

Name: _____ Date: _____ Block: _____

Nero Persecutes the Christians, 64 A.D.

Standard: SSWH3: The student will examine the political, philosophical, and cultural interaction of classical Mediterranean societies from 700 BCE to 400 CE.
d. Describe polytheism in the Greek and Roman world and the origins and diffusion of Christianity in the Roman world.

Use the website on the Schoology page to read the primary source and answer the following questions.

1. What group or groups was Christianity popular with in the Roman Empire?
2. Why did many Jews and Romans fear Christians?
3. Why did Emperor Nero blame Christians for the fire that destroyed much of Rome in 64 A.D.?
4. How did Nero get Christians to confess that they started the fire in Rome?
5. Why did some Romans have sympathy for the Christians while they were being tortured and executed?
6. What crime were the Christians convicted of so they could be more easily executed?
7. List several ways the Christians were executed:
8. How did Emperor Nero behave during the executions of the Christians?