

Key events: the Henrician Reformation 1525-36

	Event/law	What happened? / What was it?	How was it significant?
1525	Henry investigated the possibility of divorce from Catherine of Aragon.	Influenced by Leviticus 20:16, Henry argued that a woman and her dead husband's brother should not marry and that this was the cause of their childlessness.	This was the beginning of the 'King's Great Matter', Wolsey's eventual downfall and the move towards an annulment.
1527	The Sack of Rome and capture of Pope Clement VII by Charles V.	Catherine's nephew, Charles V, gained control of the Pope.	Charles V would never allow the Pope to grant Henry an annulment. Wolsey had been desperately petitioning Rome since 1525 - this was the beginning of his downfall.
1528	Cardinal Campeggio was sent to hold legatine court at Blackfriars to pronounce judgement on the matter.	A papal court was established to pronounce on Henry and Catherine's marriage.	Campeggio stalled and failed to pronounce. In July 1529 the court broke up.
1529	1529 marked a turning point in the Great Matter. Henry began considering his own power and how to extend it.		
	The fall of Wolsey.	Wolsey was charged with praemunire - exercising Papal powers at the expense of the King.	This paved the way for Cromwell and the English Reformation.
	The reformation Parliament began to sit in November.	The Parliament was characterised by extreme anti-clericalism.	It was designed to show the Pope English power.
1530	Henry collected opinions from the great universities.	Seven universities reinforced Henry's Leviticus argument. Thomas More reported the findings to Parliament.	Henry was encouraged in his quest for a divorce or annulment.
	The <i>Collectanea Satis Copiosa</i> was produced by Cranmer and Foxe.	This was a collection of ancient English manuscripts and Anglo-Saxon chronicles which supported the idea that the King of England was not within the jurisdiction of the Pope.	It was the beginning of a legal precedent for the Royal Supremacy.

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1531	The English Church was forced to pay a fine for support of Wolsey and his policies.	The whole clergy was charged with praemunire and fined £118,000, resulting in a pardon.	Henry was stamping his authority over the clergy and refusing to bow to Roman jurisdiction. This was the beginning of the Royal Supremacy.
1532	The Supplication against the Ordinaries was passed by the House of Commons.	A petition against the crown courts and clerical jurisdiction. Cromwell manipulated parliament into believing it was their own bill.	<p>It was a further step towards legislative justification for an independent English Church.</p> <p>These events all showed that Henry was now focused on a complete break away from Papal control.</p> <p>} 1532 was a watershed year. It marked the establishment of the independent English Church in practice as well as theory.</p>
	Thomas More resigned and Thomas Audley replaced him as Lord Chancellor.	Audley was an enthusiastic supporter of reform.	
	Archbishop Warham died in August.	Henry appointed Cranmer, a reformer, to replace him. He could now marry Ann in England. Appeals to Rome were outlawed which meant that Catherine's appeal was null and void.	
	The Act in Conditional Restraint of Annates.	An order to prevent the payment of Bishops' fees to Rome.	
	Ann Boleyn became pregnant in December.	Henry gave up on an annulment from Rome.	
1533	January - Henry and Ann married secretly.	Henry's marriage to Catherine was declared void on grounds of the invalidity of the original Papal dispensation and non-consummation.	This was an acknowledgement of the end of Catherine and Henry's marriage and of Henry's break with Rome.
	23 May - the Act in Restraint of Appeals was passed.	This law meant that all appeals had to be heard by English courts.	All appeals to the Pope on religious or other matters were made illegal. Henry was now the highest legal authority in England.
	1 June - Ann was crowned Queen consort	The ceremony lasted for four days!	The public are said to have been lukewarm to Ann's coronation despite the lavishness of the occasion.
	July 1533 - Pope Clement finally acted. He declared that Ann was not the King's wife.	This led to Henry's excommunication by the Pope.	Henry's unwillingness to work with Rome was finalised by the excommunication.

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1534	1534 Act of Dispensations	This stopped all payments to Rome - including Peter's Pence.	This made the Archbishop of Canterbury the spiritual head of the Church of England.
	1534 Act of Succession	This gave parliamentary consent to the invalidity of Henry's marriage to Catherine and the bastardisation of Mary. Henry's future children with Ann were declared rightful heirs.	Anyone who appealed to Rome would be tried with praemunire.
	1534 Act of Supremacy	This declared that Henry was 'the only supreme head on earth of the Church of England'.	Henry now had complete administrative and legislative control of the Church in England. The Pope's name was struck out of all prayer books.
	1534 Treason Act	This made it a capital offence to slander the supremacy of the King or to deny his new title.	Treason could now be committed in word as well as deed.
	1534 Act of First Fruits and Tenths	A tax on goods and land income was now payable to the King.	
1536	1536 Act Extinguishing the Authority of the Bishop of Rome	This removed all Papal power in England.	

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