

Consolidation after Bosworth (conclusion)

1. Henry VII to Henry VIII: the assessment of the first 50 years of the Tudors.
 - a. Henry VII was successful in consolidating his rule. His younger son (his elder son, Arthur, groomed to rule, had died before his father), acceded to the throne easily at the age of 18. Indeed, there was much feasting, dancing, and rejoicing at Henry VIII's accession. Unfortunately, this had much to do with the unpopularity of Henry VII by the time he died.
 - b. Henry VIII was the darling of the new humanist intellectuals and of the noble class. The new king could write poetry and joust. He longed to show his military prowess, which delighted the nobles.
 - c. The Tudor State was largely a personal monarchy.

"A Tudor Revolution?"

1. Interpreting the via media
 - a. C. of E., a middle way? (R.C. and radical Prots.)
 - b. Henrician via media:
2. Religious Change in 1530s, why so little resistance?:
 - a. there was some resistance:
 - b. but overall, there was little. Why?
 - i. state of church in early Tudor England
 - ii. perhaps, in part, because of complacency among the clergy
 - iii. minimal nature of Henrician Reform.
3. Divorce and Supremacy, 1529-1534
 - a. importance of divorce from Catherine of Aragon and marriage to Anne Boleyn
 - i. Why? problem of male heir (and the recent past of the Wars of Roses)
 - ii. Archbishop Wolsey prepared to grant divorce (though hampered by his own ambition to become pope himself, eventually forced out and executed over this issue) but problem of appeal to Rome
 - b. Henry VIII's response, through law courts and through Parliament
 - i. 1529-31, through *Praemunire* (attack on "King's regality"), clergy charged with taking cases out of king's courts to other courts, little used before, attempt to frighten Rome
 - ii. turns to Parliament (meets for 7 years from 1529):
 - iii. 1533, climax, Anne now pregnant; Henry VIII and Anne married end of Jan. (birth of Elizabeth in Sept.); new archbishop (Th. Cranmer) declares marriage to Catherine null and void, May 1533
 - iv. 1534, Act of Supremacy, Henry head of C. of E., but still Catholic in doctrine
 - v. Divorced, beheaded, died; Divorced, beheaded, survived
4. Dissolution of the Monasteries
 - a. Henry VIII's supremacy (esp. the management of it by his new chief councillor, Thomas Cromwell) gives new look and outlook to the Church
 - i. Act of Dissolving the monasteries (1536 [lesser monasteries], 1538-39 [greater monasteries])
 - b. Cromwell conducts ecclesiastical census, 1535 (first since 1086)
 - i. Was divine service observed?; What lands did houses possess?; What rents?; Who were the benefactors?
 - ii. Why dissolution?
 - c. Consequences
 - i. Destruction of art and learning: altar cloths removed, crucifixes melted, libraries dispersed
 - ii. Some resistance to Henrician Reformation. Pilgrimage of Grace, 1536, protest after first phase of Dissolution
 - iii. Massive wealth (£132,00 p.a.) pours into King's coffers. But Most sold.
 - iv. Some benefits: Henry VIII est. several new dioceses with the lands (rentals) and endowed

- new chairs and a college at Cambridge
 - v. Overall, a decline in clergy morale. Fear that Henry has no spiritual interest in reforming the Church. Only sees it as money.
- 5. Cromwell, Parliament, and Henry VIII
 - a. Historian Geoffrey Elton, author of phrase "Tudor Revolution in Government," saw the political/administrative changes associated with the Reformation as a good thing and saw them as brought on by Thomas Cromwell: "When Thomas Cromwell died, the state and Kingship in England were very different from what they had been at the fall of Wolsey." (change between 1529 and 1540)
 - b. Thomas Cromwell (1485-1540)
 - i. clothworker son, possibly a soldier and trader in Netherlands and Italy (his own description "a ruffian")
 - ii. c. 1516, in Wolsey's household, c. 1519 a common law lawyer
 - iii. self-taught, interested in analysis of political structures
 - iv. connections with intellectuals employed in drafting bills for Parliament by 1531
 - v. Cromwell's role? Developed a principle from and gave substance to Henry VIII's desire for a divorce and for jurisdictional supremacy in his church and State. Elton calls the Act of Appeals (1533) "The Great Statute"
 - c. Statutory change, 1532-1540 (the revolution through statute)
 - i. Centralized power made a reality
 - ii. Revolution through **statute**: "Parliamentary statute cannot create the supremacy [which is derived from God]..., but it alone can make the supremacy enforceable at law, in the law courts" (Elton)
 - d. C. of E. at death of Henry in 1547
 - i. Henry VIII's will: commends his soul to the Virgin and the Saints; leaves money for Masses for his soul; and notes that man is justified by works "if he have leisure."
 - ii. little absolute break with Catholic practice
 - iii. more erastian than Lutheran
- 6. docs
 - a. 3.1 "The State of Melford Church... as I, Roger Martyn, Did Know It" (ca. late sixteenth century) Hannah M
 - b. 3.2 Confession of John Pykas of Colchester (March 7, 1527) Amy S
 - c. 3.x Henry VIII to Anne Boleyn (n.d., ca. July 1528) [below] Julie C
 - d. 3.y Cardinal Campeggio, Papal Legate in England, to Jacobo, Cardinal Salviati, secretary to Pope Clement VII (October 25, 1528) Julie C/Benjamin J
 - e. 3.4 Answer of the Ordinaries (1532) Benjamin J/Michelle D
 - f. 3.z Submission of the Clergy (May 15, 1532) [below] Michelle D
 - g. 3.5 Pontefract Articles (December 2-4, 1536) Trisha S