

# Stuart Absolutism and the English Civil War



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## ENGLAND AND THE EMERGENCE OF LIMITED MONARCHY

- 17<sup>th</sup> century England
  1. Resistance to absolute monarchy
  2. Struggle between king and parliament
  3. Political struggle complicated by religious struggle

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## KING JAMES I AND PARLIAMENT

- 1603 Queen Elizabeth dies/ no heirs/ end of the Tudors
- 1603-1625 King James of Scotland becomes King James I of England -> the first Stuart monarch
  1. believed in divine right monarchy
  2. angered/ alienated parliament
  3. parl refused to grant king more \$
  4. puritans -> battle over bishops



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## The Stuarts

Kings of England & Scotland  
(1603-1688)

### STUART ABSOLUTISM

James I   Charles I



J I   C I



CROMWELL

INTERREGNUM

### RESTORATION

Charles II   James II



C II   J II

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## Central Issues

1. Enforcement of State Religion
2. King's Power to Tax
3. WHO is Sovereign?

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James I & James VI  
of Scotland

# STUART ABSOLUTISM




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**James I** & James VI of Scotland

# DIVINE RIGHT



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**"The Divine Right Of Kings"**  
by Edgar Allen Poe

The only king by right divine  
Is Ellen King, and were she mine  
I'd strive for liberty no more,  
But hug the glorious chains I wore.

Her bosom is an ivory throne,  
Where tyrant virtue reigns alone ;  
No subject vice dare interfere,  
To check the power that governs here.

O! would she deign to rule my fate,  
I'd worship Kings and kingly state,  
And hold this maxim all life long,  
The King — my King —  
can do no wrong.


-The End-

*Graham's Magazine,*  
October 1845

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**Jamestown Colony**

First Permanent English Settlement in N.America  
(1607)



9

**Jamestown Colony**

Virginia Company  
*Private Investment*



10



11

**The Gunpowder Plot**

**11/5** "Guy Fawkes Day"

Anti-Catholic Holiday

12

**STATE  
RELIGION  
CHURCH OF  
ENGLAND**



13



14

**RELIGIOUS  
UNIFORMITY**

Everyone in England  
must belong to the  
Church of England.




15

**The King James Bible  
(1611)**

**“Authorized”  
Version**

*People must read  
the King’s Bible.*




16

**English Calvinists**

Puritans and Separatists




CoE “Too Catholic”

One Doctrine  
Two Approaches



18

**English Protestants**

ANGLICANS	CALVINISTS	
Church of England	Puritans	Separatists
<b>SATISFIED</b>	<b>PURIFY</b>	<b>SEPARATE</b>
		

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# Charles I

## MORE ABSOLUTISM



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### CHARLES I AND THE MOVE TOWARD REVOLUTION

- 1625-1649 King Charles I
- 1628 The Petition of Right -> places limits on royal power/ no taxes without parl consent
- 1629-1640 going it alone/refuses to summon Parliament
- Religious suspicions of Charles
  1. suspected of being a closet catholic
  2. Archbishop Laud -> adds more ritual to church -> puritans say popery
  3. Charles and Laud try to impose the Anglican prayer book on Scots
- 1640 The Scots revolt against Charles
- 1640-1660 -> "the Long Parliament" -> Charles is forced to call a session of Parliament to ask for money to put down Scottish revolt
  1. Parliament votes to put severe restrictions on king's power
  2. no taxes w/ out parl consent
  3. the Triennial Act = parl. must meet at least once every three years
  4. rad parliamentarians/puritans want to vote to abolish bishops

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# Charles I Coin



23



24

# Ship Money

Charles used a tax that already existed for coastal cities and applied it to everyone.



25

# Petition of Right (1628)



A declaration of rights passed by Parliament in response to Charles' abuses of power

26

# 1640

Short Parliament  
Long Parliament



27

# The Civil War (1642-1649)



28

## English Civil War 1642-1651




**CAVALIERS**  
Supporters of the King

**ROUNDHEADS**  
Supporters of Long Parliament


29


### Civil War (1642-1649)



**Royalists (Cavaliers)**

- a House of Lords
- a N & W England
- a Aristocracy
- a Large landowners
- a Church officials
- a More rural





**Parliamentarians (Roundheads)**

- + House of Commons
- + S & E England
- + Puritans
- + Merchants
- + Townspeople
- + More urban

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### Playskool Version of the English Civil War




Cavaliers



Roundheads

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### Allegiance of Members of the Long Parliament (1640-1660)



● Royalist  
● Parliamentarian  
○ Divided  
○ Parliamentarian  
○ Unknown

32

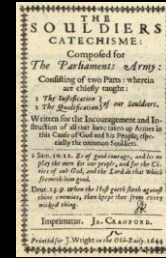
### Oliver Cromwell [1599-1658]

- † Officer of the Parliamentary army [cavalry] → the **New Model Army**.
- † Led the army that defeated royal forces and now controlled the government.
- † *He wore...a plain cloth-suit, which seemed to have been made by a poor tailor; his shirt was plain, and not very clean; and I remember a speck or two of blood upon his collar...his face was swollen and red, his voice sharp and untunable, and his speech full of passion.* [Sir Philip Warwick, a Royalist, 1640]



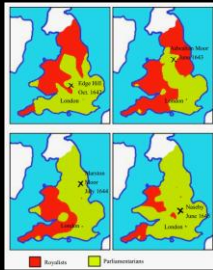
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### New Model Army Soldier's Catechism



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### The English Civil War: 1642-1645



35

### The Battle of Naseby [re-enactment], 1645



- a Charles I is defeated at Marston Moor, Naseby, and Preston.
- a He is handed over to Parliament.

36

### Pride's Purge, 1648



- † Cromwell purges the House of Commons of moderates [anyone who isn't anti-monarchy].
- † The results is the "Rump" Parliament.

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## English Civil War

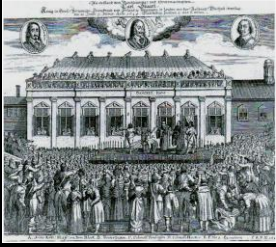
### 1649

- Charles I beheaded
- END of Stuart Absolutism



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Regicide → Beheading of Charles I, 1649



† The vote by the Rump Parliament was 68-67.

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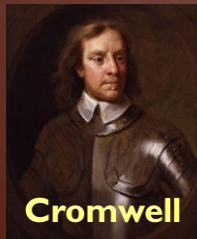
## INTERREGNUM 1649-1660

"Between Kings"

**Oliver Cromwell**

"Lord Protector"

*Military Dictatorship*  
*Strict Puritanical Rule*

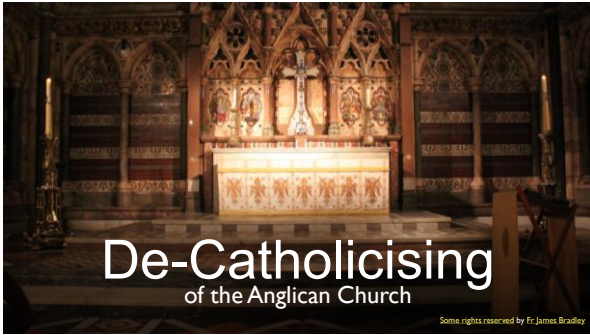


**Cromwell**

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45



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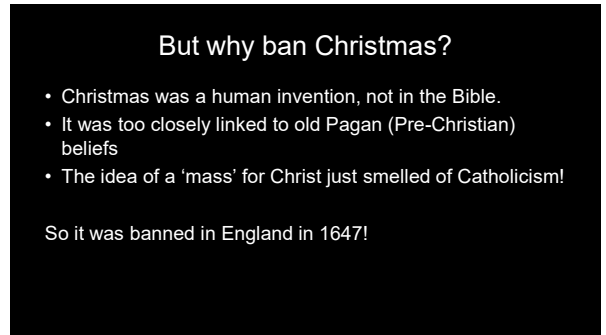
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50



51



52



53



54



55



56

and

Cockfighting



57

and

Horse-r



58

and

Wrestling



59

and

Ale-houses  
(Pubs)



60

and

Theat



61

And even...



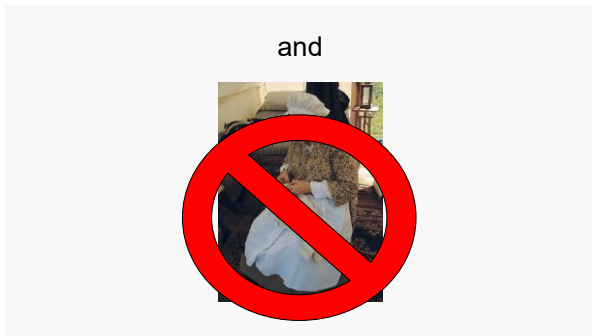
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63



64



65

And above all...not going to....



66

It's not as if Puritan churches were comfortable....



67

And the punishments?

- Usually fines



68

But often...



69

But often...



70

But often...



71

or



72

or



73

or



74

Or even



75



76

So....enjoy your Christmas holiday...



For their sakes!

77

Puritans  
Control  
Parliament



78

The "Interregnum" Period [1649-1660]



- † The Commonwealth (1649-1653)
- † The Protectorate (1654-1660)

79

The Coat of Arms & the Flag  
of the Commonwealth



80

### The Puritan Commonwealth [1649-1653]



- † Cromwell rules with the Rump Parliament.
- † Constitutional Republic
  - Created a constitution → *Instrument of Government*
  - An executive [Cromwell]
  - A Council of State → annually elected the committee of Parliament.
  - No monarch.
- † Europe is appalled → other nations don't recognize it.

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### Rebels within a Rebellion: Levellers


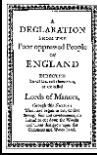



- † John Lilburne was their leader.
- † One of the first libertarians in the world.
- † *The Agreement of the People* was their political manifesto.
  - Abolish corruption within the Parliament & judicial process.
  - Toleration of religious differences.
  - Laws written in the vernacular.
  - Universal suffrage as a "natural right."

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### Rebels within a Rebellion: Diggers

- † Agrarian "communists" led by Gerrard Winstanley and William Everard → seen as the "true Levellers."
- † With Charles I gone, they felt that land should now be distributed to the poor.
- † Food prices had reached record highs in the 1640s.
- † They alarmed the Commonwealth government and angered the local landowners who wanted to claim confiscated aristocratic lands for themselves.

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### Cromwell Dissolves the "Rump" Parliament in 1653




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### The Protectorate [1653-1660]

- † Cromwell tears up the ineffective Constitution.
- † Dismisses the Rump Parliament and rules with the support of the military.
  - Declares martial law.
  - Military dictator.
- † Religious tolerance for all [esp. for Jews], except for Catholics.
- † Crushes a rebellion in Scotland.
- † Crushes a rebellion among the Catholics of Ireland → kills 40% of all ethnic Irish!



85



Ulster Plantation Established Under King James I

86



### King Charles II [r. 1660-1685]

- a 1661 → **"Cavalier" Parliament** [filled with Royalists]
  - Disbanded the Puritan army.
  - Pardoned most Puritan rebels.
  - Restored the authority of the Church of England.
- a 1662 → **Clarendon Code [Act of Uniformity]**
  - All clergy & church officials had to conform to the *Anglican Book of Common Prayer*.
  - It forbade "non-conformists" to worship publicly, teach their faith, or attend English universities.

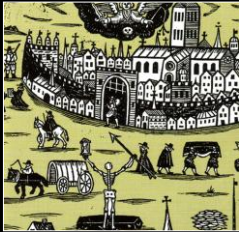
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"I, N, do declare that I do believe that there is not any transubstantiation in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, or in the elements of the bread and wine, at or after the consecration thereof by any person whatsoever."



94

### Great London Plague, 1665



### Great London Fire, 1666



95



96

### King Charles II [r. 1660-1685]

- a 1673 → **Test Act**
  - Parliament excluded all but Anglicans from civilian and military positions. [to the Anglican gentry, the Puritans were considered "radicals" and the Catholics were seen as "traitors!"]
- a 1679 → **Habeas Corpus Act**
  - Any unjustly imprisoned persons could obtain a writ of *habeas corpus* compelling the govt. to explain why he had lost his liberty.

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### Charles II's Foreign Policy

1665 - 1667: Second Anglo-Dutch War



- a To Charles II, Louis XIV is an ideal ally against the Dutch.

- a 1670 → **Treaty of Dover**

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### King James II [r. 1685-1688]



- a Was a bigoted convert to Catholicism without any of Charles II's shrewdness or ability to compromise.
- a Alienated even the Tories.
- a Provoked the revolution that Charles II had succeeded in avoiding!

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### King James II [r. 1685-1688]

- a Introduced Catholics into the High Command of both the army and navy.
- a Camped a standing army a few miles outside of London.
- a Surrounded himself with Catholic advisors & attacked Anglican control of the universities.
- a Claimed the power to suspend or dispense with Acts of Parliament.
- a 1687 → **Declaration of Liberty of Conscience**
  - He extended religious toleration without Parliament's approval or support.



100

### King James II [r. 1685-1688]



Parliament does not revolt because James was old and his daughters Mary and Anne were Protestants -> but in 1688 his wife gives birth to a son -> fear of a Catholic hereditary monarchy

In late 1688 Parliament invites the protestant Dutch leader William of Orange and his wife Mary to invade England

- 1688 King James II flees to France

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**The  
Glorious  
Revolution  
1688**

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### The "Glorious" Revolution: 1688

- a Whig & Tory leaders offered the throne jointly to James II's daughter Mary [raised a Protestant] & her husband, William of Orange.
  - He was a vigorous enemy of Louis XIV.
  - He was seen as a champion of the Protestant cause.



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**English  
Constitutional  
Monarchy**

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## ENGLISH BILL OF RIGHTS

1689

William and Mary signed the English Bill of Rights, agreeing to a limitation of their powers and acknowledging the lawmaking authority of Parliament.



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## English Bill of Rights [1689]



- a It settled all of the major issues between King & Parliament.
- a It served as a model for the U. S. Bill of Rights.
- a It also formed a base for the steady expansion of civil liberties in the 18<sup>c</sup> and early 19<sup>c</sup> in England.

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## English Bill of Rights [1689]

- a **Main provisions:**
  1. The King could not suspend the operation of laws.
  2. The King could not interfere with the ordinary course of justice.
  3. No taxes levied or standard army maintained in peacetime without Parliament's consent.
  4. Freedom of speech in Parliament.
  5. Sessions of Parliament would be held frequently.
  6. Subjects had the right of bail, petition, and freedom from excessive fines and cruel and unusual punishment.
  7. The monarch must be a Protestant.
  8. Freedom from arbitrary arrest.
  9. Censorship of the press was dropped.
  10. Religious toleration.



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## CIVIL WAR IN ENGLAND

- The English Civil War 1642-1649 -> king arrests some members of parl -> this sparks civil war
  1. CAVALIERS = supporters of the king
  2. THE ROUND HEADS = supporters of parl
- The New Model Army - the army of parl
- Oliver Cromwell - creator and commander of the New Model Army
- The Rump Parliament - moderate members of parliament are expelled by force leaving the radicals in charge
- 1649 the Rump Parliament tries and condemns King Charles I -> he is beheaded

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## CROMWELL AND NEW GOVERNMENTS

- 1649-1653 The Commonwealth = England is a Republic/no monarchy
- Irish Revolt -> brutally crushed by Cromwell
- The Levellers = group who wanted democracy and equality -> crushed by Cromwell
- Cromwell destroys the Rump Parliament
- 1653-1658 The Protectorate -
  1. rule of Oliver Cromwell
  2. puritan religious/military dictatorship
  3. Cromwell takes the title "Lord Protector"
  4. The Instrument of Government - new constitution created by Cromwell
  5. the country is divided into 11 districts, each one ruled by a "major general"

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## RESTORATION OF THE MONARCHY

- 1660-1688 The Restoration -> Stuart monarchs restored to the throne
- 1660-1685 King Charles II
- 1685-1688 King James II
  1. brother of Charles II
  2. openly Catholic
  3. parliament does not revolt because James was old and his daughters Mary and Anne were Protestants -> but in 1688 his wife gives birth to a son -> fear of a Catholic hereditary monarchy
  4. in late 1688 Parliament invites the protestant Dutch leader William of Orange and his wife Mary to invade England

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## THE GLORIOUS REVOLUTION

- 1688 King James II flees to France
- 1689 William and Mary become monarchs of England
- 1689 no fighting or bloodshed -> thus called the "Glorious Revolution"
- 1689 The Bill of Rights -
  1. passed by parliament affirming their right to make laws and levy taxes
  2. no standing army w/out parliamentary consent
  3. king could not interfere with parliamentary elections or debates
  4. establishes the foundation for a constitutional monarchy = limited monarchy

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The Glorious Revolution -> James II flees -> William and Mary take the throne



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## RESPONSE TO REVOLUTION

### THOMAS HOBBES

1. English political philosopher
2. Author of *Leviathan*
3. Said people are animals and thus need strong ruler to keep them in check
4. Hobbes = advocate of strong/absolute monarch

### JOHN LOCKE

1. English political philosopher
2. Author of *Two Treatises of Government*
3. Man had "natural rights" = life, liberty, property
4. Government is an agreement between ruler and people

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