

Origins of the Modern Democratic State

1.3

Background to United States Government

A painting depicting a large assembly of men in classical robes seated in a semi-circular arena. In the foreground, a man in a long, light-colored robe stands at a podium, addressing the assembly. The background shows a large, ornate building with columns and arches, suggesting a grand public space or a government building. The overall scene is rendered in a classical, historical style.

- **Greece and Rome**
- **Magna Carta**
- **English Government**
- **European Influence**

Background to United States Government: Greece

- **The influence of the government from Greece was a long process. Most people believe that Greece was always a Democracy, not quite.**

**1600-1200
Age of Kings**

- **Many Greek city-states were at war with each other.**
- **In Ancient Greece, there was not professional army**
- **A high council was created to give nobles war powers**



- **It was understood that the nobles had the most to lose in times of war.**
- **Questions from the nobles were: What if we lost?**
- **What if the spoils aren't as high as expected?**

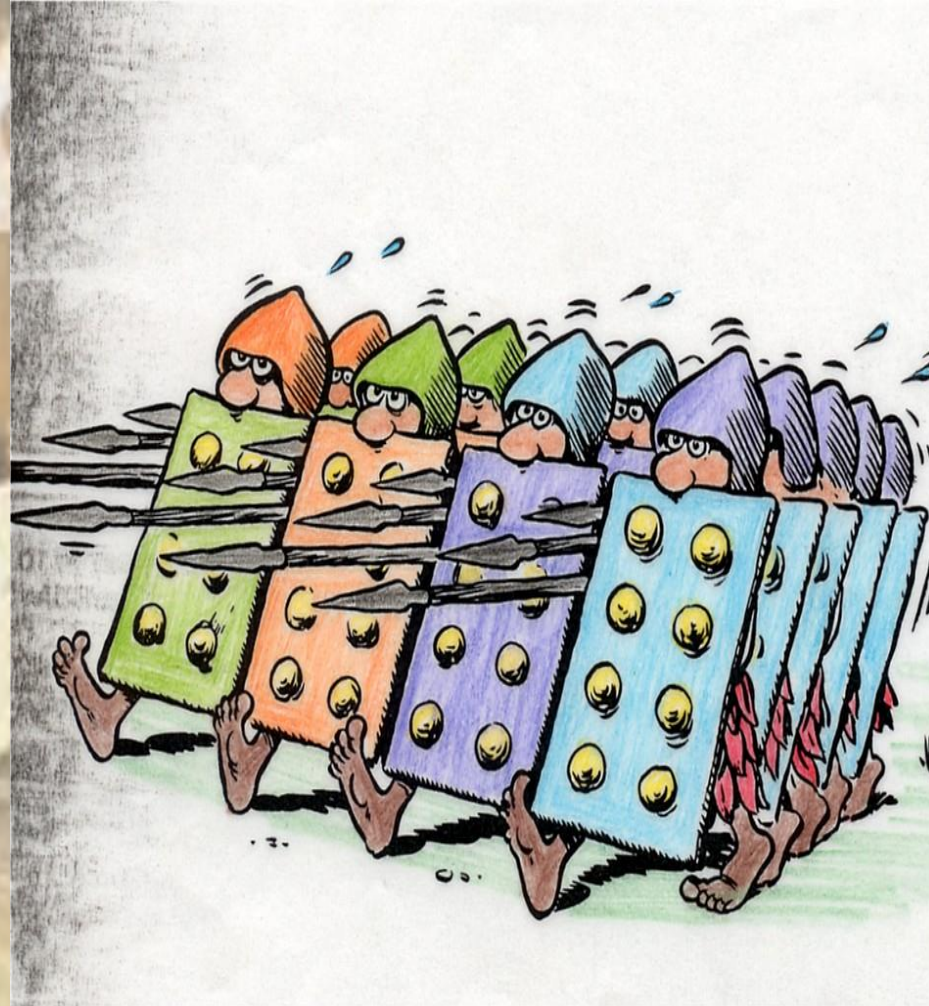
1600-1200

**Age of
Kings**

**900-700 BC
Oligarchies,
Monarchies,
Aristocracies**

- **Nobles were all powerful until one important invention:**

- **The Phalanx!!!**



- **Nobles earned the right for day to day power**
- **Common people followed the same template as the nobles decades and years prior.**

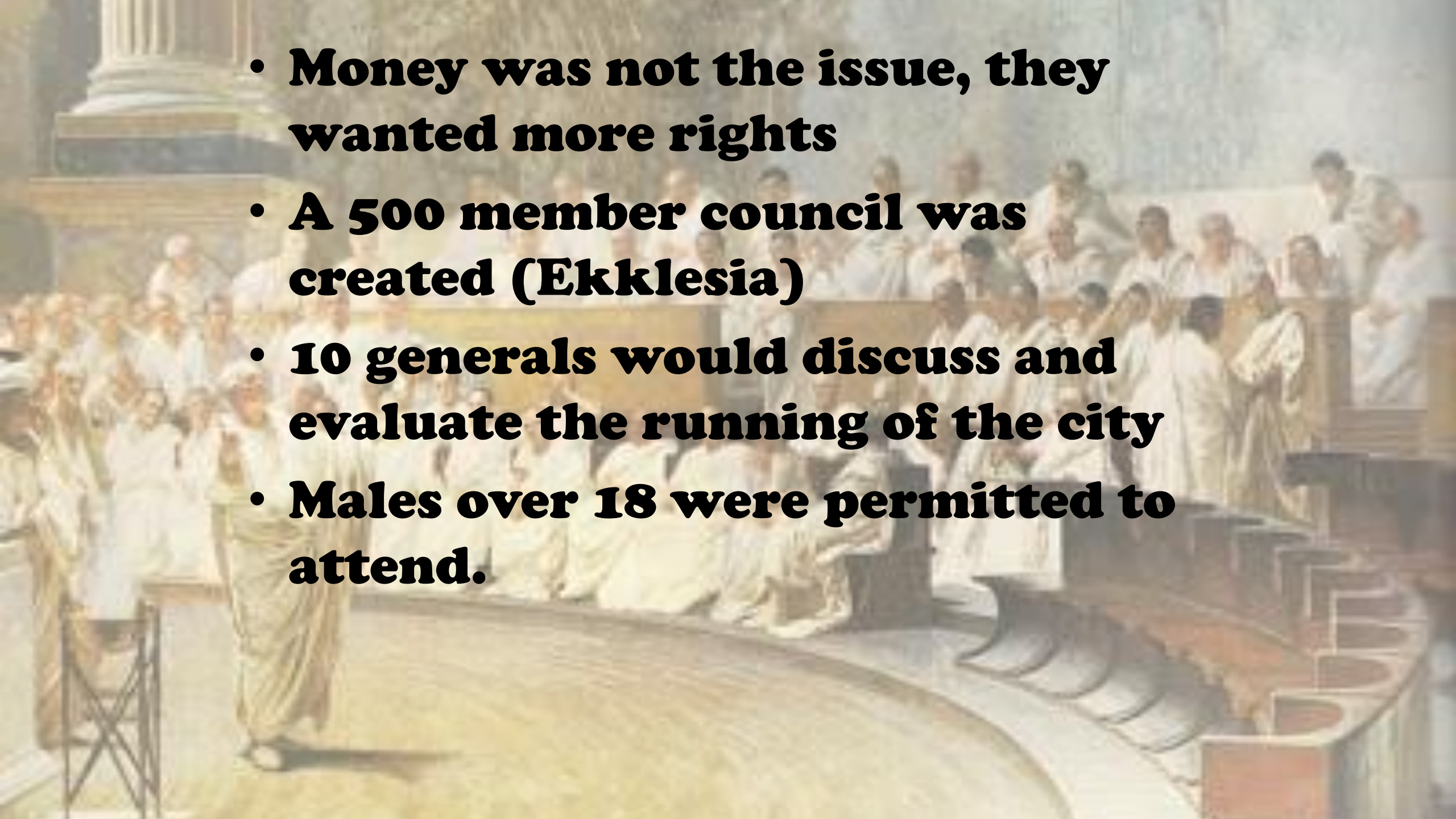
**1600-1200
BC**


900-700 BC

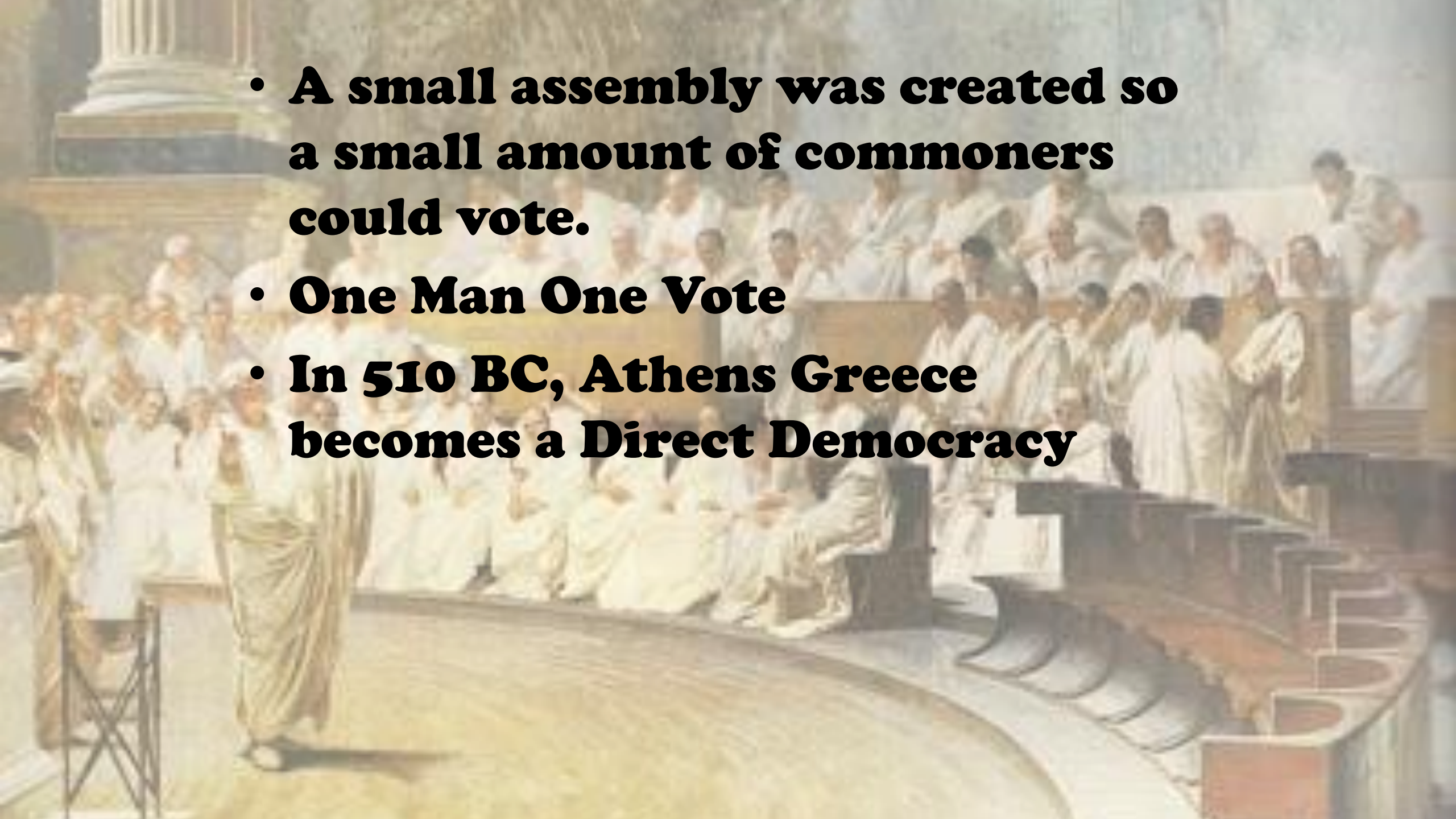
**700-510 BC
Age of
Tyrannies**

- **Criteria was created for voting rights.**
- **Only males**
- **Over 30 years old**



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- A historical painting depicting a large assembly of men in classical attire, seated in a semi-circular arrangement within a grand, columned hall. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting an open-air or well-lit interior. The men are dressed in white and gold robes, and some are gesturing as if in discussion. The architecture features large columns and a high ceiling.
- **Money was not the issue, they wanted more rights**
 - **A 500 member council was created (Ekklesia)**
 - **10 generals would discuss and evaluate the running of the city**
 - **Males over 18 were permitted to attend.**

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- **Greece had 10 months**
 - **Every month 50 men from a tribe were chosen**
 - **Couldn't serve for another 10 years**
 - **Chose like a lottery**

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- **A small assembly was created so a small amount of commoners could vote.**
 - **One Man One Vote**
 - **In 510 BC, Athens Greece becomes a Direct Democracy**

Background to United States Government: Rome

- **What Rome was created in 710BC it was a loose confederation of people of the Mediterranean, including Greeks**
- **Rome eventually pushed away from the Etruscans (most powerful group in Italy)**
- **Rome took ideas from the Greeks and created a Republic. They were not willing to push the government in the same direction of Greece.**

Background to United States Government: Rome

- **Rome was highly influenced by the Etruscan way of government of elite kings. The Etruscans worked with 2 kings so neither could have all the power.**



The background of the slide is a historical painting. It depicts a large, ornate hall with high ceilings and classical architectural elements like columns. In the center, a group of men in medieval attire are gathered. Some are seated on a raised platform, while others stand. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a significant event. The overall tone is historical and formal.

Background to United States Government: Magna Carta (1215)

- **King John was a cold and ruthless king. To finance his war he taxed the people below him very heavily**
- **The Barons pushed the King to the point of rebellion that he was to ask permission in certain cases like the creation of taxes.**



Background to United States Government: English Government

- **On November 11, 1620 off the shore of Massachusetts, the Mayflower Compact was signed**
- **Why did the Pilgrims leave the “Old World?”**

A painting depicting a large assembly of people, likely a religious or political gathering. The scene is set in a grand, classical-style building with a prominent column on the left. The audience, composed of men and women of various ages, is seated in a semi-circular arrangement, all dressed in white robes. In the foreground, a man in a white robe stands at a podium, addressing the assembly. The overall atmosphere is one of solemnity and grandeur. The text "Religious Freedom" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Religious Freedom

Indirect Influence

A historical painting depicting a church council or synod. Numerous men in white and gold vestments are seated in a semi-circular arrangement, facing a central area. One man stands at a podium on the left, addressing the assembly. The setting is a grand, vaulted interior with classical architectural elements like columns.

- **Henry VIII wanted a male heir, and the Roman Catholic church did not grant divorces**

Indirect Influence

- **Henry wished to divorce his first wife Catherine because she was unable to give Henry a male heir, only a daughter Mary**
- **The Pope would not grant the divorce because this was a legitimate marriage**
- **Henry created the Acts of Supremacy in 1534 moving England away from the Pope in Rome**

Indirect Influence

- **Henry's second wife produced another child, Elizabeth**
- **Henry's third wife produced a male heir however he died young leaving the crown 2 daughters with the blood of Henry VIII**
- **Mary became Queen first, pushing her mother's Catholic wishes on England and removing Protestant practices.**

English Bill of Rights

- **Parliament and the King fought all during the 1600's causing an English Civil War, a executed King, and the only time in English history when England was ruled by a Protector, Oliver Cromwell**
- **By late 1689 Parliament held more power than the King forcing for the creation the English Bill of Right**



English Bill of Rights

- **The English Bill of Rights guaranteed rights for nobles and citizens**
 - **Everyone must obey the law**
 - **Right to a Trial by Jury**
 - **Right to make a formal petition**

Enlightenment

John Locke



Montesquieu



Enlightenment



- **John Locke was a popular writer of the Founding Fathers**
- **John Locke wrote many things, the most significant was the natural rights of man**
- **“Life, Liberty and Property”**

Enlightenment

- **Montesquieu was a French writer**
- **He wrote extensively on the separation of powers**
- **Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Branches**
- **Each branch held power, created law, and protected the government against other branches**

