

Religious Zeal

1. Introduction
 - a. The vagueness of English religious direction under Henry VIII in 1530s and 1540s, followed by
 - i. 6 years of strong Protestantism under Edward VI
 - ii. 5 years of strong Catholicism under Mary,
 - iii. return to being markedly Protestant, at least in doctrine, early in Elizabeth's reign
 - iv. Why the clear demarcation?
 - b. Lead reason: the role of the martyrs burnt for heresy under Mary
 - i. martyrs past and future
 - ii. Other reasons: religious organization, government, and economy under Edward and Mary
 - iii. The role of one book, Foxe's "Book of Martyrs" in creating a pro-Protestant, or at least anti-Catholic climate that was decidedly English.
2. Reign of Edward VI: religion
 - a. Edward only 9, rule by Edward Seymour, brother of Jane Seymour, soon created Duke of Somerset, called Lord Protector.
 - i. Somerset strongly Protestant.
 - ii. to improve popularity, repeals: Treason Act, Act of Six Articles, and other legislation of religious oppression
 - (1) result: radicalization of Protestantism in England
 - b. Government instituted religious change
 - i. Chantries (chapels, masses for the dead) dissolved as superstitious
 - (1) result: end of purgatory
 - ii. Universities colonized by religious radicals
 - (1) result: training a Protestant ministry
 - iii. Renewed emphasis on the word of God/the Bible: services to be in English
 - (1) result: word versus images affects the countryside
 - iv. 1549, first Book of Common Prayer
 - (1) result: common service in English
 - v. 1552, Act of Uniformity penalizes not going to state Church
3. Reign of Edward VI: government
 - a. Government of Somerset increasingly unpopular, though both because of factors within and outside its control
 - i. Outside the Protectorate's control was the Mid-Tudor Crisis: a period of price rises and unemployment
 - ii. Within the Protectorate's control was its (lack of) skill and vision
 - b. Reaction against Protectorate exacerbated by unpopularity of religious changes and economic crisis
 - i. Rebels in Cornwall and Devon , 1549
 - ii. Rebels in Norfolk, Kett's Rebellion 1549
 - c. Last years of Edward's reign and Northumberland's rule
 - i. Northumberland just as rapacious as Somerset
 - ii. Edward begins to assume more control; interested in furthering his Reformation
 - iii. Northumberland living on borrowed time, as, by 1552 Edward VI clearly ill
4. Mary and the royal line
 - a. the problem: 1553, 36, single
 - b. the solution: marriage—inside or outside the realm?

- i. 1554, Philip II of Spain
 - ii. July 1555, illusory pregnancy (dropsy?)
 - iii. August 1555, Philip leaves England
 - c. developing sense of religious mission
 - i. example of portrait
- 5. Catholicism reaffirmed
 - a. 20 November 1554, Cardinal Reginald Pole (descendant of brother of Richard III, and Tudor line) lands at Dover as papal Legate
 - i. by end of month, England ceremoniously reconciled to the Pope
 - b. Plan for reconciliation with Rome realistic? Problems:
 - i. absence of overarching plan
 - (1) strongest Protestants allowed to leave country
 - (2) no developed popular program of proselytizing
 - c. turn from the carrot to the stick, by 1555 moving to policy of trying and burning heretics
 - i. Some councillors opposed to burning heretics
 - ii. Policy begins Summer 1555
 - (1) some 286 "Marian martyrs"
 - (2) some famous clergy
- 6. Foxe and the Protestant Victory
 - a. born 1517, exiled 1554. Begins annals of those braver than him.
 - b. "Book of Martyrs"
 - i. Latin 1559 (just a list)
 - ii. English (much expanded) *Acts & Monuments* 1563, 1570, 1576, 1583
 - iii. 1570 ordered put in every Cathedral next to the Bible and many parishes followed
 - c. intention?, meaning?
 - i. (see full title, see woodcuts)
 - d. Significance?
 - i. importance of printing in spread of Reformation
 - ii. importance of millenarian vision
 - (1) Fox convinced Pope is Antichrist prophesied in Revelations
 - iii. importance of England as an "Elect Nation"
 - (1) England's history and religious struggles within of the highest importance