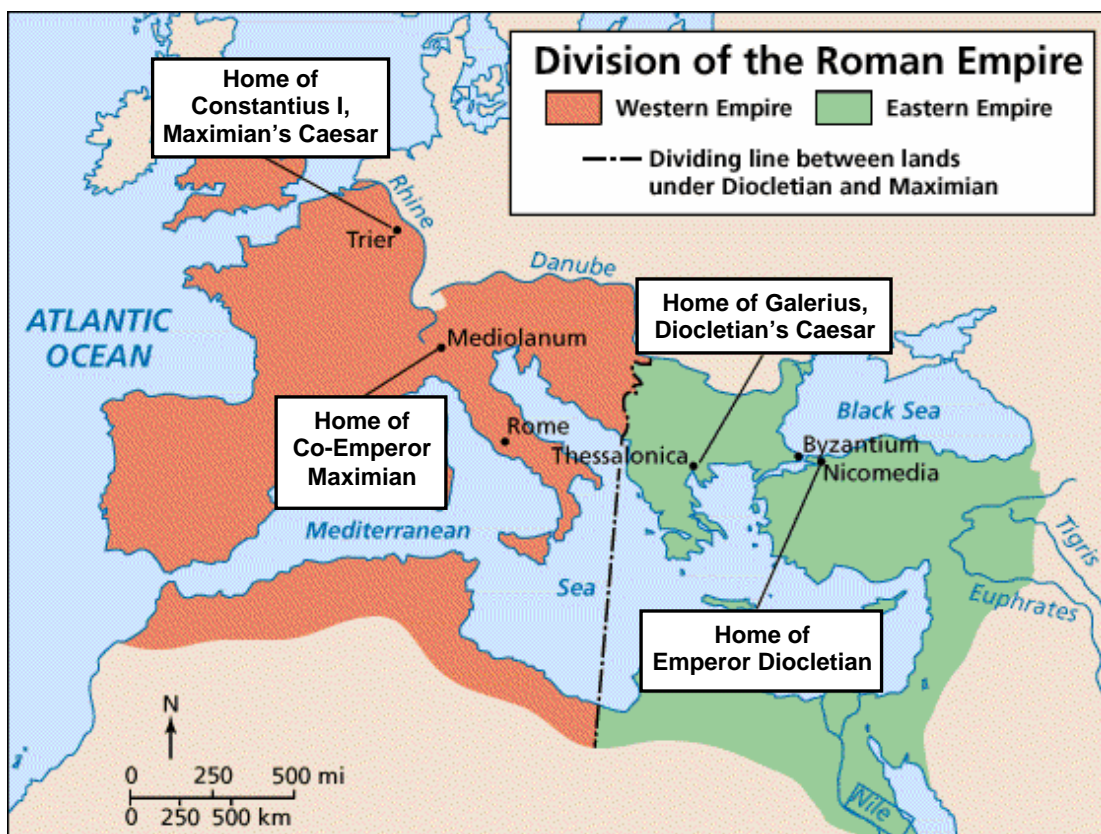


**#754 Constantine the Great and Woodrow Wilson, II – Constantine and Revelation 6:2:
The story surrounding the rise of Constantine**

Diocletian's Split. In 293, the Roman Emperor Diocletian reconstructed the power structure of the Roman Empire into the Tetrarchy – four prefectures ruled by four emperors, two senior emperors and two junior emperors. In the early 300's, Diocletian was the senior emperor (Augustus) of the east, while the junior emperor (Caesar, and designated successor) of the east was Galerius. Meanwhile, Maximian was senior emperor (Augustus) of the west, while Constantine's father, Constantius Chlorus, was junior emperor (Caesar, and designated successor) of the west.

Immediately *below* is a map showing the division of the Roman Empire into the original Tetrarchy. This map was also shown in Unsealing [#38](#).



Before the *official* split of the Roman Empire in 395 A.D., the Roman Emperor Diocletian split the empire approximately 100 years earlier

The retirements. On May 1, 305 A.D., both senior emperors (Augusti), Diocletian in the east and Maximian in the west, retired. The ceremony was formal and public. The plan was followed that the junior emperors (Caesars, and designated successors) – Galerius in the east and Constantius Chlorus in the west – were elevated to senior emperors (Augusti). New junior emperors were named.

The captive guest. In the meantime, Constantine was not in the west with his father, Constantius, but was in the east, well-known and serving in the Roman army of the east, under Diocletian. In order to stabilize relationships among the co-rulers, senior emperor Maximian had placed Constantine in Diocletian's capital, Nicomedia (50 miles east of Byzantium, which would be renamed Constantinople in 330 A.D.), as his captive guest. The understanding was that should Constantius ever attempt to become sole ruler, his son Constantine would be killed.

The expected replacements. It was expected that the new junior emperor (Caesar) of the west would be senior emperor (Augustus) Maximian's son, Maxentius, and the new junior emperor (Caesar) of the east would be Constantine, Constantius's son. [This would mean that Constantius would be the senior emperor of the *west*, while Constantine, his son, would be junior emperor of the *east*.]

The actual replacements. But Galerius, who was replacing Diocletian as the Augustus of the east, and actually the emperor who was paramount over all, objected to filling the junior emperor vacancies with either Maximian's son, Maxentius, or Constantius's son, Constantine. Instead, Galerius insisted on naming his own junior emperors (Severus as Caesar in the west, instead of Maxentius, and Maximin II Daia {also called Maximinus} as Caesar in the east, instead of Constantine).



The Tomb of Galerius, Thessaloniki, Greece

The mess. Galerius's decisions created a mess of claimants to positions and thrones. Prophetically, however, the situation set the stage for Constantine to fulfill Revelation 6:2, going "*forth conquering and to conquer*" to eventually become the sole emperor of the Roman Empire.

The new drama of the father's throne. However, in 305, the immediate problem for Constantius Chlorus (the father of Constantine, and new senior emperor, or Augustus, of the west) and Constantine (the son), was that Constantine was now trapped in the east under Galerius, his new commander-in-chief, who had control over his destiny. Constantius wanted Constantine out west. Galerius did not want to release Constantine, for then Constantine might more easily claim that he had a right to his father's throne.

Revelation 6:2 (KJV) And I saw, and behold A WHITE HORSE: and HE [Constantine the Great] THAT SAT ON HIM HAD A BOW; and A CROWN WAS GIVEN UNTO HIM: and HE WENT FORTH CONQUERING, AND TO CONQUER.

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