- as Rome racked up victories, its army grew
- the choice was simple to the defeated: join the empire, or be massacred to a person
- o trade was a good way to acquire wealth
 - Rome set up trade networks with its defeated territories
 - charged taxes and made money off of others
 - Roman citizens had luxuries never seen prior in the western world (spices, incense, etc.)
- o alliances with various groups
 - often, people would ask the Romans for help against invaders
 - Rome would agree to help, would take their army to the problem, and would leave it
 - Rome expanded "peacefully" this way
- o greed and power
 - Romans loved being the center of the universe
 - the lust for more territory helped them expand farther than anyone had before
 - problems of this?
 - ➤ how do you police all its people?
 - ➤ how do you effectively govern?
 - how do you communicate across the empire?
 - > how do you keep your people happy?
 - > etc.