Church History

Mr. Myers

**The Reformation in England**

1. Political background
   1. In 1500, England and Spain were at war with Scotland and France
   2. Arthur’s marriage to the daughter of the Spanish king—Catherine of Aragon
   3. Henry VIII’s marriage to Catherine of Aragon
   4. Unhappy marriage
      1. Birth of Mary Tudor but no sons
      2. Fear of God’s disapproval
      3. Attempts to dissolve the marriage
         1. Request of the pope for annulment—request denied
         2. Making bastard son legitimate
         3. Marrying another woman in secret
      4. Formation of the Church of England in 1534—the King is Head of the Church—“The king’s majesty justly and rightly is and ought to be and shall be reputed the only supreme head in earth of the Church of England.” (And any who resists is guilty of treason).
   5. Marriage to Anne Boleyn
      1. Birth of Elizabeth
      2. Accusation of adultery and execution
   6. Marriage to Jane Seymour—birth of Edward VI; natural death
   7. Marriage to Anne Cleves and alliance with the Germans; divorce
   8. Marriage to Catherine Howard
2. Protestantism vs. Catholicism in England
   1. Edward VI supported Protestant-style reform in the Church of England but soon died
   2. Mary Tudor—Catholicism
   3. Elizabeth I—Protestantism
   4. After vacillating between Catholicism and Protestantism for quite a few years, the Church of England pursued a basically Protestant path; however, it retained more elements of the Catholic tradition than other Protestant Churches
      1. Anglican—another name for the Church of England
      2. Episcopalians—Anglicans in America
      3. Puritans—a group within the Anglican Church which promoted further reform in the Church
      4. Methodists—came out of the Anglican church as a result of the Wesley movement
      5. Baptists—A significant amount of influence