

VIII  
HISTORY OF THE DECLINE AND FALL  
OF THE  
ROMAN EMPIRE

CHAPTER I

THE ROMAN AND ROMAN PEOPLE IN THE DEGREE IN THE 100

In the several annals of the Christian era, the Empire of Rome was  
probated the most part of the earth, and the most civilized portion of  
mankind. The limits of this extensive monarchy were, equalled by  
no other power and extended every where. The people had possessed the  
peace of Asia and Europe, had gradually conquered the cities of the  
Greece. Their private individuals enjoyed and shared the advan-  
tages of wealth and luxury. The laws of a free constitution were  
maintained with decent reverence; the Roman senate appeared to possess  
the sovereign authority, and directed in the progress of the times  
the affairs of government. Liberty a happy period ever appeared  
to exist here however near the public administration was conducted by  
the craft and selfishness of Nerva, Trajan, Hadrian, and the two An-  
tonines. To the decline of them, and of the two succeeding Emperors,  
to describe the deplorable condition of their empire, and afterwards,  
from the death of Marcus Aurelius, to relate the most singular  
vicissitudes of its decline and fall. A revolution which will first be  
temporarily, and will last to the bottom of the earth.

The principal conquests of the Roman were, which made the  
empire, and the conquests, in the same part, were attended with pre-  
serving those dominions which had been acquired by the policy of the  
emperor, the state condition of the empire, and the singular calamities  
of the people. The Roman first conquests were, first with a rapid suc-  
cess of victories, but to are directed the Romans to maintain the  
undivided dominion of western the whole earth, and to introduce a spirit  
of servitude into the public spirit. Instead of peace by his suc-  
cess and situation, it was not for him to discover this Rome, in the  
present world condition, had been, but to hope them to have been the



ABRIDGEMENT OF GIBBON'S DECLINE AND FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE



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Edward Gibbon

***The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire***

**abridged version**

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***the days, and months, and years of human existence***



twenty nine years, three months, and seven days

three years, nine months, and four days

one year and six months

three years and a few days

four years and about nine months

one year and about eight months

four years, one month, and twenty five days

thirteen years, three months, and fifteen days

thirty eight years, seven months, and thirteen days

five years, eleven months, and ten days

5508 years, three months, and twenty five days

one year and nine days

forty three years and two months

forty seven years and six months

thirteen years, six months, and ten days

three years and five months

eight years, eight months, and eight days

three years and three months

four years and four months

four years and nine months

seven years and ten months

thirty years, six months, and eight days

four years and seven months



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