WEEK FIFTEEN:

(Part 2) Wrapping Up: Sacking and Crusading

Thursday: Sacking Rome and the Crusades

For Thursday, we will read Livy's narrative of the Gallic Sack of Rome in 390 BCE. We had previously read the opening portion of this passage in our discussion of ethnography. Livy's narrative of the sack by the Gauls comes just after Rome's successful conclusion to the lengthy siege of Veii (by popular tradition a ten-year long siege) and the capture of Falerii, both endeavors completed to success by Marcus Furius Camillus. Camillus' victory, however, was short-lived. The aristocratic group of the Senate opposed Camillus' proposals for resettling large numbers of Romans at Veii and ultimately prosecuted him for embezzlement since he never produced any plunder from Falerii (it was said that he took none from the city to bolster Rome's reputation with other Italian city-states, but the leading patricians suspected that he did plunder the city and kept the loot for himself). Camillus was exiled as a result of these charges. Shortly thereafter, a group of Gauls under the leadership of Brennus invaded Roman territory, defeated the Roman army at the Battle of the Allia, and marched directly to sack the city. The Senate decides to recall Camillus, who swoops back in to save the day. After the siege is lifted and the Gauls defeated, the Senate must decide what steps to take next for the Romans: rebuild the now-ruined city or resettle the entire population of Rome in recently conquered Veii? Camillus, of course, provides the answer.

Second, we will read a few versions of Pope Urban II's speech at the Council of Clermont. This meeting of Bishops and secular leaders of European state called all faithful Christians to campaign against the Muslims in defense of Constantinople and the Holy Land. Several versions of the speech exist, but most seem to boil down to be elaborations of one of two accounts: Fulcher de Chartres' and that of the anonymously authored *Gesta Francorum*. Read four different versions found on the website listed below.

Assignment:

- Livy AUC 5.34-55 (=Luce translation, pp. 318-341)
- **Urban II at the Council of Clermont:** Fulcher de Chartres' account of the Speech (#1 on the website listed below), Robert the Monk's version (#2), *Gesta Version* (#3), and Urban II's letter to Crusaders (#5); all of these (and some other optional versions) are available on this website: http://legacy.fordham.edu/halsall/source/urban2-5vers.html

Reading Questions:

- How do the Gauls find success in their attack on Rome? How are they eventually defeated?
- What is the greatest danger to Rome in Livy's narrative of the sack?
- How does Livy describe Camillus and his actions surrounding the sack of Rome and its aftermath? What does Camillus' speech suggest about the Romans at this time and their relationship to their enemies? Why did the Romans choose to rebuild in the same place?
- How do the two sides interact with one another in the images?
- How do each of the accounts of Urban II's speech at the Council of Clermont describe the task ahead of the Crusaders? How do they justify the undertaking?

- How do each of the accounts of the speech (and Urban II's letter) describe the Muslims? What traditional portrayals of enemies might they be drawing upon?

People, Terms, Events and Concepts, to know from Week Fifteen:

Livy Speech of Camillus Gallic Sack of Rome (390 BCE) Pope Urban II

Tarquinius Priscus Council of Clermont, 1095 CE

Ambigatus Constantinople Capitol First Crusade

Quirinalis (the flamen)Fulcher de ChartresVestal VirginsRobert the MonkM. Furius CamillusGesta FrancorumVeiiUrban's speech

Temple of Juppiter Optimus Maximus Urban's letter to the Crusaders