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| **Rome** | **Both Empires &**  **Comparison Topics** | **Classical China**  **(Qin & Han)** |
| * 31 BCE- 476 CE * Eurasia, Britain, North Africa, Middle East, more spread out than Chinese. * Patricians-elites, wealthy landowning class * Plebeians-Poorer classes * Class conflict over unequal land distribution | **Time Period**  -classical era  -roughly same time 200 BCE- 200 CE  **Geography**  -Similar Size in territory  **-Cultural Interaction**  -Almost no direct contact with each other- but linked by Silk Road  **Social**  **Culture**  **-Language**  **Political**  **-Centralized Rule**  **-Citizenship**  **-Emperor**  -both ruled with divine sanction  -**Governments invested heavily in public works=**  Bridges, canals, defensive walls, etc.  **-Law/Philosophy**  **-Collapse**  -got too big, too overextended, too expensive, to be sustained by available resources, no fundamental technological breakthroughs  **-Result of Collapse**  **Religion**  **Economy/Trade**  **-Silk Road** | * Qin= 221-206 BCE * Han 206-220 CE * East Asia, extends to N. Vietnam, Northeastern Korea, North western steppes area, more centralized area. * Majority- ethnically Chinese * Assimilated non-Chinese= culturally, through intermarriage, linguistically |