

Henry VIII and the English Reformation

Directions: Read the documents and answer the corresponding questions. Remember to restate and use complete sentences.

Document #1

The Act in Restraint of Appeals Made by English Parliament 1533

England is an empire governed by one supreme King who has the power of an imperial crown. Through his government the King has the following of people who owe him humble obedience second only to their obedience to God. Just as importantly, the King is given his power, importance, authority, and the right to render justice within his realm by Almighty God himself.

From now on when any cause of the divine law happens to come in question or of spiritual learning, it will be interpreted by the English Church, without the intermeddling of any exterior person or persons, such as the Pope.

The King of this realm may also make laws for the conservation of the rights and liberties of the imperial crown of this realm. This will keep us safe from the annoyance and attacks from Rome and any other foreign ruler attempting to weaken or destroy this realm.

This includes laws that have been created because of disagreements with Rome about matrimony and divorces, required payments and gifts to the Church. These cause great trouble and costs of the King's Highness and the English people. This must all happen because the great distance and difference between England and Rome makes it impossible for Rome to know the true cause of an English problem and therefore cannot help solve the problem.

1. According to this document, who is the only person who has the power to make laws in England?

Document #2

The First Act of Succession 1534

This present Parliament, your most humble and obedient subjects, believe ourselves bound to provide for the perfect security of both you, and your heirs, upon which depends all the joy and wealth of this realm

This Parliament abhors and detests the Roman Church's involvement in the lives and rule of emperors, kings and princes out of their own self-interest when doing so is against the powers given to those rulers by God.

In consideration of this, Parliament declares your highness' marriage to the Lady Katherine to be void because it goes against the laws of Almighty God. Now the marriage between you and your beloved wife Queen Anne, shall be established, and taken for true, sincere, and perfect ever hereafter. And by law now all children between your highness and your beloved wife Queen Anne, be inheritable, and inherit, the imperial crown.

Any person who does anything to hurt your royalty, or your marriage with Queen Anne shall be judged high traitors and shall suffer pains of death.

To ensure the success of this Act, people shall swear an oath to truly, firmly, and constantly observe, fulfill, maintain, and defend this Act.

And any person who refuses to take the Oath shall be considered guilty of high treason; and shall suffer such pains and imprisonment, losses and forfeitures, and also lose privileges of sanctuaries, in like manner and form as is above mentioned for the misprisions of treasons afore limited by this Act.

2. According to this act, what does Parliament grant to Henry VIII of England?

3. According to this act, list two punishments for individuals who refuse to observed the law.

Document #3

Henry VIII's Act of Supremacy (1534)

The King's Majesty justly and rightfully is and ought to be the supreme head of the Church of England, and so is recognized by the clergy of this realm. By the authority of this Parliament, the king, his heirs and successors, shall be taken, accepted, and reputed the only supreme head in earth of the Church of England, called Anglicans Ecclesia.

4. According to this document, what power does the King of England now have?

Document #4

The Pope Suppressed by King Henry VIII, 1534



5. According to this painting, who has supreme power in England?

Document #5

Account of the executions of John Fisher and Thomas More written by the Tudor chronicler Edward Hall 1535

This year three monks were condemned of high treason against the king, and sentenced to be drawn, hanged, disemboweled, beheaded and quartered. John Fisher, bishop of Rochester, was also condemned for treason against the king. The jury ruled he should be hanged, cut down alive, his bowels taken out of his body and burnt before him, his head cut off, and his body be divided into four parts and his head and body be set in such places as the king should assign. The effect of the treason was denying the king to be Supreme Head of the Church of England, according to a statute, The Act of Supremacy, made in the last session of Parliament.

This year also, Sir Thomas More, sometime chancellor of England, was arraigned for high treason and condemned. He was beheaded and his head was set on London Bridge. The effect of his death was for the same cause that the bishop of Rochester died for.

6. According to this document, why was John Fisher and Sir Thomas More executed?

Document #6



7. According to this document, list two other Christian faiths followed in Europe other than Roman Catholicism.
