

Passion, Politics, and Protest: The English Reformation

- European Backdrop
 - The weakening of the Papacy
 - The Babylonish Captivity – Popes in France
 - The Great Schism – ended in 1417
 - The growth of nationalism
 - Increased access to the Word of God
 - Vernacular
 - Impact on monopoly on God
 - Corruption of the Church
 - Sale of indulgences
 - Martin Luther – 1517 – German Princes
 - Protests against the corruptioni
 - Growth of Humanism
 - Sir Thomas More, Erasmus
 - Scholarship – study of the bible, and reform through classical scholarship

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- England on the Eve of the Reformation
 - Political upheaval
 - Wars of the Roses
 - Economic strife
 - Henry VII (1485-1509)
 - Peace

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- The Catholic Church in England on the Eve of the Reformation
 - Anti-Papal Sentiment
 - Babylonish captivity – money to France
 - Appointment of Italians to church positions in England
 - System of Appeals to Rome – delayed justice

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- Church reform movements
 - John Wycliffe (1328-84) and the Lollards
 - English translation of the Bible
 - Against Ecclesiastical ownership of land
 - Bible as sole source of authority
 - Questioned transubstantiation

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- Church in Society
 - Church holds central position in society
 - No choice
 - Recognition that Church had right to control life in this world
 - Right to levy tax
 - Fine or punish if broke Church law
 - Church obligated to society as well
 - Education
 - Poor-relief
 - Nursing of the Sick
 - Chief recreation – through processions, plays, spectacles, fairs, markets
 - Parish Clergy – usually of peasant stock
 - Known and loved – an integral part of village society