

Class Session 15 - 2023-01-24 - Civil Wars

PRAYER

QUIZ

1. For how many years in a row did King Charles I rule without calling Parliament? 11
2. What is the name of the document signed by many Scots at Greyfriars, in 1638, in response to Bishop Laud trying to impose a new prayer book on the kirk? the National Covenant
3. Was it the express intention of Parliament when it convened in November 1640 to carry out a revolution? no
4. What is the name of the king's chief servant, who was impeached by Parliament, and eventually executed in 1640? Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford
5. Did the Root and Branch bill become law? no

TIMELINE

- 1509 King Henry VIII ascends the throne of England
- 1526 Tyndale's complete New Testament in English is printed
- 1534 The Act of Supremacy officially separates the Church of England from the pope
- 1547 King Edward VI ascends the throne
- 1553 Queen Mary I ascends the throne
- 1558 Queen Elizabeth I ascends the throne
- 1560 Geneva Bible is published
- 1588 Spanish Armada is defeated
- 1603 King James I ascends the throne
- 1604 In the Hampton Court Conference, King James agrees to a new Bible translation
- 1611 Authorized or King James Version is published
- 1625 King Charles I ascends the throne
- 1628 The Petition of Right Is Passed
- 1640 The Long Parliament Convenes
- 1642 The English Civil War Begins

READING ASSIGNMENT

Synge: "The Great Civil War"

BIBLE

Romans 13:1-7

LESSON

From the beginning of the Long Parliament to the Outbreak of the Civil Wars

1639 - First Bishops' war

-poorly-funded English army did not succeed in invading Scotland

April 1640 - "Short Parliament"

-called to fund campaign against Scotland to impose Laud's religious measures

-debate was to be held May 7th, probably to disapprove of the invasion

-king dissolved Parliament May 5th

August - October 1640 - Second Bishops' war

-English army defeated

-Scottish army invaded and occupied part of the north of England

-truce left Scots in control of north, including Newcastle

note: much of the following taken straight from Dr. Keith E. Wrightson's Yale lectures

November 1640 - "Long Parliament"

very large turnout of voters

John Pym became the leader

Parliament in a very strong position, king in desperate need of funding, a Scottish army being in possession of part of northern England

accusations against

-Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford - impeached

-William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury - imprisoned in Tower of London

Jan 1641 (our reckoning) Triennial Act

May 1641 - Parliament could not be dissolved without its own consent

Spring 1641 - Strafford tried in House of Lords

-effectively a trial of the conduct of the king and his government

-bill of attainder issued

May 1641 - king reluctantly signed death warrant; Strafford executed

Summer 1641

- prerogative courts, such as Star Chamber, abolished

- ship money and other non-legislated taxes declared illegal

-Parliament recessed

-King Charles I travelled to Scotland

-withdrew previous demands regarding the kirk

-Scots withdrew their army from England

JRY: It seems tragic to me that a great opportunity was missed at this point.

November 1641

- Parliament reconvened
- rebellion in Ireland
 - Catholic, nationalist
 - NE Ireland - Ulster
 - some slaughtering of settlers, possibly several thousands
- Parliament did not trust King Charles I to have a well-funded army to deal with Irish rebellion
- Pym introduced The Grand Remonstrance
 - listing many complaints about Charles's rule
 - justifying demand that Parliament must approve all the king's councilors
 - insisting that Parliament have an assembly of ministers to reform church
 - almost unified Parliament was split over this
 - passed Commons 151-148
 - published and distributed
- Wrightson: "This gave the king his party."
- Here, two parties both think the other is trying to overthrow the constitutional government.

December 23, 1641 king rejected The Grand Remonstrance

January 4, 1642 (our reckoning)

- goaded by his wife, the king came in person with troops, entered Commons to arrest 5 members
- members were not there
- King left London
- Queen left England for France

March 1642

- Parliament passed ordinances without the king
- Parliament passed Militia Ordinance to raise troops and appoint officers

June 1642

- Parliament offered to king "19 Propositions"
 - all important officers to be approved by Parliament
 - king should assent to whatever church reforms Parliament advised
- king replied that it would be a subversion of the constitution

July 1642

- Parliament voted to raise an army
- First violent death of the civil war at Manchester

August 1642

- king raised his banner in city of Nottingham, called on all true subjects
- royalists tried to seize magazine at Manchester, but were successfully driven off by local militia in battles lasting until October 1
 - about 200 royalists and 20 militia were killed
 - no further violence in Manchester for the duration of the war

We could date the beginning of the English Civil Wars to January, when the king came to the House of Commons, but it normally is dated August 1642.

-----got this far-----

Rise of Baptists in London

(continued from last time)

1641: Blunt being returned from the Netherlands, having observed baptism, JLJ church was in conference over baptism as the immersion of the believer

1642: January (1641 to them) 53 baptized, probably in Thames

-Blunt baptized a church teacher named Blacklock, who then baptized him; they baptized the rest

-this is the origin of the Southern Baptist and Reformed Baptist and Primitive Baptist churches in the South in America and the Particular Baptist churches in England

In God's providence, the birth of the Baptist congregations in London coincided with the Long Parliament and the civil war

-their congregations and their baptism and their preaching against infant sprinkling were all against the policies of the Church of England; but AofC and Bishop of London were not in power in London and much of the country to persecute them

-their church and the others that soon would be baptized also were out of step with the Presbyterians and Independent Congregationalists; but there was pressure at that time for all who were not allied with the king's party to tolerate each other for the purpose of having a strong party against him