



Natural Disasters in Ancient Times

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Natural Disasters

- **Natural disasters in ancient times were unpredictable and dangerous.**
 - **There was almost no way to know when an earthquake, a flood, or a volcanic eruption was about to happen.**
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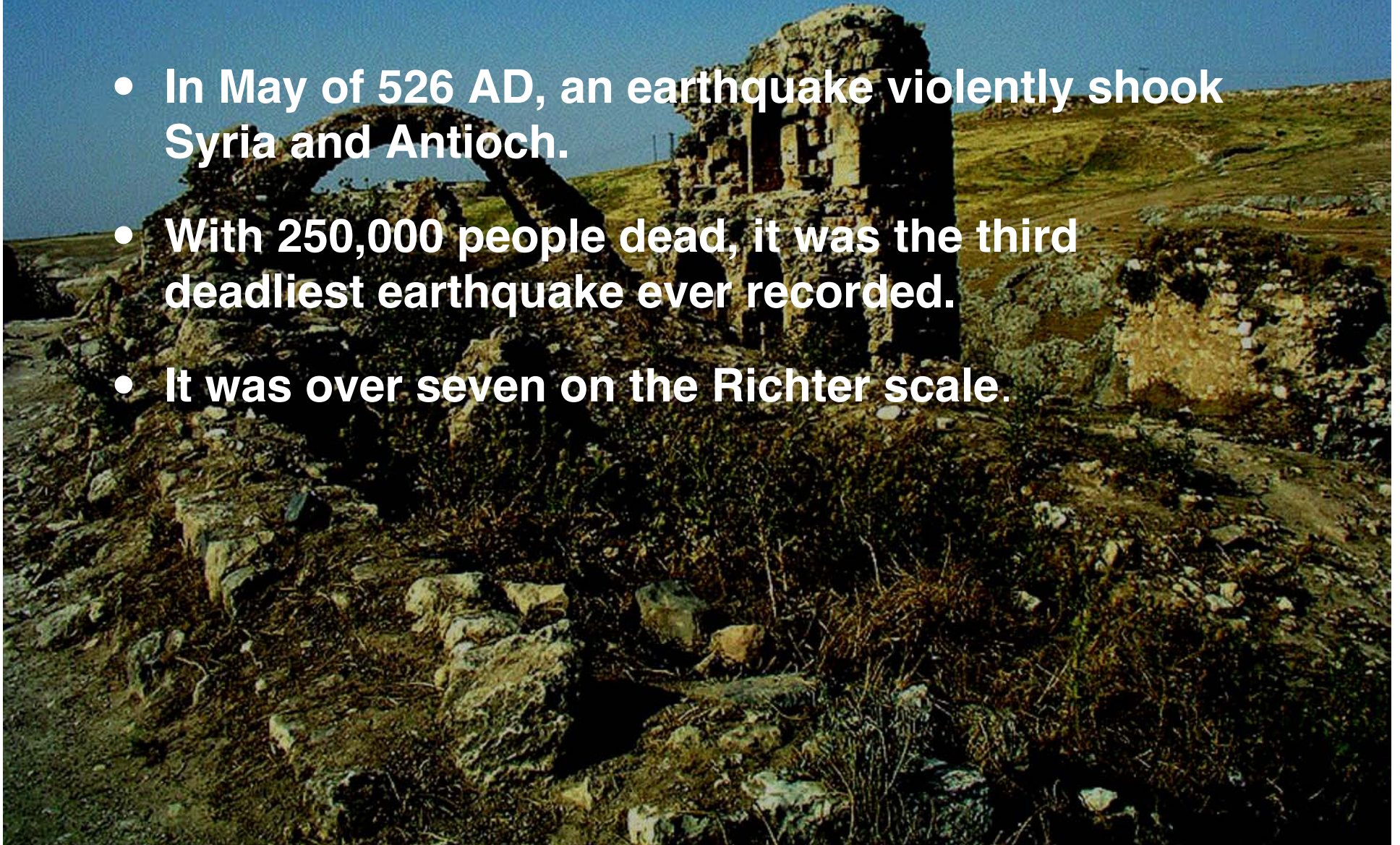


Pompeii, 79 AD

- The first sign of the eruption on August 4 was an earthquake, which was ignored.
- Then more small earthquakes happened, and people became frightened and suspicious.
- Then, without warning, mount Vesuvius erupted, sending plumes of smoke and ash into the sky, and Pompeii and Herculaneum were buried under lava.

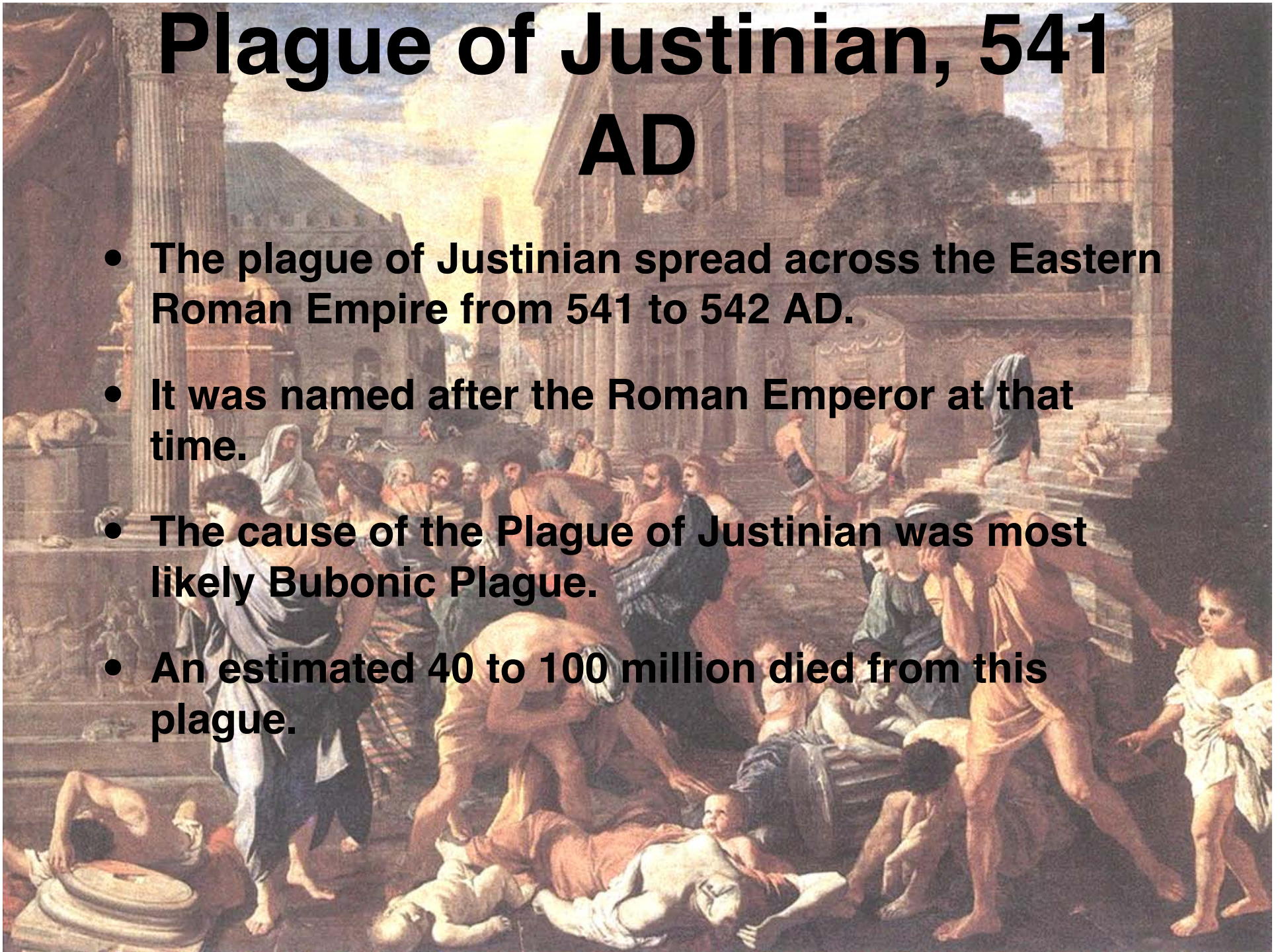
Antioch Earthquake, 526 AD

- In May of 526 AD, an earthquake violently shook Syria and Antioch.
- With 250,000 people dead, it was the third deadliest earthquake ever recorded.
- It was over seven on the Richter scale.



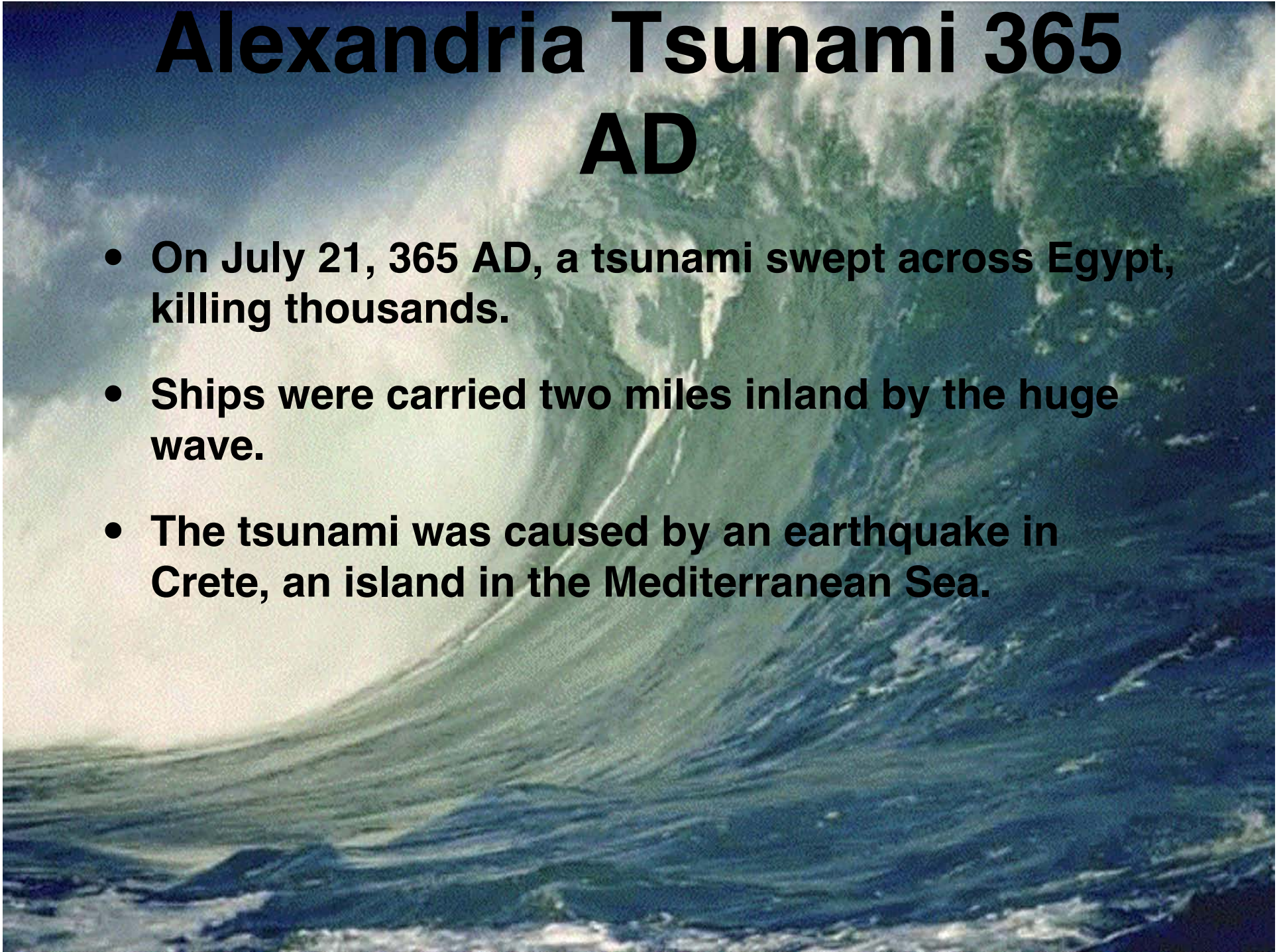
Plague of Justinian, 541 AD

- The plague of Justinian spread across the Eastern Roman Empire from 541 to 542 AD.
- It was named after the Roman Emperor at that time.
- The cause of the Plague of Justinian was most likely Bubonic Plague.
- An estimated 40 to 100 million died from this plague.



Alexandria Tsunami 365 AD

- On July 21, 365 AD, a tsunami swept across Egypt, killing thousands.
- Ships were carried two miles inland by the huge wave.
- The tsunami was caused by an earthquake in Crete, an island in the Mediterranean Sea.



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