**Historical Timeline of the Reformation in Scotland & England**

**Background Context from 14th and 15th centuries:**

**14th century**

1305 William Wallace executed by the English for treason

1314 Battle of Bannockburn, Scotland won over England

1328 Treaty of Edinburg-Northampton recognises Scottish independence

1348 The Black Death arrives in England

1356 First battle of the Hundred Years’ War between England and France

1381 Peasants’ Revolt – (Wat Tyler’s Rebellion) major uprising over England led by Wat Tyler

1382 Wycliffe’s New Testament in Middle English begins to appear in print

**15th century**

1403 Battle of Shrewsbury (putting down of a rebellion against Henry IV)

1415 Battle of Agincourt (part of 100 Years War); Jan Hus burned at the stake in Europe

1484 Henry VII seizes the crown.

1485 Wars of the Roses end

**Henry VIII**

**16th century**

1513 Battle of Flodden, invading England, James IV of Scotland and thousands of Scots killed when defeated by England;

John Knox born

1517 Luther publishes his 95 theses for debate

1521 Lutheran writings begin to circulate in England

1526 Lord Chancellor Cardinal Wolsey orders burning of Lutheran books

**John Knox**

1533 Henry VII severs ties with Catholic Church, declares himself head of Church in England; Elizabeth I born

1535 Thomas More & Cardinal John Fisher executed by Henry VIII for their continuing allegiance to the Catholic Church.

**Lord Chancellor Thomas More Cardinal John Fisher**

1536 William Tyndale (Protestant) executed in Antwerp;

Henry VIII issues the Dissolution of the Monastries; monastries sacked

1546 John Knox (Scotland) embraces Reformation ideas influenced by George Wishart being burned at the stake in this year

1547/9Knox confined in French galley ships; Henry VII dies; succeeded eventually by his Catholic daughter Mary who deposes Lady Jane Grey.

1549 Prayer Book Rebellion in southwest England;

John Knox goes into exile in England 1549-1554

1553 Act Against Sectaries makes Puritanism an offence in England. Puritans were English protestant reformers, some of whom became part of the later 1620 Mayflower immigration to America

1554/6 Knox travels to Geneva, Frankfurt and Scotland

1556 Knox returns to Geneva

1558 Elizabeth I ascends the throne of England

1559 Act of Supremacy makes Elizabeth the Supreme Governor of the Church in England

1559/60Revolution in Scotland and end of the Regency of Mary de Guise for Mary Queen of Scots.

**Elizabeth I, Supreme Governor, Church of England**

1560/1John Knox recalled to Scotland and Scots’ Confession and First Book of

Discipline approved by Scottish Parliament (Scotland officially becomes Protestant)



**John Knox preaching at St Giles’ Cathedral (window in St Giles’)**

1561/4John Knox and Mary, Queen of Scots clash



**Mary, Queen of Scots**

1571 Act Prohibiting Papal Bulls (documents) from Rome issued

1572 John Knox dies

1578 Andrew Melville, as [Moderator of General Assembly](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moderator_of_the_General_Assembly_of_the_Church_of_Scotland), took part in organising the [Presbyterian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presbyterian) method; Second Book of Discipline placed church leadership in hands of groups of elected church leaders, in [presbyteries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presbyterian_polity#Presbytery), [synods](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Synods) and [general assembly](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Assembly_of_the_Church_of_Scotland).

**Andrew Melville**

**disputing the role of bishops**

1585 Roanoake Colony formed in American, an attempt to create British colony

1588 Spanish Armada defeated

1589 English counter armada defeated by Spain

1593 Acts against Papists issued

**17th century**



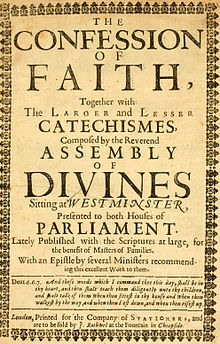
1601 Elizabeth I dies, succeeded by James VI of Scotland who becomes James I of England uniting crowns but not parliaments of Scot & Eng; tolerant of Catholics, prefers bishops in churches

1605 Gunpowder Plot, Guy Fawkes and other Catholic associates conspire to blow up James VI & I and English Parliament

1607 Jamestown, Virginia, first successful British colony in the Americas

1618 Walter Raleigh executed

1639 Bishops’ Wars – English-Scottish wars lasting till 1640

1640 Long Parliament – parliament convened in England

1642 English Civil War begins

1646 Westminster Confession adopted by Scottish parliament but not the English

1649 Trial and execution of Charles I

1649 Interregnum began with the First Commonwealth

1653 the Protectorate under Oliver Cromwell and later Richard Cromwell

1659 Second Commonwealth – period of great political instability

1660 Restoration of the Monarchy

1666 Great Fire of London

1688 ‘Glorious Revolution’, overthrow of James II by English Parliamentarians with William II of Orange-Nassau (Protestant)



1707 Presbyterian church government ensured in Scotland by the Acts of Union which created the [Kingdom of Great Britain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Great_Britain).