

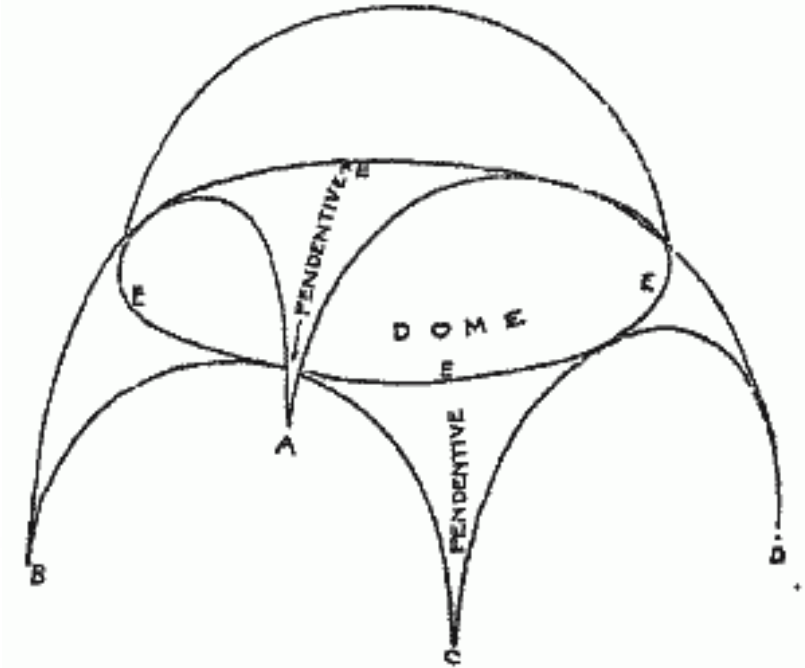
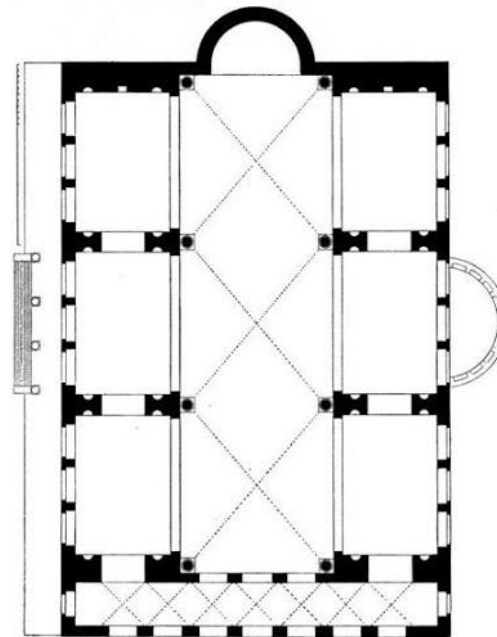
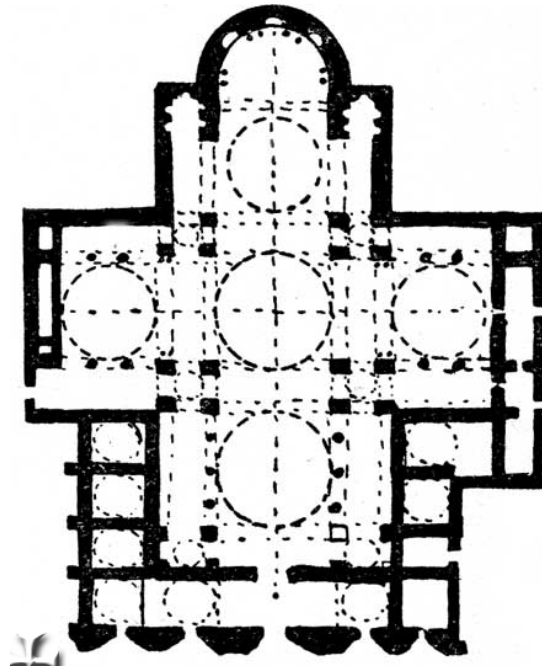
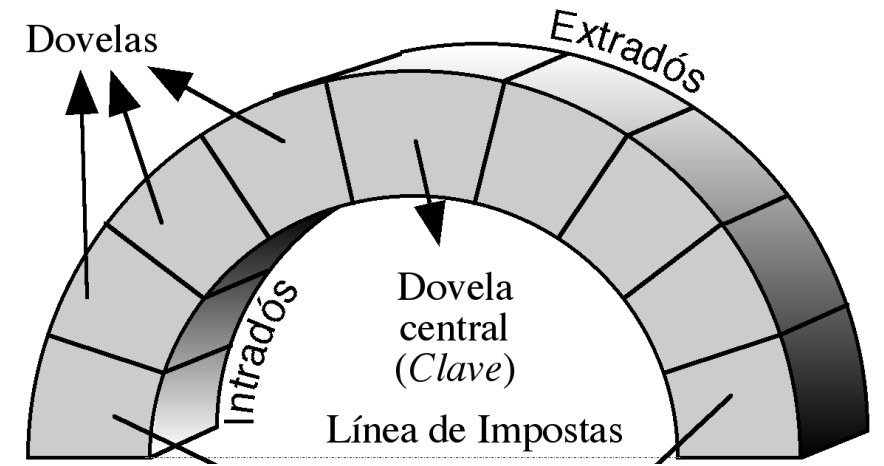


BYZANTINE ART

ARCHITECTURE

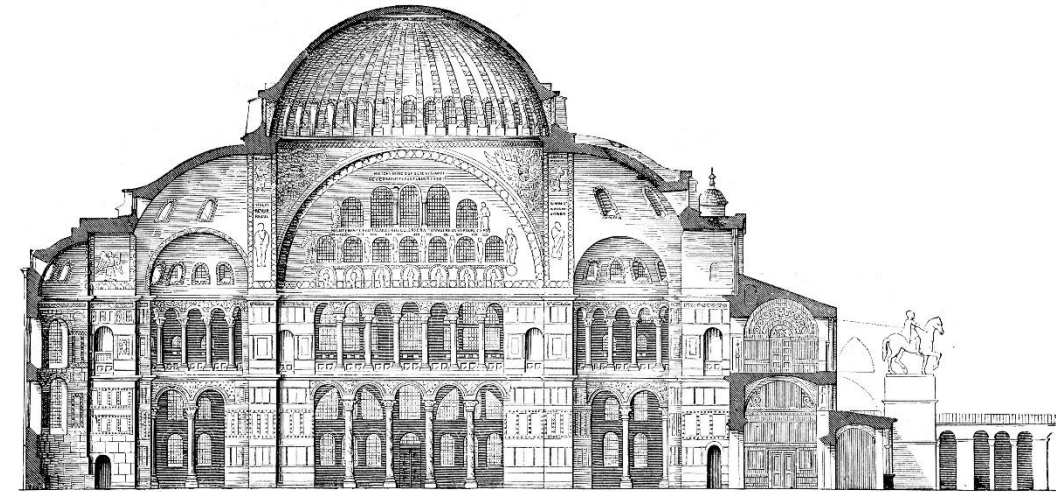
Main characteristics:

- Greek and Roman influence
- Use of semi-circular arches.
- Domes.
- Walls and buttresses as holding elements.
- Basilica floor plan and Greek cross plan.
- Materials: bricks, covered with marble and mosaics.
- Types: religious



An aerial photograph of Hagia Sophia in Istanbul, Turkey, taken during the golden hour of sunset. The central focus is the massive central dome of the Hagia Sophia, surrounded by several smaller domes and four tall, slender minarets. The building's complex structure of overlapping domes and arches is clearly visible. The surrounding city of Istanbul is densely packed with buildings, and the Bosphorus Strait is visible in the background, with a bridge spanning across it. The sky is a warm, hazy orange, and the overall scene is bathed in the soft light of the setting sun.

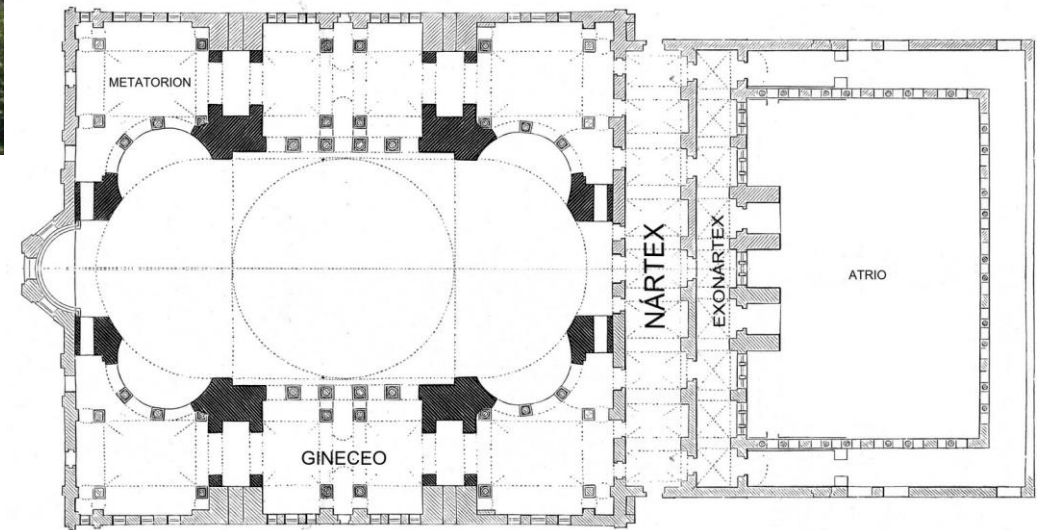
**Hagia Sophia
Constantinople (Istambul, Turkey)**

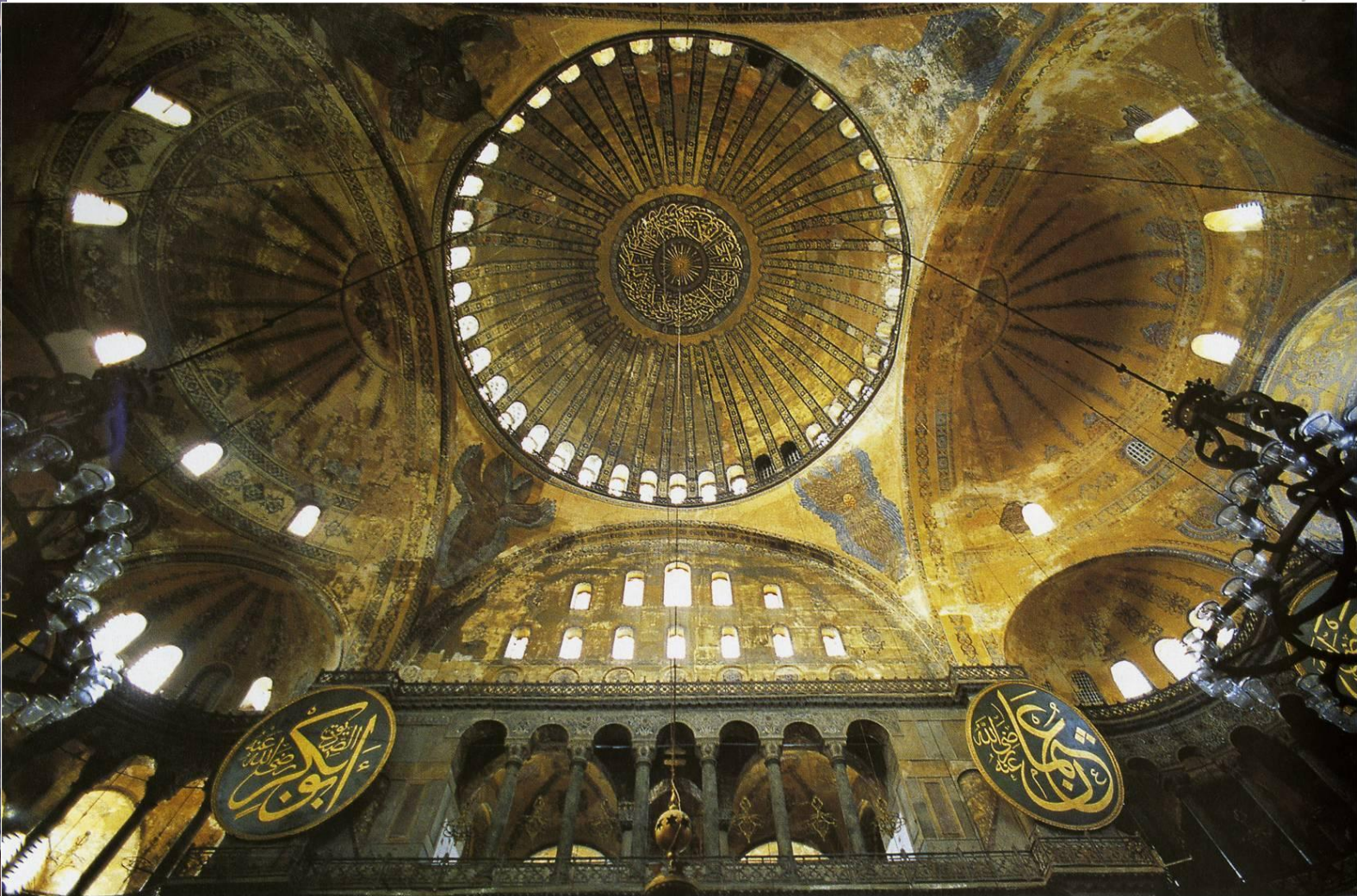


6th century → Ordered by Justinian the Great

Central dome on pillars and semi-domes.

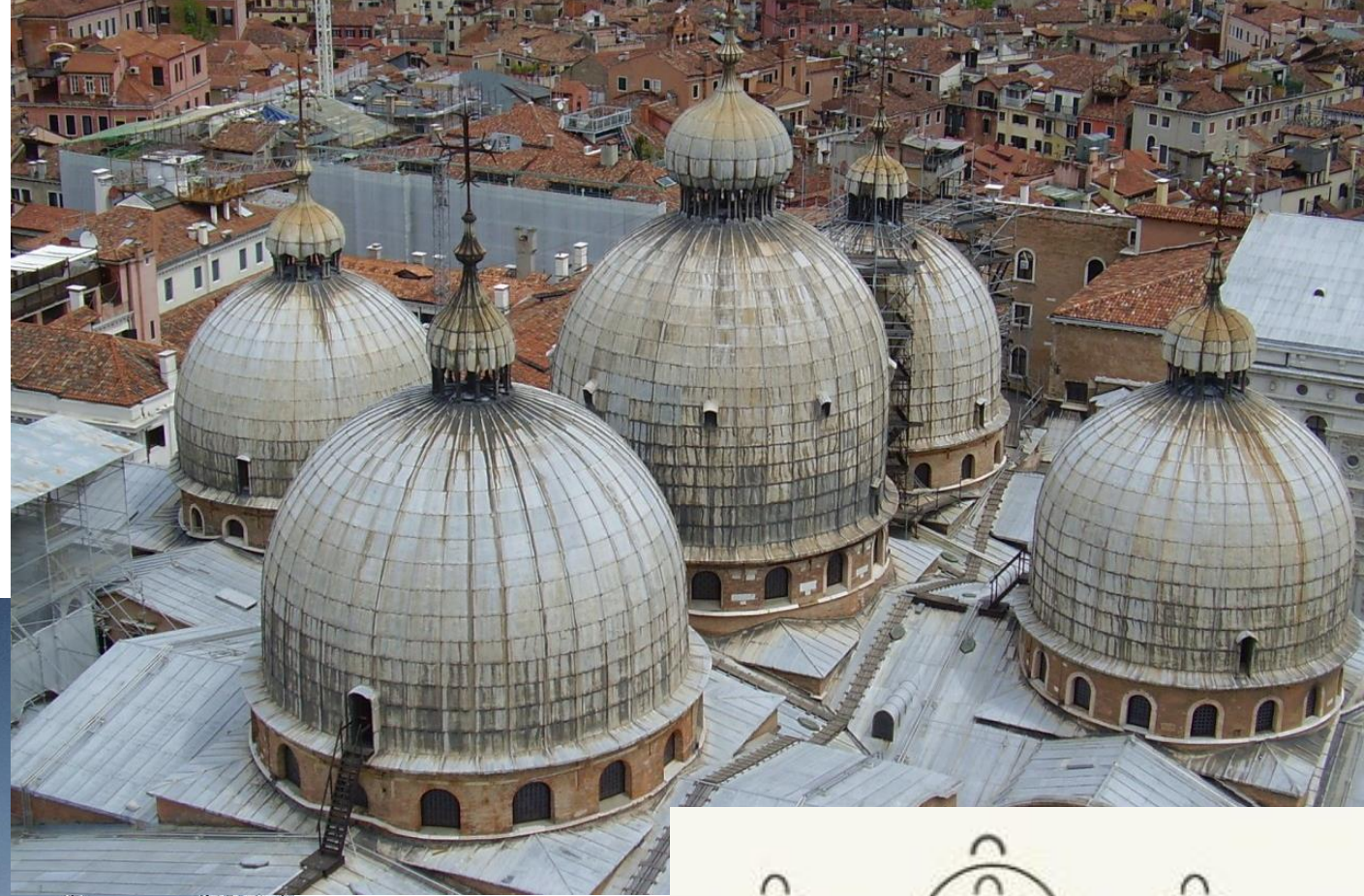
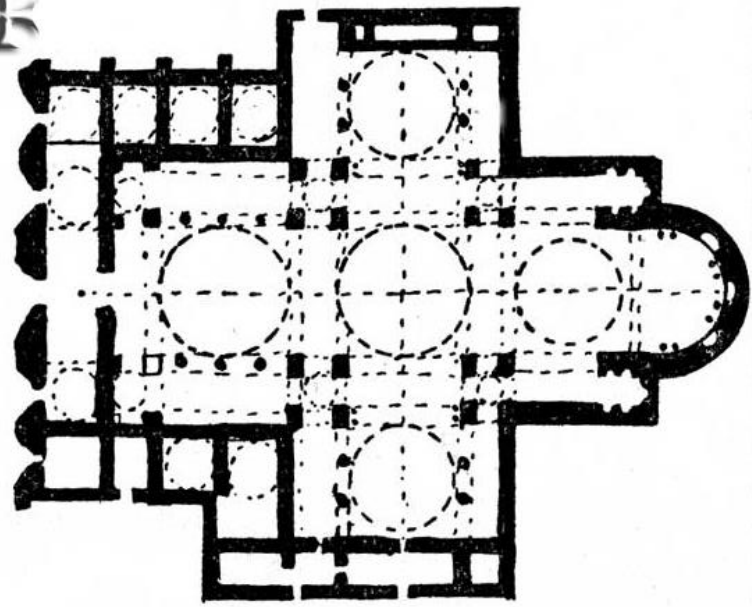
Basilica floor plan, with central rotunda.





Saint Mark's Basilica Venice (Italy)







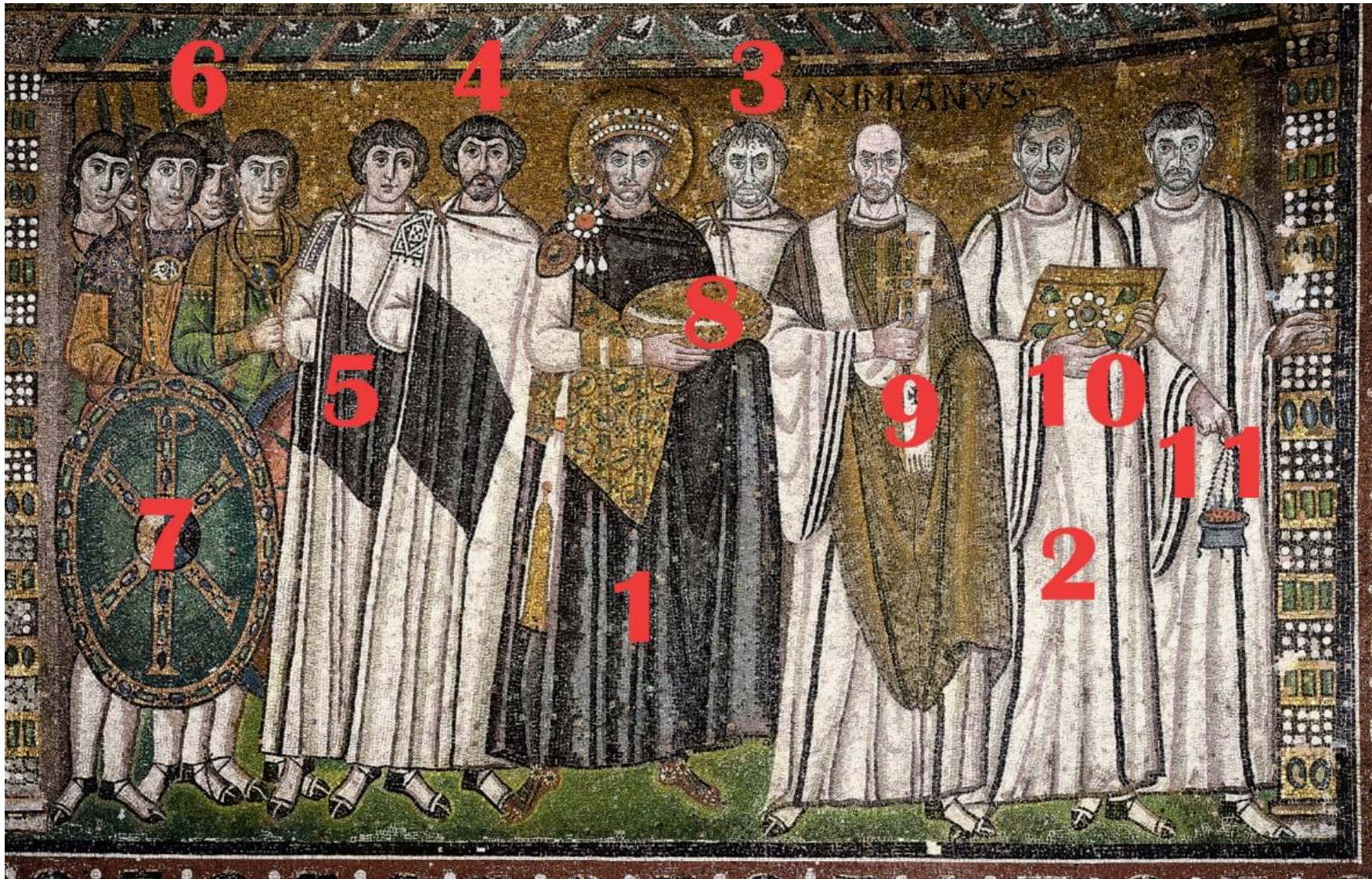
MOSAIC

Main characteristics:

- On the walls and ceilings (in Rome: floors)
- Mostly religious themes.
- Bright colours. Use of golden backgrounds.
- Rigidity, no expression, frontality.







1. Justinian.
2. Clergymen.
3. Julius Argentarius (banker who financed the construction of the church)
4. General Belisarius
5. Member of the imperial administration.
6. Army
7. Monogram of Christ (XP)
8. Paten (used for the Mass)
9. Missal
10. Incense burner.



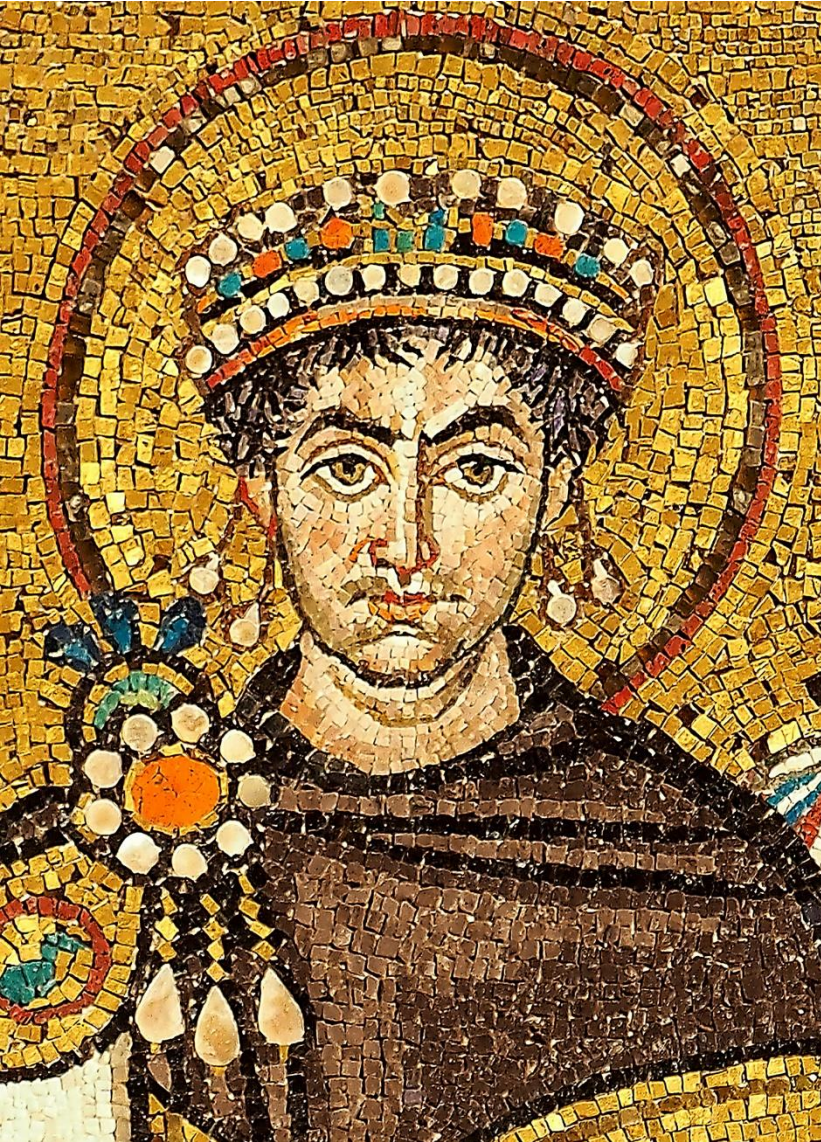
Church of San Vitale in Ravenna (Italy)

Empress Theodora and her court



1. Theodora
2. Three Magi (Three Wise Men)
3. Chalice

4. Members of the court (Eunuchs?)
5. Belisarius's relatives (wife and daughter)
6. Court of the Empress.



Use of bright colours.

Inexpressive faces.

**Relationship between
the emperor and the
Orthodox Church →
Divine character of the
Basileus.**





Church of San Vitale in Ravenna (Italy)

PAINTING → ICONS

Main characteristics:

- Painting on wood.
- Golden backgrounds.
- Religious themes.
- Rigidity, no expression, frontality.

Εἰκών → *eikōn* → Image

