

Henry's Reformation



The King's Great Matter: Henry & Catherine

Arranged Marriage

Arthur & Catherine of Aragon (1501)

Stronger alliance with Spain

Defense against Scotland & France

Untimely Death

Arthur dies months after marriage (1502)

Remarriage to new heir: Henry VIII?

Betrothal & Papal Dispensation

Henry & Catherine betrothed (1503)

Papal Dispensation

Grounds: Affinity

'Stronger' than needed: Consummation?

Marriage

Henry's Misgivings: Doubts & Leviticus

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The King's Great Matter: The Marriage (1509-1533)

Children

Girl, stillborn (1510)

Henry, died at seven weeks (1511)

Miscarriage (1514)

Mary Tudor (1516)

Girl, stillborn (1518)

Tension; Eased slightly by Mary

Henry's Mistresses

Total number disputed; Two undisputed

Elizabeth Blount (1516-19)

Henry FitzRoy

Duke of Richmond

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The King's Great Matter: Henry's Desire for a Male Heir

Previous Wars of Succession

Need for Undisputed Male Heir

'Failure' of Marriage

Possible Solutions

Legitimize Henry FitzRoy?

Requires Papal Dispensation

Alienation of Spain?

Marry Mary to Henry FitzRoy?

Marriage of Half-Siblings?

Another Problem, Worse Than the First

Annulment of Marriage to Catherine

Requires Papal Appeal and Approval

Frees Henry to Remarry, Produce Male Heir

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The King's Great Matter: Seeking the Annulment (1527-33)

Type of Request Not Uncommon

Extra-Canonical Complications

Pope Clement VII: Displease Charles V?

Emperor Charles V: Catherine's Nephew

Pope's Suggestion: Secret Second Wife

Legitimacy of Male Heir at Stake

Not an Appealing Solution

Clement Prolongs the Deliberations

Conditional Dispensation for New Marriage

Referral to Wolsey

Must be Decided in Rome, Not England

Wolsey Bears the Blame