

# Passion, Politics, and Protest: The English Reformation – Henry VIII (1509-1547)

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## ■ Spanish Alliance

### – Catherine of Aragon

- Marriage to Arthur in 1501 (Arthur died a few months later, in 1502)
- Henry denounced potential marriage – relying on scripture

### – Papal Dispensation – 1509

- Man must not marry his brother's widow
- Childless marriage

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- Henry and protests for religious change
  - “Defender of the Faith”
  - Influence of Luther and Zwingli spreading to England
    - Lutherism at Cambridge
    - Lollardy growing
    - Persecution by Crown

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- The King's Great Matter (1527-39)
  - Male Heir vs. Female Heir (Catherine is 40 in 1525)
    - Matilda – reign plagued by civil war
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> generation
    - His own personal beliefs?
  - Appeal to Rome (Cardinal Wolsey) 1527-29)
  - Debate in European Universities (1529)
    - Canon law – Pope could set aside
    - God's law – irrefutable

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- The Political Reformation: The Reformation Parliament (1529-1536)
  - 1530 – English clergy recognizes Henry as the Supreme Head of the Church OF England, “as far as the law of Christ allows”
  - 1533 – English Ecclesiastical Court grants Henry’s annulment (marriage to Anne Boleyn – Elizabeth born September 1533
  - 1534 Act of Supremacy – Parliament declared Henry the Supreme Head of the Church of England.

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- The Spiritual Reformation:
  - The Six Articles (1539): Act abolished diversity of opinion
    - Oral confession
    - Transubstantiation
    - Communion in one kind only
    - Clerical celibacy
    - Vows of chastity for laity – lay brothers, ex nuns
    - Prayers for the dead
  - No change in Creed
  - English replaced Latin
  - 1535 Coverdale's English translation of Bible in Churches in England
  - Relics and shrines discredited and destroyed (occasionally)
  - Church still fully Catholic in belief -- King Replaces Pope

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- 1535-1539 – Dissolution of the Monasteries
- Reactions to this stage of Reformation
  - Pilgrimage of Grace (1536)
    - Yorkshire –
    - Economic demands – even though related to commission studies on parish churches
    - Collapsed on its own, but Duke of Norfolk exacted severe revenge

# Passion, Politics, and Protest: The English Reformation – Edward VI (1547-53)

- Ruled by Regents (Duke of Somerset, Duke of Northumberland, and Archbishop Cranmer)
  - Edward ascends the throne at the age of 9
  - Note that Henry appoints “regents” who lean to protest
- Dominated by religious changes – Protestant reaction that Henry’s changes didn’t go far enough



# Passion, Politics, and Protest: The English Reformation – Edward VI (1547-53)

- 1549 First Book of Common Prayer – with Act of Uniformity
  - Essentially a combination of prior ceremonial majesty with simplified communion service in English
  - In direct line of catholic worship, a “reform” rather than an innovation
  - Six Articles Repealed
  - Result – Resentment from Catholics and Protestants

# Passion, Politics, and Protest: The English Reformation – Edward VI (1547-53)

- 1552 Second Act of Uniformity and 2<sup>nd</sup> Book of Common Prayer
  - Transubstantiation repudiated in Holy Communion
  - Clergy allowed to marry
  - Holy Communion made essentially an act of remembrance – Black Rubric
  - Oral Confession ended
  
- 42 Articles ( Thomas Cranmer)
  - Doctrinal platform for via media
    - Reflects protestant justification by faith (Lutheran) and
    - Calvinistic influence (interpretation of sacraments)
    - but then, abruptly, young king dies
  
- Political turmoil regarding succession
  - Lady Jane Grey v. Mary Tudor