I. Sic transit Roma. Sic transit America? So went Rome! So goes America? She wrote this as a warning.

II. Life of Taylor Caldwell – born in England in 1900 lived until 1965… came to American when 8 years old… wrote her first book when she was 12. A Christian conservative Catholic. 9 years researching the book.

- her thoughts on raising boys

Treat your sons with respect; they are embryo men. TENDER WARRIOR
Always tell them the truth… No fudging about even difficult subjects.
They should be taught from an early age that there is a God and they should see you praying.
Corporal punishment is necessary when there is rebellion. Not in excessive anger of course, but with firmness.
Teach your sons to work. If they say that they are “bored” that means they need work to do. Even a two year old can set the table, or fold wash cloths.
Respect his privacy. Do not go through his things unless there is an important reason to do so

III. Life of Cicero – major highlights – born about 100 years before Christ in Arpinum, Italy. He had a great family life.. educated by a Greek tutor.. He was a contemporary of Julius Caesar, a senator who tried to save the Roman Republic. Over sensitive, he was frequently inconsistent, but he tried.

IV. What were his character traits? . honorable, honest, moral (to a point), conciliatory, humorous, conscientious. influenced by the Jewish friends but still pagan.. waiting for the Messiah of the Jews

V. Which were Christian? Where did he fail? He had ethics; he would not steal or cheat… but he had a mistress for a good part of his life. Failed as a husband. Nobleman’s defense.

VI. Can a man save his country or himself without faith in God? No, he will give up. He will feel defeated and not realize that some things are beyond our control. We work, God determines the outcome.

VII. Discussion Questions – Comments by former students. Students felt that they dreaded reading this long book at first, but when they were done, they all praised it for her presentation of true biblical principles.

a. Why was Cicero drawn to law? He says there is nothing nobler. He says that it distinguishes man from beast; that beasts are ruled by the inclinations of man, but real men are ruled by the law. He knew he was a persuasive speaker.

 b. Summarize the sentiment of Cicero after he learned that there are truly bad people in the world. He felt that he should have been warned from an early age, instead of growing up thinking people were all like his family. Children don’t need to be immersed in depravity but they should know it exists.

 c. Explain: “Republics deline into democracies, and democracies degenerate into despotisms.” through vulgar, base, irrational, feminine and luxurious men.

 d. Compare the statement by M. Drusus about those who bribe the masses to the socialism of today. What Marcus Drusus said is true for socialism today. The government gives people money to keep them happy. There is a contrast between those who believe in private initiative and the welfare state.

 e. Why did Cicero believe that governments are the enemies of the people? Government seeks more and more power… It is always a struggle. Government is involved in theft and has the power of force to back it up.

 f. How did Catiline appeal to the masses? Do you see that happening today? How did he really feel about them? Catiline was a noble who wanted to take over the government and have control of it himself. He used the masses (or mobs) to bring about a revolution. Promises (bread and circuses) appealed to the lower classes. Since they were a larger group in number, more of Rome liked him. He promised Social (financial) Equality for all. Cf. Social Justice today.

g. Fill in the blanks: “Only in a republic and in despotism are men utterly **SAFE** for in the first, they are **FREE** and in the second they are **SLAVES**. In DEMOCRACIES, they live in danger.

h. Upon what must a just law be based? God’s standard of right and wrong.

i. What happens to a man who is without hope? He has no reason to live, to strive. Dies while he yet lives.

j. Explain Cicero’s statement regarding the deadening of feelings when we observe cruelties. How does this occur in today’s world? television – unnecessary violence. Where is violence Ok? (in defense of innocents).. videogames… sex: do whatever you want.

k. Who is the original source of truth, according to Cicero’s Jewish friend? God is Truth.

l. How do you know Cicero was searching for the God of the Jews? He often conferred with his Jewish friend, asking questions, deeply involved in Jewish theology, and Mrs. Caldwell believed he was looking forward to the Incarnation.

m. “Man and State. Always must they be **ENEMIES**, for men have been give **FREEDOM** by God, and the **STATE** hates God and loathes men and everlastingly fights against the rights of men. Cicero was the first real American.

 n. Men should never cease from **STUDYING**, from returning to those springs which so intoxicated their youth, for in books there is much wisdom and there is no end to what a man can acquire in knowledge.”

o. Are we entitled to rights, according to Cicero? We are born in the image of God… our Rights are protected by the State, not granted. “We are endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights.”

 p. Crassus wanted to have all people united under one authority, one law, all land, with all
treasures to be shared equally. What would the consequences be if that happened to all peoples of the world? Think of the UN. All earned income to be shared equally – incentive destroyed – everyone would sink into poverty.

q. Crassus filled the treasuries of Rome by **STEALING FROM** the middle class.

r. Why did Spartacus and the slaves revolt? The slave owners prior to his time treated the slaves as servants. As Rome began to deteriorate, the slaves were treated like animals and Spartacus led a revolt which defeated nine Roman armies before he was captured.

s. “When a nation becomes as **DEMORALIZED** and **CORRUPT** and **ANGERLESS** as Rome, then that nation is lost forever.”

t. How would there be hope for the future, according to Marcus Cicero?

 Men tend to repeat history… only if man learns from history and does not repeat the cycle.. turns to God .. and God will give him a new way to live.

u. “Wisdom is based on knowledge, but **KNOWLEDGE** is not always **WISDOM**. Book of Proverbs

v. What is the fallacy which Consul Hybrida believed about men? He believed that men are basically good. If left alone, he would do the right thing usually.

 w. How did Marcus Cicero think that Rome could regain its financial stability?
spending as little as possible until public debts were paid and the treasury refilled.

 x. Is there any justification in sentencing anyone to death? (your opinion)

 y. Suicide is man’s ultimate **HATRED** of God.

z. What was Julius Caesar’s view of Rome’s Constitution? He felt it should be changed periodically, that there were no eternal principles.

 aa. Have you known in modern times of governments confusing and distracting citizens so their deeds would not be known by its citizens? Students explain this.

Last page: read aloud.

VIII. Comparisons to America