



Presbyterians and Puritans in England during the Reigns of Elizabeth and James I

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Henry VIII

Luther d. 1546, Calvin d. 1564, Zwingli d. 1531

Henry VIII 1509-1547

“Supreme Head of the Church of England” 1534

Wm. Tyndale’s English Bible 1525

Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop 1533-1555

Thomas Cromwell (chief of state) 1532-1540

The Great Bible 1539

Edward VI 1547-1553 (died age 16 years, 8 months)

Act of Uniformity, Book of Common Prayer 1549

39 Articles 1551



Thomas Cranmer





King Edward VI



Mary 1553-1558 (Re-Catholicizing)

Elizabeth 1558-1603

Geneva Bible 1560, 1599

Foxe's Book of Martyrs 1563-1571

Spanish Armada 1588

Act of Uniformity 1559

Elizabethan Settlement of the Church

Puritan Opposition

James I 1603-1625

King James Bible 1611



Queen Elizabeth

Prayerbook 1552: “Black rubric”: It explained that kneeling was an expression of "humble and grateful acknowledging of the benefits of Christ, given unto the worthy receiver" and did not imply any adoration of the bread and wine or of the real and essential presence of Christ's natural flesh and blood.

In the Prayerbook of 1659, the “black rubric” is omitted.

After strong Puritan objection, the “black rubric” is restored in the 1662 Prayerbook, but with new wording about the “real presence”: Christ's Presence is real and essential, but not in the flesh as in his "natural body"



King James I