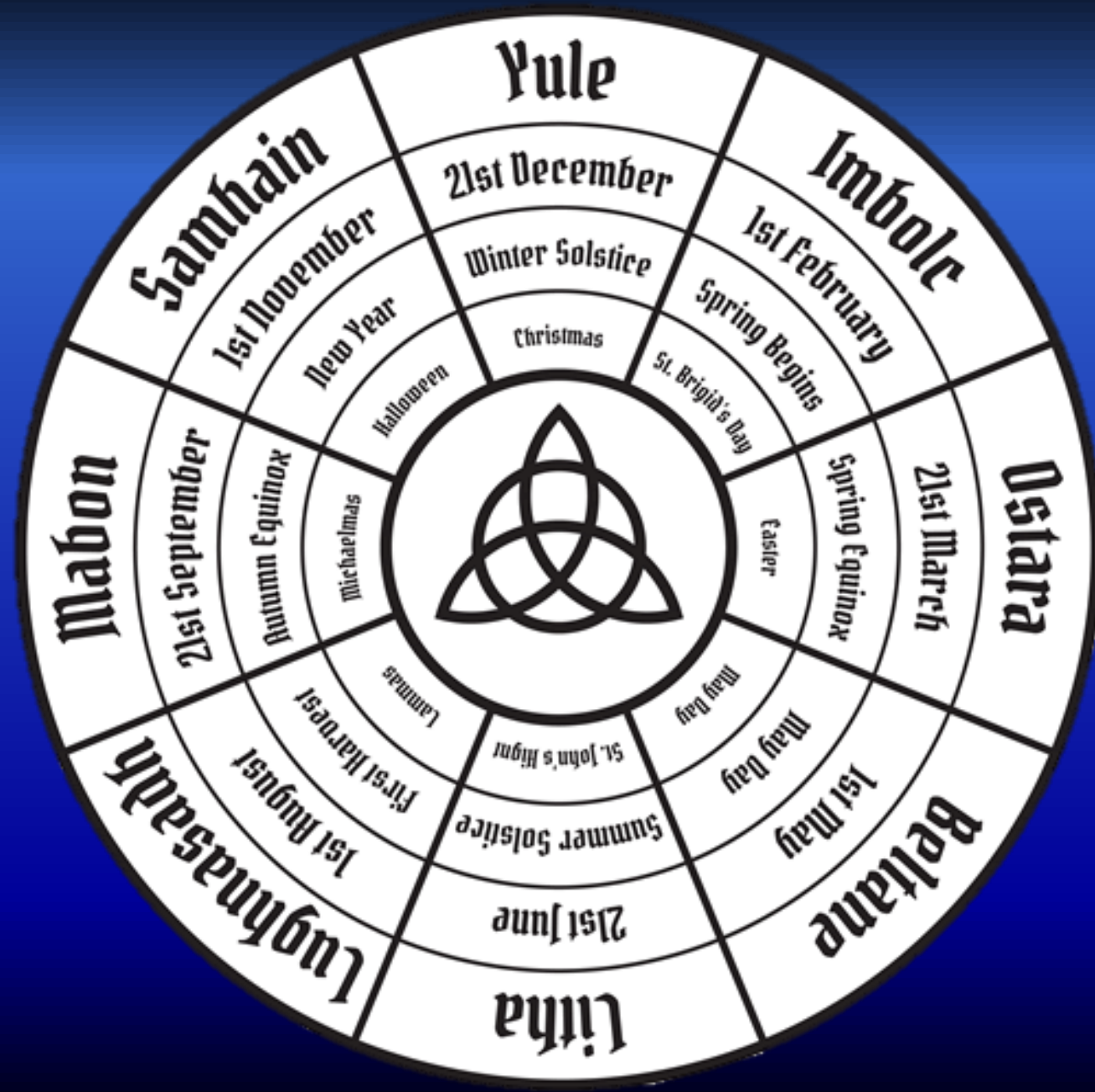


Theodosius the Great (379-392) made Christianity mandatory

Made Christianity the state religion!

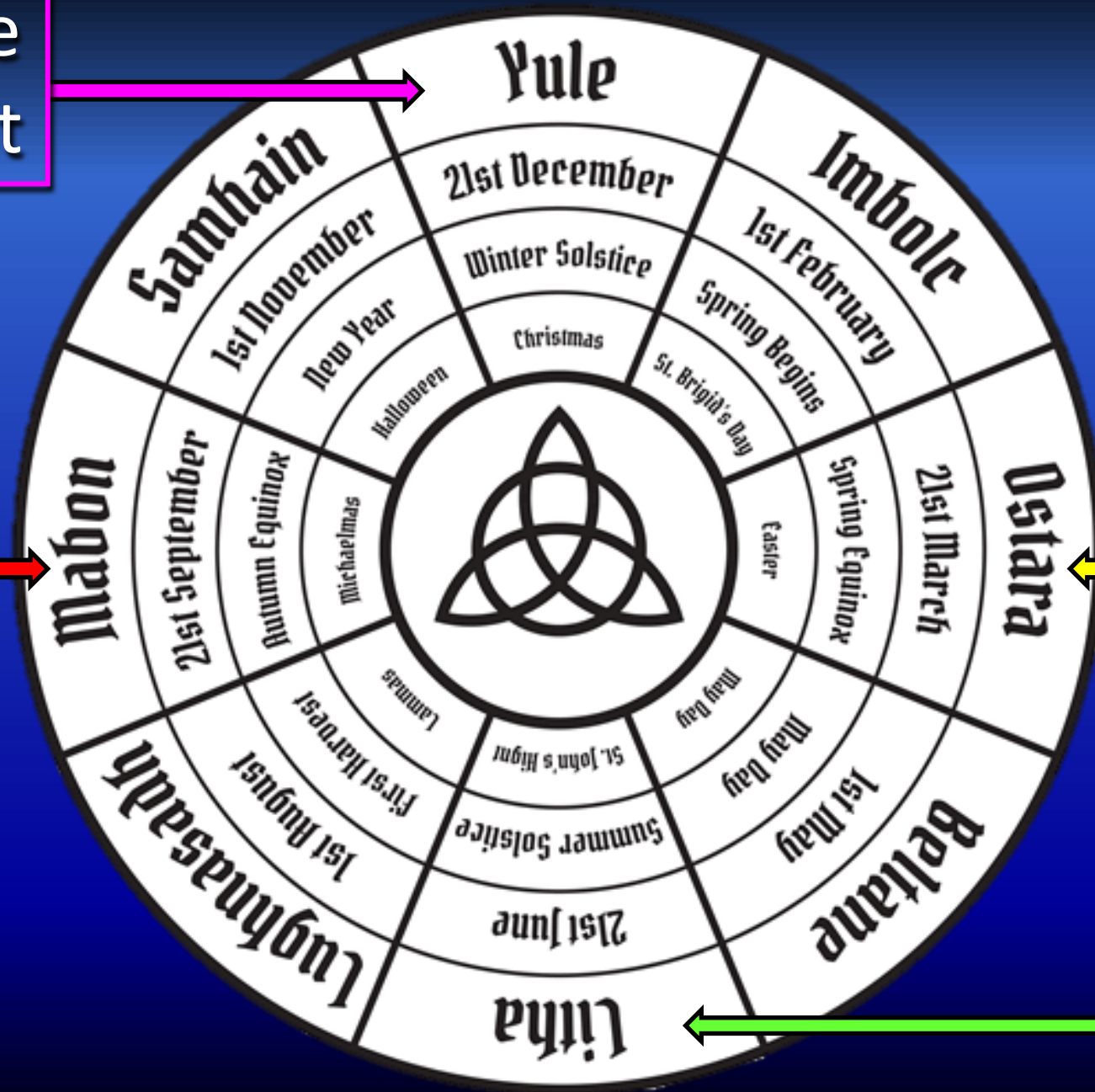
Filled the church with unregenerate pagans.

Paganism was Christianized.



Winter Solstice
December 21st

Fall Equinox
September
22nd



Spring
Equinox
March 20th

Summer
Solstice
June 20th

San Lorenzo in Miranda



Formerly the Temple of Antoninus and Faustina



Staff of Aesculapius



Numbers 21:4-9 Brass Serpent



Staff of Aesculapius



Numbers 21:4-9

Brass Serpent

John 3:14-16

Jesus Explains

Staff of Aesculapius



Numbers 21:4-9

Brass Serpent

John 3:14-16

Jesus Explains

II Kings 18:1-4

King Hezekiah

He removed the high places, and brake
the images, and cut down the groves,
and brake in pieces **the brasen serpent**
that Moses had made: for unto those
days the children of Israel did burn
incense to it...



II Kings 18:4

Staff of Aesculapius

An object God
commanded to be
made, can later be a
pagan idol!



Be ye not unequally yoked together
with unbelievers: for what
fellowship hath righteousness with
unrighteousness? and what
communion hath **light with
darkness?**



II Corinthians 6:14

The Three Columns

Acceptable to
God

Gods **Commands**
God gives the
**process &
procedure**
God gives
stipulations

Unacceptable
to God

Paganism
Idolatry
Disobedience
Worldliness
Things created
by satan

The Three Columns

Acceptable to
God

Gods **Commands**
God gives the
**process &
procedure**
God gives
stipulations

Any
Mixing of
the Two

Unacceptable
to God

Paganism
Idolatry
Disobedience
Worldliness
Things created
by satan

Church Grace



The True Meaning of Christmas



Church ☐ of Grace



You Choose...

Paganism in Christmas

