

The Religious Settlement 1559

The Act of Supremacy

- England became officially Protestant again.
- Elizabeth became Supreme Governor of the Church of England (rather than Head of the Church) as Henry and Edward had been.
- Bishops were given the job of running the Church.
- All clergy and royal officials had to swear an oath of allegiance to Elizabeth accepting her title.
 If they refused three times they could be executed.

The Act of Uniformity

- A new English Protestant
 Prayer book was put in all churches. All clergy had to take an oath promising to use the new prayer book.
- All church services were in English and so was the Bible.
- Bread and wine were still taken in church services but the meaning of this was left deliberately open.
- Some ornaments and decoration were still allowed in churches.
- Priest wore quite fine vestments. They 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 large amount for a poor person but little for a noble. Elizabeth turned a blind eye if fines were not collected.





