

The Tudors and Stuarts and religious change 1485-1688

Task 1: Put the rulers in chronological order in the left hand column

Task 2: Match the ruler and the description in the bottom table

Task 3: In what ways did the situation over religion change over the period as a whole (see bottom of sheet)

Edward VI	Charles II	Lady Jane Grey	James I
Elizabeth I	Mary	Henry VIII	Charles I
James II	Civ. war/interregnum	Henry VII	William and Mary

Ruler	Religious situation/change/event

All of England was Catholic. The king enjoyed good relations with the pope.	The king declares himself head of the Church in England.
The advisors of the young king continue the moves to enforcing Protestantism in England.	The queen attempts to force the country back to Catholicism. Hundreds of protestants executed.
The king tries to move back to Catholicism but this is unpopular and leads to his fall from power and exile.	The Church of England is in crisis, Puritans gain the upper hand and sectarianism flourishes.
Only in power for 9 days before she was deposed and executed. Her advisors wanted to ensure the continuing dominance of the Protestant cause.	The restored king was sympathetic to Catholicism but did not feel confident enough to force through a change back to the Catholic religion.
Rumoured to have Catholic sympathies (wife Catholic); provoked war with Scotland partly over religious issues	Came over from Holland to take over the throne and protect and uphold the protestant religion in England.
Came from Scotland, imposed the laws against Catholics and Puritans.	Supported the Protestant cause; attempted to steer between extreme views to consolidate here position as monarch.

In what ways did the situation over religion change over the period as a whole?

Between 1485 and 1688 did England become more Catholic or more Protestant as a nation? See religion file for a suggested answer Was religious persecution more severe in the first or second half of the period? See persecution file for a suggested answer

To think about: a) Why is there more trouble/bad feeling between Catholics and Protestants in Scotland and Ireland in present day times, than in England and Wales?
 b) Was the religion of the country determined by the ruler or his/her people- what causes religious change? Think about the comparative importance of factors such as the example of the clergy, the power of preaching, printed propaganda, word of mouth, coercion, the law, inducements (eg. land sales), social pressure, events abroad.