

# GCSE History Spring term 'Knowledge Organiser: Religious Settlement in Elizabethan England.



## Summary:

Although Elizabeth I was Protestant, she wanted to heal the divisions in England between Catholics and Protestants and to make sure people were loyal to her. Her religious settlement made England a Protestant country but it accepted to beliefs of the Catholics. So long as people appeared to conform they were not persecuted. Most people accepted the religious settlement, although northern parts of the country stayed very Catholic.

## Key terms.

Catholics	Headed by the Pope, services were all in Latin and the Churches decorated. Clergy do not marry. The Church forgives sins. Opposed the Protestant services, most bishops refused to convert.
Protestants	Church headed by the monarch, services in English. There were less decorations, clergy could marry. Only God can forgive sins.
Puritans	Extreme form of Protestant – no head of the Church, no decorations. People to live according to the Bible. Challenged the Religious Settlement – crucifixes and vestments.

## The Religious Settlement: Terms.

Acts of Supremacy	Establishes Elizabeth as Supreme Governor of the Church. All clergy to swear an oath of loyalty to Elizabeth. Ecclesiastical High Commission established to maintain discipline.
Acts of Uniformity. (appearance and services)	Book of Common Prayer used in all churches. Everyone to go to church on Sunday and holy days. Failure to attend meant fines for every absence. Wording in the service deliberately open to interpretation for Catholics and Protestants.
Royal Injunctions. (Instructions on the Religious Settlement.)	Those failing to attend church reported to the Privy Council. Each parish to have a copy of the Bible in English. Licences issued to allow you to preach. Clergy to wear special clothing. Fake miracles banned – some might be real. More detailed instructions on what churches should look like.

## Key Words.

Clergy	Religious leaders such as the priests and bishops
Divine Right	The belief that the monarch's right to rule came from God
Ecclesiastic	Something to do with the Church
Excommunication	A severe punishment, imposed by the Pope, where a person is expelled from the Catholic Church.
Heretics	People whose beliefs do not match the Catholic Church.
Martyr	Someone who is killed for their beliefs, usually religious.
Mass	Roman Catholic service in which bread and wine is given.
Papacy	The system of Church government ruled by the Pope.
Pilgrimage	A journey to an important religious place.
Recusants	Catholics who were unwilling to go to Protestant Church services
Reformation	The movement that began in the 16 <sup>th</sup> century to challenge the teachings of the Catholic Church. In England it resulted in Henry VIII breaking away from the Catholic Church to establish the Church of England.
Royal Supremacy	When the monarch is head of the Church.
Saint	Someone who has lived an exceptionally holy life and is rewarded by the Pope.
Spanish Inquisition	Political and religious body set up by Spain to keep the areas ruled by Spain under control. They had the power to torture or burn people alive in a public execution.
Succession	Question of who would rule after the existing monarch has died.
Vestments	Clothing worn by the priests.

## Timeline:

1558	Elizabeth is crowned Queen of England after Mary I's death.
1559	Elizabeth introduces her Religious Settlement.
1566	Pope said Catholics were not to attend Protestant Services. Start of the Dutch Revolt.
1567	Spanish forces sent to the Netherlands – Spanish Inquisition. Elizabeth helped the Dutch Protestants.
1568	Dutch revolt crushed by Spanish forces, Spanish troops stayed. Mary, Queen of Scots, flees to England from Scotland.
1569	Revolt of the Northern Earls.
1570	Pope Pius V excommunicates Elizabeth from the Catholic Church.
1585	All Catholic priests ordered to leave England.

**Concept: Cause and Consequence**