How did the idea of 'Citizenship' help to extend Roman power?

- One of the main reasons for Rome's success in building an Empire (that and a powerful army...)
- Roman citizenship given to those that accepted Roman rule
- Extended even to slaves when freed.
Roman citizenship was based upon....

- **Duties**
  - Military Service
  - Taxes
- **Rights**
  - Right to vote (*suffragium*)
  - Right to make contracts (*commercium*)
  - Right to contract a legal marriage (*conubium*)
  - Right to sue
  - Right to stand trial
  - Right not to be subject to torture or scourging.
  - A Roman citizen could not be condemned to death unless found guilty of treason.
How could you acquire Roman Citizenship?

- **Birth**: every child born from a legal marriage of a Roman citizen had citizenship.
- **Manumission**: the act by which a slave was freed; children of former slaves were Roman citizens.
- **Military service**: upon enrollment in the army, or upon honorable discharge.
- **Imperial grants**: the emperors could grant citizenship to individuals or to entire communities.