

The Religious Settlement – 1559

The Act of Supremacy

- England became officially Protestant again.
- Elizabeth gave herself the title *Governor* of the Church of England (rather than *Head* of the Church) as Henry VIII and Edward VI had been.
- All clergy (members of the church) and royal officials had to swear an oath of allegiance to Elizabeth accepting her title as Supreme Governor. If they refused three times they could be executed.



The Act of Uniformity

- A new Prayer book written in English was put in all churches. Its front cover contained designs similar to Catholic designs.
- All church services were in English and so was the Bible.
- Bread and wine were still taken during communion, whether this was meant to be the literal body and blood of Christ or just symbolic was left open.
- Some ornaments and decoration were still allowed in churches.
- Priest wore quite fine vestments (clothing).
- Priests were allowed to marry.
- Everyone had to attend church on a Sunday and other holy days or face paying a 1 shilling fine. This was a large amount for a poor person but little for a noble.