French Revolution in Review



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► Today we are going to focus in on a few essential moments in the revolution.

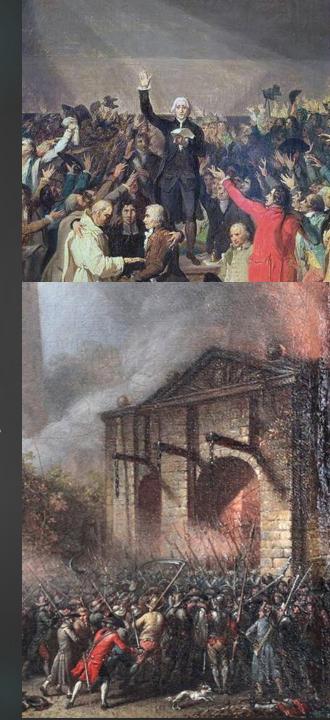


The Bourgeoisie



Notes: Bourgeois Government

- ► After the Revolution in 1789, France is controlled by moderate bourgeoisie
- ▶ They try to steer a "middle path"
- Radicals want the King and nobles to be stripped of their wealth, executed if they refuse
- ► The moderates resist this, arguing that France can only move forward by compromise



Notes: Bourgeois Government

- ► The bourgeois government focuses on individual freedom and rights, builds a government based on the US.
- ► Try to build an agreement between the many interests in France, avoiding further blood.





- ▶ By being moderate, the government ends up betraying many ideas of the enlightenment.
- ► The millions who do not own land cannot vote. Women still have no rights. Slavery is still allowed in the colonies.
- Most of the poor and peasants are worse off under this government than under the king.



Notes: Losing the Conservatives

- The government forces all priests to take oaths of loyalty to France (since France pays their salary)
- Many priests refuse to take the oath
- Peasants in many provinces revolt against the government in support of the priests



Notes: Losing the Radicals

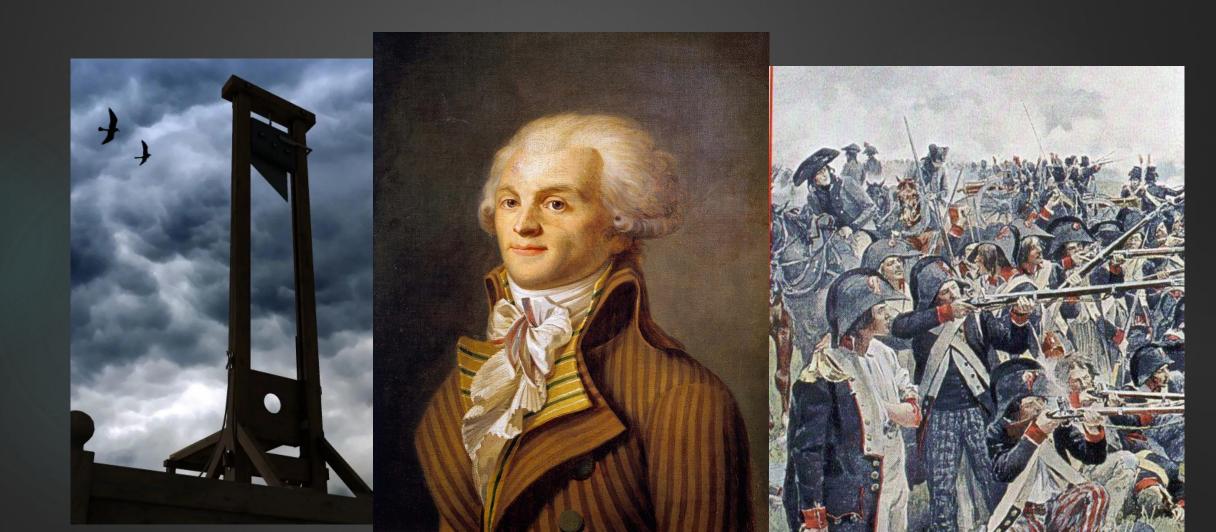
- After the King tries to flee in 1791, the radical demands become louder.
- Radicals argue that the King and nobles were never going to accept the revolution
- ► They say France must stop trying to be nice to its enemies: the King, nobles, and now the rebellious peasants and priests.
- ► They say if France does not act decisively, the nobles will take back over.



- ▶ By 1792 France is again facing ruin:
 - ▶ Inflation is out of control
 - ▶ 75% of the country is in open rebellion
 - ▶ France is losing 2 wars
 - ▶ The King and Nobles are plotting to take over
- People turn to the radicals for leadership because the moderate bourgeoisie have failed



The Radical Government



Notes: Radical Revolt

- ▶ With France in Crisis, the radicals take over
- The new government has far more representation from the peasants and urban poor.
- It gives women rights, it ends slavery, and it puts protections in place to help the poor.



Notes: Radicals in Charge

- ▶ But the government also comes with a clear mission—to save the revolution.
- ► The Committee of Public Safety is appointed with this task.
- ▶ Their laws are extremely effective.
- ▶ By 1793:
 - ▶ The peasant revolts have been crushed
 - ▶ Nobles are completely out of power
 - Bread prices are stable and low
 - ► France is now winning its wars



Notes: Radicals in Charge

- ► The radicals do not listen to any other voices
- ► France will change dramatically
- ▶ People have to get on board or die

► Government makes too many enemies and is overthrown in 1794



Napoleon



Notes: Napoleon's Rise

- ► After the radicals are overthrown, the bourgeoisie take over again
- New government is deeply unpopular
- What is popular is the army, which just keeps winning.
- France's greatest general, Napoleon, becomes a huge celebrity and political power
- ▶ He overthrows the government—which many people support



Notes: Napoleon's Government

- ▶ Napoleon keeps:
 - ► Equal laws for all
 - ▶ Fair trial, right to lawyer, innocent until proven guilty
 - ▶ No secret laws
- ▶ Gets rid of:
 - ▶ Democracy
 - ▶ Women's rights
 - Universal freedom (reintroduces slavery)



Notes: Napoleon's Government

Cancels all of France's laws and completely rewrites them based on Roman law.

▶ Called the Code Napoleon

► This system of law is put in place in almost every European country.

Because of Napoleon, much of Europe gets their first taste of enlightenment government and law

Alternate Lecture: Transitions

King Louis XVI and the early revolution



Notes: French Rev Review

- ▶ First, a timeline:
 - ▶ 1789: Estates General, Storming of the Bastille; Bourgoeisie take over
 - ▶ 1791: King tries to flee
 - ▶ 1792: Radicals take over, capture king
 - ▶ 1793: King Executed, Committee of Public Safety takes over
 - ▶ 1794: Public Safety killed, bourgeoisie take over again
 - ▶ 1799: Napoleon takes over
 - ▶ 1815: Napoleon defeated and exiled, new king takes over France



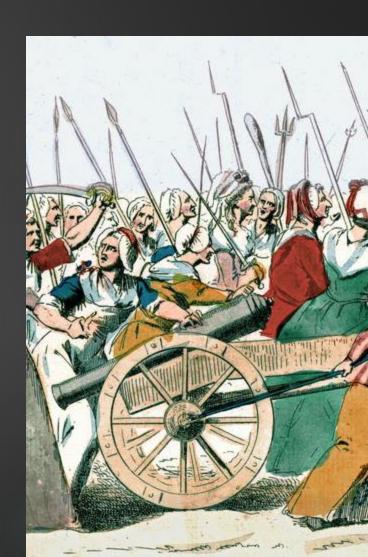
Notes: King Louis XVI and the early revolution

- ► The King's relation to the revolution is interesting.
- ► He definitely had the power to end it while it was just starting but did not.
- ▶ Three reasons:
 - Hope that the new government would let him tax nobles
 - ▶ Fear that the revolution would get worse if he tried to put it down
 - ▶ He was just a pretty hesitant person



Notes: King Louis XVI and the early revolution

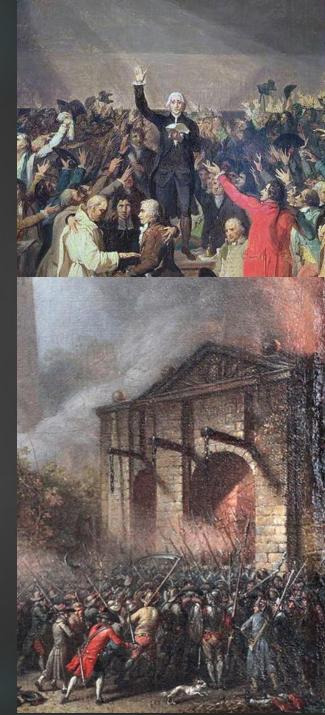
- ► The event that truly took away the King's power was the Women's March
- After this, Louis XVI is both prisoner and king
- ▶ He loses hope of ever truly regaining his power unless the revolution is ended
- ► His Brother-in-Law, Emperor Leopold II of Austria, promised to help him retake France by force
- ▶ He tried to flee to Austria but was captured



The Bourgeoisie Fail



- After the Estates General, the new government is controlled by the bourgeoisie.
- ▶ They promise rights and fair government
- But they also don't want too many changes.
- ► They try to work with the king and bring back the nobles who fled the country.
- ► They try to balance between the radicals on the one side and the conservatives on the other—alienate both



- The millions who do not own land cannot vote. Women still have no rights. Slavery is still allowed in the colonies.
- The bourgeois government focuses on individual freedom, which does not help the poor
- Most of the poor and peasants are worse off under this government than under the king.
- The government loses the loyalty of the conservative countryside, which revolts
- ▶ It also loses the loyalty of radical Paris, which revolts



- ▶ By 1792 France is again facing ruin:
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