History: Chapter 11, Section 1

The Rise of Islam

* Desert stretches over most of the Arabian Peninsula.
* Most Muslims lived in villages in the Arab Empire.
* Sheikh – tribal heads of Arab clans
* Oasis – green area in a desert fed by underground water
* Bedouins – desert herders who traveled from oasis to oasis for water
* Caravan – group of traveling merchants; Arab merchants transported goods across the desert in caravans.
* Makkah – (aka Mecca) became the largest, richest, and holiest town in Arabia
* Kaaba – a low square building, located in Makkah, surrounded by statues of gods and goddesses. It held the great stone inside that was believed to be from heaven.
* Muhammad – a prophet who brought the message of Islam to the people of Arabia.
* Islam –religion preached by the prophet Muhammad
* Muslims – followers of Islam
* Islam means surrendering to the will of Allah.
* Allah is the Arabic word for God.
* Wealthy merchants felt threatened by Islam; they made Muhammad’s life difficult and beat and tortured his followers.
* Muhammad and his followers left Makkah and traveled to Madinah.
* The city of Madinah made Muhammad its ruler.
* Muhammad built an army, traveled back to and conquered Makkah. He made it the holy city of Islam, allowing the religion to spread all over Arabia.
* The religions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam all believe there is one God (monotheistic).
* Quran – the holy book of Islam
* Five Pillars of Islam – acts of worship Muslims must fulfill

Essay – What was Muhammad’s message? AND What rules for daily living did he teach?