ELIZABETHAN ENGLAND 1568-1603

England, like Europe, has been torn apart by the religious reformation with Protestants in in the South East and Catholics in the North

When Elizabeth comes to the throne in 1588 most of her subjects are Catholic

Scotland is currently being ruled by Mary of Guise, Mary Queen of Scots Mothers in Mary's absence

Elizabeth is crowned Queen of England following the death of her sister in 1588

Parliament enquire of the Queen when and whom she shall marry

The Cloth Trade is very bad between 1568-73

The Genoese Loan 1568

Cecil steals gold from Italian ships before the reach Spain

In 1568 Mary, Queen of Scots, leaves her son and flees to England. She has a strong claim to the throne and Elizabeth places her under House arrest

1571—Marriage negotiations open between Elizabeth and the Duke of Anjou

1571—Elizabeth I founds Jesus College at Oxford

1571—The Ridolfi Plot

Causes: Higher recusants' fees. Mary QoS presence in England
Events: Norfolk, Phillip of Spain & Ridolfi (Italian banker) planned for a Spanish army to overthrow Elizabeth & make Mary QofS queen. Walsingham's spies find out
Consequences: Failed plan. Duke of Norfolk executed

Poor Relief Act—try's to tackle the problem of vagabonds

In 1576 Elizabeth sent a loan of £100,000 to the Netherlands with a promise of an army if needed

The Pacification of Ghent

The Netherlands and Belgium team up to drive the Spanish out and ask England for help

The Spanish Fury 1576

The Spanish conduct a massacre in the Netherlands of those who are not Catholic

October 7, 1579 - The Privy Council fails to support Queen Elizabeth in the marriage treaty

August 17, 1579 - Francis, Duke of Anjou, visits Queen Elizabeth at Greenwich hoping to marry her

By 1579 The Duke of Parma has pretty much sorted out the Netherlands for the Spanish and has it under control

1583 The Throckmorton Plot

Causes: Francis Throckmorton planned for the French army to invade and make Mary QofS queen. King Phillip of Spain would pay for it.

Events: Walsingham uncovers it and tortures Throckmorton to get him to implicate Mary QoS

Consequences: Throckmorton executed and Mary left alone

1584 -Queen Elizabeth declines offers by the Dutch commission for sovereignty (being Queen of) of the Low Countries

1585 Walter Raleigh colonised Virginia

1584 Walter Raleigh is given grant by Elizabeth to explore and settle lands in North America

In 1584 Francis, Duke of Anjou, dies

1585 All Catholic Priests ordered to leave England

1587 'Singeing of the King of Spain's Beard'. Sir Francis Drake plunders and destroys Spanish ships at the Battle of Cadiz

Colony is established at Roanoke 1587

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1558 | 1559 | 1568 | 1569 | 1570 | 1571 | 1572 | 1573 | 1574 | 1575 | 1576 | 1577 | 1578 | 1579 | 1580 | 1581 | 1583 | 1584 | 1585 | 1586 | 1587 | 1588 | 1589 | 1590 | 1593 | 1594 | 1597 | 1600 | 1601 | 1603

Elizabeth implements her **religious settlement in 1559** with the **Act of Supremacy** (making her governor not head of the Church of England) and **Act of Uniformity** (making the majority of people have to go to Protestants mass as only the wealthy could afford to pay the recusants fine). The impact was very little religious conflict

A Plot is hatched for the Duke of Norfolk to marry Mary Queen of Scots

The Northern Rebellion 1569

Causes: Duke of Norfolk not allowed to marry Mary QoS

Events: Westmoreland and Northumberland raise their armies – have mass at Durham Cathedral – no one joins in. Norfolk tells Elizabeth
Consequences: N and W flee to Flanders and Scotland. 700 Catholics killed. Papal Bull

A school and a hospital for the poor people of Ipswich is established

The Papal Bull of Excommunication is passed in 1570

This expels Elizabeth from the Catholic faith, makes her an enemy and stops England from trading with other Catholic countries

In 1573 Drake, hired by Elizabeth, attacks Spanish ships in Panama and returns with £40,000 of silver

Sir Francis Walsingham becomes Home Secretary and sets up a secret network of spies and informants

By 1577 relations between England and Spain were poor and Elizabeth decided to enrich England and annoy Spain by setting up colonies in the new world

In 1577 Elizabeth hired a mercenary, John Casimir to raise an army to kill Dutch Catholics and gave him £6,000 to do so

In 1577 Elizabeth tasks Sir Francis Drake with travelling around the world and bringing back gold, silver, spices and anything else to make England riches

Between 1577-80 Drake circumnavigates the world

In 1580 at least six Catholic priests were arrested, taken to the Tower, tortured, convicted and executed

In 1580 Sir Francis Drake returns to England with £400,000 of Spanish treasure. New territory in California that is now called New Albion.

He is knighted on the deck of the Golden Hind

This shows the importance of trade and exploration to Elizabethan England

In 1581 Sir Francis Drake plunders more Spanish Gold.

The Spanish demand retribution but Elizabeth refuses to take any action against Drake

A marriage treaty between Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Anjou is signed.

1581 - Parliament passes strict legislation against Roman Catholics with heavy fines for hearing Mass

1586 The Babington Plot

Causes: Antony Babington planned to rescue Mary QofS & make her queen after murdering Elizabeth
Events: Letters found in barrels in code when deciphered showed Mary agreed to the plot
Consequences: . Babington & 6 others executed. Mary Qofs-found guilty of treason after a trial but Elizabeth took 2 months to sign the death warrant then after signing it she refused to send it. The Privy Council made her secretary William Davison send it he was imprisoned for 18 months but paid his salary for life. Elizabeth was furious & did not speak to Cecil for 1 month & apologised to James Mary's son.

1588 The Spanish Armada

Causes: Execution of Mary QoS in 1587—England and Spain's naval battles in exploration—Philip II wants to return England to be a Catholic country
Events: - The Spanish outnumbered the English 30 000 to 14000 men & 64 battleships to 42. Spanish ships large and English ships smaller but more manoeuvrable . The Spanish stayed in formation and little damage was done but the 20 000 troops were not ready in Calais. Fire ships caused the Spanish to cut their anchors & break formation. The wind swept the Armada into the North Sea so they had to sail home around Scotland where storms destroyed 44 ships.
Consequences: Elizabeth was a hero & England had defeated the most powerful country in the world & remained Protestant.
BUT many sailors were kept on ship & died from disease some think so they did not

In 1597 Philip II sends a second armada to attack England but a storm scatters the ships before they reach England

In 1597 - Irish Catholic rebellion under Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone (finally put down 1601)

In 1599—the Earl of Essex agreed peace terms (without Elizabeth's approval) which led to her removal of his sweet wine monopoly

In 17 December 1601- the Elizabethan 'Poor Law' is passed.
Elizabethan Poor Law charges the parishes by providing for the needy

1601– Robert Devereux, the Earl of Essex attempts a rebellion against Elizabeth.

He is later executed for treason but Elizabeth never gets over it

KEY

PLOTS		RELIGION		WAR WITH SPAIN			
MARY QOS		ECONOMY		MARRIAGE		SOCIETY	

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