

# ROME AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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America, one of the quickest growing countries of the modern world. If you step back about 1,900 years you will encounter another quickly growing state, Rome. Rome is what many people consider to be the ancient day equivalent of America. This leads many people to question, is America following the same path as Rome did?

The answer would be yes. The reason that I believe that America is following the same path as Rome did, are because of the striking similarities in the government and population. America is a constitutional republic with a democratic way of electing people into office. Rome also had a form of this kind of government, despite being a little different for different positions in power. The way it was set up eventually led to its downfall, due to power hungry corrupt politicians, over expansion, and changes in its system. The same thing can be said about America with the way that the government run.

Link in Rome there are three branches of government. There is the senate, the judiciary, and the executive branch in the U.S.. In Rome there were the Patricians, the Plebeians, and the Senate. The Patricians and the Senate held a lot of power. It can be argued that the peoples branch, the Plebeians had less influence and therefore the government was unsound. The two governments were very much alike with the same types of people in the branches. Towards the end of Rome there was very corrupt politicians, over expansion, and the flipping of what Rome was built on. This is what caused Rome to fail, and is happening in the U.S. to an extent as well.

With both Rome and America there are issues such as immigration. Specifically illegal immigration. In today's society especially in America there is a big issue with people coming over from Mexico into the United States without

becoming a citizen first. Often this is to escape some of the problems with their home country. This has led to a lot of Americans losing their jobs to cheaper to pay immigrants. Due to this, the homeless population has grown and leads many people scratching their heads about how to deal with it. The same kind of thing happened in Rome only with slaves. In the later days of the Roman republic, when Rome conquered land they would often capture large amounts of slaves and pretty much give them out to farmers and other business owners. This flooded the market causing a lot of people lost their jobs to cheaper alternatives. The homeless would then make their way to the city of Rome where they would accumulate and make a larger issue. This is very comparable to America and is one reason that I think the US is following in the footsteps of Rome.

Now one of the most profound reasons America may fall to the same fate as Rome is, its military expansion. Rome in its day was the fiercest power in the world. It had the most efficient and well equipped military. Able to plow over anything that stood in its way. Because of this they expanded Rome as much as they could eventually conquering the entire Mediterranean sea and most of Europe. As a cause of this Rome over grew and couldn't be effective in its means of moving information, this later lead to the split of Rome into the West and East empires. America is very similar in the fact that it has the world's most powerful military and has spread its fingers across the whole world. The overgrowth of the military has cause an enormous debt on America that may never be payed off.

These are the main reasons that I think that America is going to follow the same path as Rome did. Perhaps not becoming of the dictatorship that Rome had but eventually falling due to the combination of corrupt politicians, immigration and homelessness, and military overgrowth.

So again, Rome had fallen under the weight of itself and the corrosive acts of the people in power. I think that America will eventually do the same given enough time.