

## **Chapter 7 – The Empires of Persia**

### **“The Rise and Fall of the Persian Empires”**

**Fully answer the questions using pages 160-166 in your textbook.**

1. Identify some basic features of the Persian and the society they established. Who were they? Where were they from? Basic characteristics?
2. Your text states that under Cyrus and Darius, the Achaemenid Empire had spread from the Indus River to the Aegean Sea and into Egypt, and “With a population of some 35 million, ... was by far the largest empire the world had ever seen.” What was the most important challenge faced by Persian rulers because of this?
3. Identify ALL the ways in which the Persian Achaemenid Empire used to centralize government administration and overall control to help overcome the problem identified in #2.
4. What attitude regarding governing changed over the course of the Achaemenid Empire (from Cyrus to Xeres) that contributed to its downfall?
5. Why were the Greeks a particular problem for the Persians? How did they contribute to the downfall of the Achaemenid Empire?