

12—The English Reformation

“The Story of the Church”

Pastor Mike Cooke

1. The Church of England

- A. King Henry VIII separates from Catherine of Aragon (no children)
 - 1) 1525 has an affair with Anne Boleyn, divorce is not allowed
 - 2) 1532 appoints Thomas Cranmer Archbishop of Canterbury
 - 3) 1533 Cranmer nullifies his marriage, Anne Boleyn becomes Queen
- B. 1534 Act of Supremacy declares Henry VIII head of the Church
 - 1) Separated from control of the Catholic Church
 - 2) Worship and doctrine stayed the same
 - 3) Takes control of 2,000 monasteries for England
- C. 1537 King Edward VI adopts Reformed theology and practice
 - 1) Cranmer writes the Book of Common Prayer
- D. 1554 Queen Mary I Tudor “Bloody Mary” opposes the Reformation
 - 1) Viciously burns 280 Protestants at the stake
 - 2) Tries to reestablish Catholic ties, has opposite effect
- E. 1558 Queen Elizabeth I finds a middle ground
 - 1) Act of Uniformity adopts a more inclusive Book of Common Prayer
 - 2) The 39 Articles—Calvinist doctrine, Catholic structure
 - 3) 1570 She is excommunicated by Pope Pius V
 - 4) 1588 the Spanish Armada fails to overthrow Church of England

2. Puritanism

- A. Sought to “purify” the Church of England of anything Catholic
 - 1) Replace the Bishops with Presbyters “No Bishop, No King”
- B. Four things the Puritans were opposed to:
 - 1) Priesthood—denied the priesthood of the believer
 - 2) Kneeling at communion—implied worship of the elements
 - 3) Rings in marriage—made marriage a “sacrament”
 - 4) Sign of the Cross—profoundly mystical and superstitious
- C. Hoped James I would be more Puritan, but he was not
 - 1) Played a lot of sports on Sundays
 - 2) Commissioned the King James Bible
- D. 1612 King Charles I was even more anti-puritan than his father
 - 1) High Church Arminianism vs. Low Church Calvinism
 - 2) Strongly enforced unity in the Church of England
 - 3) Backlash made Puritanism even more popular
 - a) Puritans, dissenters and nonconformists go underground
 - b) 1620 Pilgrims flee to Netherlands and the New World

3. The King James Bible (1611)

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- A. 1567 King James I was originally the King of Scotland (Prebyterian)
 - 1) 1603 he become king of all Scotland, England and Ireland
 - 2) Only bibles used were Geneva (Reformed) of Bishop's Bible
- B. 1604 a new translation was commissioned to unify the church
 - 1) Help James (only spoke Scottish) to have English legitimacy
 - 2) Make one Authorized Bible to sort out the differences
 - 3) Committees at Cambridge, Oxford and Westminster
 - 4) They used the third edition of Erasmus' version
 - a) It was based on later Byzantine texts, not Alexandrian
 - b) Jerome had original language manuscripts, but were lost
 - c) The called it the "Textus Receptus" (received text)
- C. 1611 it was published as the "Authorized" or "King James" version
- D. 1620 Pilgrims brought 1 Geneva Bible and 2 KJV on the Mayflower
- E. After 1640, Geneva Bible was suppressed and KJV became standard

4. Goals of the King James Bible:

- A. All High Church terms to be retained (Bishop, Church)
- B. Written to be read aloud (no one could read silently in 1611)
- C. Written to be understood by farmers and women
- D. Keep the words short and easy to memorize—it only becomes sacred once it is memorized
 - 1) "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want"
 - 2) "She gave me of the tree and I did eat"
- E. "Thee" and "thou" were for dramatic and poetic purpose
 - 1) It was archaic when it was published (they were all old)
 - 2) In common English there were two forms of "you"
 - a) Higher form—"You" (parent, employer, elder)
 - b) Lower form—"Thou" (child, loved one)
 - 3) "Blessed are ye when men shall revile you"
 - 4) "Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name"