

ABSOLUTE RULERS OF RUSSIA

Chapter 21, Section 4

The First Czar

- ▣ Ivan the Terrible
 - In 1533, Ivan the Terrible becomes king of Russia
 - Struggles for power with **boyars** — landowning nobles.
 - Seizes power and is crowned czar, meaning “caesar”
- ▣ Rule by Terror
 - In 1560, Ivan turns against boyars, kills them, seizes lands



Peter the Great Comes to Power



- ▣ The Rise of Peter
 - Peter the Great becomes czar in 1696, begins to reform Russia
- ▣ Russia Contrasts with Europe
 - Cut off geographically from Europe
 - Culturally isolated, little contact with western Europe
 - Religious differences widen gap

Peter Rules Absolutely

- ▣ Peter Visits the West
 - In 1697, Peter visits western Europe to learn European ways
- ▣ Peter's Goal
 - Goal of **westernization** – using western Europe as a model for change
- ▣ Peter's Reforms
 - Brings Orthodox Church under state control
 - Reduces power of great landowners
 - Modernizes army by having European officers train soldiers

Peter Rules Absolutely (continued)

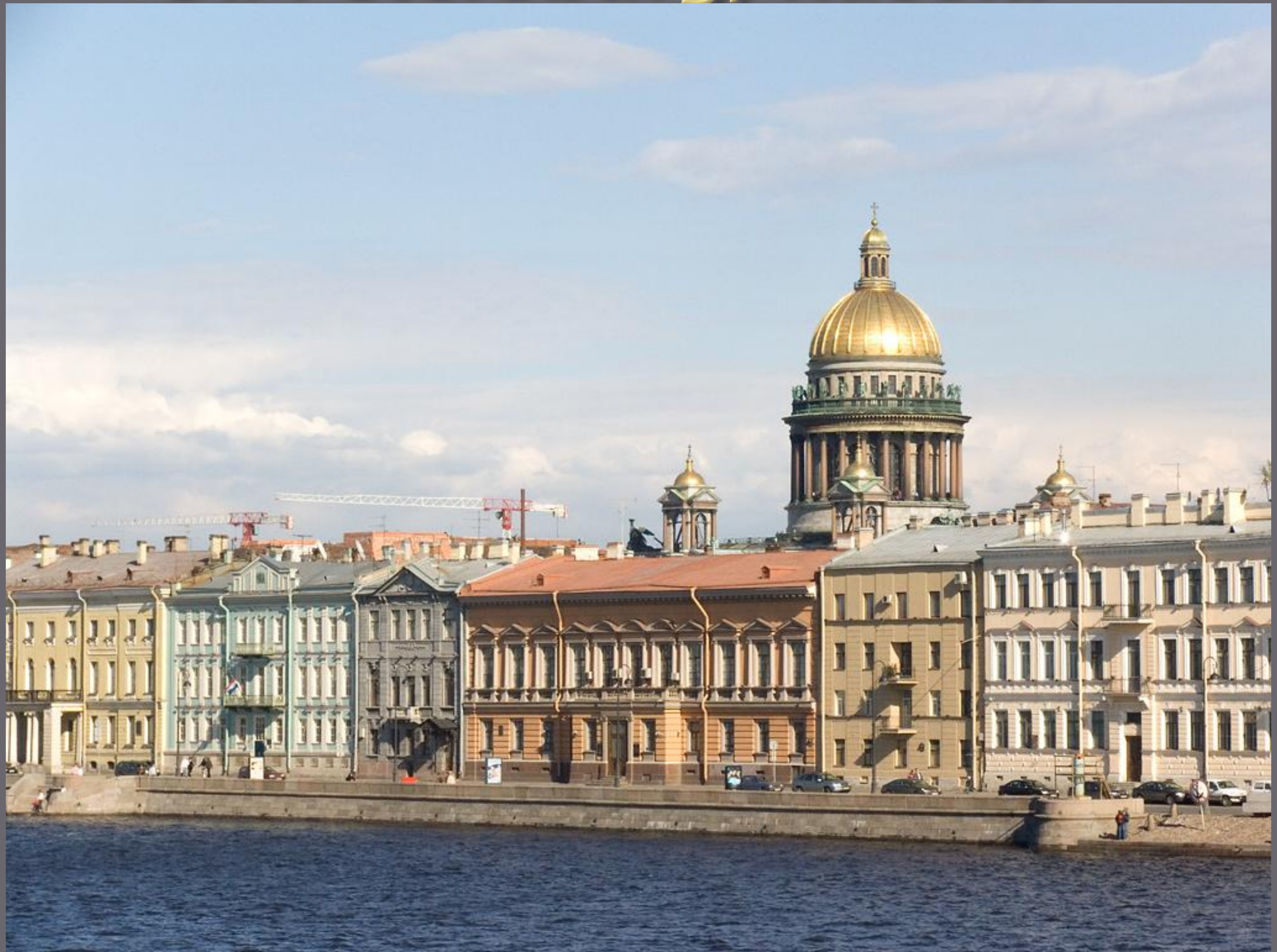
- ▣ Westernizing Russia
 - Introduces potatoes
 - Starts Russia's first newspaper
 - Raises women's status
 - Adopts Western fashion
 - Advances education



Peter Rules Absolutely (continued)

- ▣ Establishing St. Petersburg
 - Peter wants a seaport that will make travel to West easier.
 - Fights Sweden to win port on Baltic Sea
 - In 1703, begins building new capital called St. Petersburg.
 - Building city takes many years, many serfs die in process.
 - By the time of Peter's death, Russia is force to be reckoned with in Europe

“English Embankment,” St. Petersburg, Russia



Palace Square, St. Petersburg



Church of the Savior on Spilt Blood, St. Petersburg, Russia

