# A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH REFORMATION

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REIGN	1509-1547	1547-1553*	1553-1558	1558-1603				
MONARCH	HENRY VIII	EDWARD VI	MARY I	ELIZABETH I				
SPOUSE/S	1) CATHERINE OF ARAGON (Spain) married: 1509; gave birth to Mary I; died: 1536.  2) ANNE BOLEYN married: 1533; gave birth to Elizabeth I; died: 1536.  3) JANE SEYMOUR married: 1536; gave birth to Edward VI; died: 1537.  4) ANNE OF CLEVES (Germany) married: 1540; died 1557.	<ul> <li>Delegated authority:</li> <li>Duke of Sommerset (1547-1550)</li> <li>Duke of Northumberland (1550-1553)</li> </ul>	PHILLIP II OF SPAIN					
	<b>5) CATHERINE HOWARD</b> married: 1540; died 1542. <b>6) CATHERINE PARR</b> married: 1543; died 1548.							
STATE RELIGION	From Papal Catholicism  → to Catholicism	From Catholicism → to Protestantism	From Protestantism → to Papal Catholicism	From Papal Catholicism  → to Protestantism				
ALLIES & ADVISORS	<ul> <li>Thomas Cromwell</li> <li>Archbishop Cranmer</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Duke of Sommerset</li> <li>Duke of Northumberland</li> <li>Archbishop Cranmer</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Papacy</li> <li>Spain</li> <li>Cardinal Pole</li> <li>Bishop Gardiner</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Archbishop Parker</li> <li>Bishop Jewel</li> <li>Archbishop Grindal</li> <li>Archbishop Whitgift</li> <li>William Perkins</li> <li>Richard Hooker</li> </ul>				
ENEMIES	<ul> <li>The Papacy</li> <li>Spain</li> <li>France</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Papacy</li> <li>Spain</li> <li>France</li> <li>Mary I</li> <li>Bishop Gardiner</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>France</li> <li>Elizabeth I</li> <li>Hooper, Ridley, ▼         Latimer &amp; Cranmer         (all executed)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Papacy</li> <li>Spain</li> <li>France</li> <li>Mary Queen of Scots</li> <li>The Puritans?</li> </ul>				

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LEGISLATION	• The Submission of the Clergy (1532) • The Act of Supremacy (1534) ▼ • The Dissolution of the Monastries (1536)  (1536)	<ul> <li>The Act of Uniformity (1549)</li> <li>The 42 Articles of Religion (1553)</li> </ul>	• The Act of Uniformity REPEALED (1553) X • The Act of Supremacy REPEALED (1554) X	<ul> <li>The Act of Supremacy REINSTATED (1559)</li> <li>The Act of Uniformity REINSTATED (1559)</li> <li>The 39 Articles of Religion (1563)</li> </ul>	
LITURGY	<ul> <li>The Ten Articles         (1536)</li> <li>The Bishops Book         (1537)</li> <li>The Six Articles         (1539)</li> </ul>	• The First Prayer Book (1549) • The Second Prayer Book (1552) ▼	• The Second Prayer Book REPEALED X	• The Second Prayer Book REINSTATED	
LITERATURE	• The Matthews Bible (1537)	• The First Book of Homilies (1547) ▼  SERMONS OR HOMILIES CHURCHES OF USE IN THE MANY Northern Book of American Northern Book of the Many Northern		<ul> <li>The Genevan Bible (1560)</li> <li>Apology for the Church of England (1561)</li> <li>The Bishops Bible (1568)</li> <li>The Second Book of Homilies (1571)</li> <li>Acts &amp; Monuments (also known as Foxe's Book of Martyrs; 1563)</li> </ul>	

## **HENRY VIII 1509-1547**



**1509** Henry VIII becomes King and marries Catherine of Aragon from Spain.

1521 Thomas Cranmer and other Cambridge students study Luther's writings, while Henry VIII is named "defender of the faith" for his book denouncing Luther.

**1525** Catherine fails to bear Henry VIII a son. Henry sees this as a sign of divine displeasure at his marriage, and he begins an affair with Anne Boleyn (known as "the King's affair").

**1526** Lutheran books burned by Cardinal Wolsey.

**1531** The Lutheran Thomas Bilney is burned at the stake.

1529 The Pope refuses to annul Henry's marriage. Henry declares himself the supreme head of the English church, cuts ties with Rome, and redirects all papal taxes to the crown.

1532 Cranmer made the Archbishop of Canterbury. "Submission of the Clergy" enacted to prohibit any English appeals to the Pope.

**1533** Cranmer annuls Henry's marriage to Catherine. Henry marries the now pregnant Boleyn. 1534 "The Act of Supremacy" enacted to ensure allegiance to Henry VIII as supreme head of the English church. Thomas More, John Fisher and Mary refuse to obey the act.

**1535** Fisher and More beheaded. Mary is spared.

**1536** Henry has Anne Boleyn executed and marries Jane Seymour. Henry has the Lutheran William Tyndale executed for his illegal translation of the Bible into English. Cranmer publishes "The Ten Articles", which reinforce the importance of baptism and the Lord's Supper, yet falling short of denying "transubstantiation". Henry enacts the "Dissolution of the Monastries". Church land, almost a third of all England, is repossessed by the crown and given to lay people.

1537 "The Bishop's Book" is produced as an instructional manual for clergy. Henry finally approves "The Matthews Bible" (ironically based on Tyndale' illegal New Testament translation) to be read by the English people.

**1538** Jane Seymour gives birth to Henry's muchdesired son, Edward, only to die shortly after.

1539 Henry publishes "The Six Articles" reaffirming Catholic doctrine (transubstantiation and clerical celebacy), attacking Lutheranism and bringing to an end any hope for real reform.

Stiff penalties are enforced for any failure to comply. Bishop Latimer resigns.

**1540** Henry marries and divorces Protestant Anne of Cleves from Germany. He marries Katherine Howard instead, and has Cromwell, his chief political advisor, executed for arranging the political marriage with Cleves.

**1543** Henry beheads Howard and marries Katherine Parr.

**1545** Henry denounces Papists, Lutherans, and Anabaptists in his last speech to Parliament

1547 Henry VIII dies.

### EDWARD VI 1547-1553



old son, Edward VI, becomes king under the Protestant tutelage of the Dukes of Somerset and Northumberland. Thomas Cranmer begins to reform the English church, introducing a book of homilies to be read in place of a sermon, which plainly set forth the Protestant doctrine of justification by faith alone in Jesus.

**1548** Cranmer introduces the English Prayer of Humble Access into the Latin mass. Clerical marriage is legalised.

**1549** Parliament passes 'The Act of Uniformity" declaring England a Protestant country. Cranmer introduces the first English Book of Common Prayer to unify services across England, abolishing some unhelpful ceremonies, focusing on the declaration of gospel truths, congregational involvement in the Lord's Supper, and the public reading of Scripture.

**1550** Bibles are given to the newly ordained bishops and priests in place of staffs and communion vessels.

1552 Cranmer revises the Book of Common Prayer to deny the "real presence" of Jesus in the Lord's Supper as well as other "Catholic" practices, e.g. wearing of the vestments, signing of the cross, keeping of reserve sacrament, prayers for the departed, though the "black rubric" permits kneeling.

**1553** Cranmer drafts "The 42 Articles of Religion", outlining the Protestant beliefs of the English church. Edward VI dies at the age of 16.

#### MARY 1 1553-1558



1553 An attempt to place Lady Jane Grey on the throne fails. Henry's first born Catholic daughter, Mary Tudor, becomes queen. All Protestant legislation is repealed and England is returned to Catholicism. In an unpopular decision, Mary marries Philip II of Spain.

1554 Mary repeals Henry's "Act of Supremacy" and England once again comes under the religious authority of Rome. Cardinal Pole returns to England and is appointed Archbishop of Canterbury. Mary appoints new Catholic bishops and begins a campaign of Protestant persecution. Many Protestants flee to Europe. Pole attempts to revive the monasteries, but few monks and nuns actually return.

1555 Mary burns John Rogers, editor of the Matthews Bible, at the stake, as well as dissenting Protestant bishops Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley. John Hooper and John Bradford also are executed.

**1556** Thomas Cranmer recants his Protestant faith, but later retracts his statement, and is burnt at the stake.

**1558** Cardinal Pole and Mary both die within hours of each other.

## **ELIZABETH** 1558-1603



**1558** Henry's Protestant second daughter. Elizabeth I, becomes queen. Despite frequent assassination attempts by Catholics, and bolstered by the return of exiled English Protestants from Europe, Elizabeth begins to steer England back to Protestant reform. Her reforms are known as "the Elizabethan settlement", reformation through the "via media" (or middle way) between Roman Catholicism and radical reform (notably the Puritans).

1559 Elizabeth reinstates both the "Act of Supremacy" and "Act of Uniformity". Elizabeth also appoints the Protestant Matthew Parker as the Archbishop of Canterbury. Parker revises "The Book of Common Prayer", excising the Black Rubric, but reintroducing the vestments.

1560s Puritans seek further reform to the Church of England, demanding better preaching training for ministers, the removal of Catholic ceremonies and vestments, and the replacement of the Episcopal church system of government (i.e. through bishops) with a Presbyterian system (i.e. through elders).

**1560** English exiles publish the "Geneva Bible" (revising Tyndale's New Testament translation), becoming one of the most popular English translations of the era.

**1561** Bishop John Jewel writes "An Apology for the Church of England", defending the Elizabethan settlement against Rome and affirming it amongst European reformers.

1563 "The Thirty-Nine Articles" are drafted as the official doctrinal statement of the Church of England. "The Second Book of Homilies" is published to further defend Protestant doctrines. John Foxe writes "Acts and Monuments" (more commonly known as "Foxe's Book of Martyrs") detailing Christian martyrdom from the 1st century through to the 16th, with particular emphasis on those executed under Mary.

**1568** Archbishop Parker produces the "Bishop's Bible", which is far less popular than the "Geneva Bible".

1569-1587 Puritans unsuccessfully attempt to bring reform to the Church through parliament. Elizabeth (through Archbishop Whitgift) seeks to suppress the Puritan calls for further reform.

**1570** Pope Pius V declares Elizabeth a heretic and illegitimate ruler of England. Many assassination plots follow, though none are successful.

1587 Elizabeth
has Mary Queen of
Scots executed for her
connection with an
assassination plot and
plan to claim the throne
of England.

**1588** Phillip II of Spain's attempt to invade England is thwarted after his armada of ships is destroyed in storm and battle.

**1593** Puritan assemblies and activities are outlawed.

**1603** Elizabeth I dies and is succeeded by James I.