Notes

7.3

Turning Points and Split in Islam

Division

* The question of succession (who would be the next leader) became a problem that led to a split in Islam
* Sunni Muslims believed that a Muslim who is “rightly guided,” or practices the religion seriously, can be the next leader, regardless of bloodline
* Shi’a Muslims believed that only Ali and his descendants can be the next leaders
* The Sunni – Shi’a conflict is still going on today

Turning Points

* Muslim conquest of Jerusalem and Damascus
  + Made the Muslim empires more powerful, but would bring about consequences many centuries later from the Europeans
* Muslim defeat at the Battle of Tours
  + Muslim expansion went across North Africa, into Spain. It would have gone further, but the Franks defeated the Muslim invaders at Tours