

the adversaries. In some ways this marked the beginning of Vatican political power and independence. Gregory did not think it unlikely that this sort of emergency would happen again and his foundation for civil defense in Rome would be widely acclaimed by following leaders. His contribution to Rome's political success was equalled in later times but suffice it to say he was accountable for much of the good as well as much of the bad that would eventually be identified as Roman Catholic. Of his character and work, further discussion is made in later parts of the syllabus. At this point we are only concerned with his work in the development of the papal states as a political force.

#### Zachary (741-752)

A vital and good man so far as we can tell, it was his lot to set in motion the church-state formulation that would cause a lot of grief. Competent in his dealings, he sought to promote peace in Rome by placating the barbarians as he was able and enjoying better relationships with Constantinople. He was approached by Pepin the Short about the kingship of France in return for which Pepin would commit certain Frankish held lands around Rome to the Vatican. Although he died before this could be carried out, his plans were fulfilled by Stephen III (752-757) and the great coronation of Pepin and his sons in 754. In all Pepin gave 22 city-states and their land grants to the Vatican in return for the papal blessing. Rome gained tremendous prestige from this and used it much in years to come with the idea that the "king-maker" was the Roman Bishop.

#### Leo IV (847-855)

Another strong and capably minded leader, Leo made considerable contributions to the development of the Vatican power. First, he fortified Rome and built a wall about the Vatican...called the Leonine wall to this day. Second he met a youthful prince of English nobility who was visiting Rome with a pilgrimage group and Leo consecrated him against the day he would be king of England. The youth proved to be Alfred the Great and his strong affection for the Roman See was greatly aided by the act of Leo's. One never knows when an almost incidental meeting will prove to be a powerful demonstration of the control of God.