Greek Musical Thought

- Two kinds of writings
  - doctrines on nature and effects
  - descriptions of materials and patterns
- Philosophers
  - Pythagoras
  - Plato
  - Ptolemy
  - Aristotle
  - Quintilianus

Pythagoras (550-497)

- Numbers are the key to the universe
  - Pythagorean Theory
- Music is made up of numbers
  - Musical Ratios (W/T #2)
- Music can effect the universe

Doctrine of Ethos
Plato (420-370) and Aristotle (370-320)

- Plato expounded upon these ideas in . . .
  - Timaeus
  - Republic (W/T #3)
  - Protagoras
- Influenced Medieval Scholars
- Influenced Music Education
- Music imitates the state of the soul

Theory of Imitation

Ancient Romans

- No real significant contributions
- Lots of information
- Mostly Military
  - Brass Instruments

Summary

Music consisted essentially of pure unencumbered melodic lines
- Melody intimately linked with the rhythm and meter of the text
- Musical performances were improvised
- Music interlocked with nature
- Scientifically founded acoustical theory
- Scales built from tetrachords
- Musical terminology
What purpose *did* Religion serve?

- Provided explanation of natural questions
- System of Practical Values
- System of Moral Values
- System of Beliefs and Benefits

**General Rules for Living**

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**Early Christianity**

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**Historical Overview**

312 A.D. Emperor Constantine converts to Christianity

395 A.D. East and West divide

Byzantium and Rome

476 A.D. Fall of Roman Empire
“Opened the mind to teachings and disposed it to holy thoughts.”

The order of the “ritual” or service.

*Liturgy*