

way for dissatisfaction among Anglican followers and some would allow the Roman communion to pick them up. In some ways, as we see it, the Anglican church has always been a poor cousin to Rome (highly prejudiced comment) and not quite formal enough to rule the masses, not informal enough to enjoy wide popular appeal. But it was the expressive voice of most of the English people and substituted for Rome in many ways. It allows sufficient freedom within its ranks that the most diverse theological positions may be found there...everything from very strong evangelicism to the rankest liberalism.

III.1 b James

James I (1603-1625)

James I of England was James VI of Scotland...and I think we have boon over that enough for one syllabus. Of the Stuart family, he was the son of Mary, Queen of Scots, and following her defection was raised in the protectoral custody of Scotland. Much was expected of him as he had an evangelical teaching and possessed the mental powers to be a good ruler. But a lack of humility, disappreciation of public interest, and a reactionistic mood towards the strictness of the Knoxian Christianity that marked Scotland, produced a poor rule...and a poor ruler. James was a chief exponent of the "Divine Right of Kings"...a theory that would eventually lead to the execution of his son and the rebellion in the middle of the seventeenth century. But in the onset of things the English evangelicals expected great things. They were due for a gloomy period of time... a good bit of disappointment.

The primary political move of the reign of James I resulted in a token merger of the English and Scots thrones...the actual merger would not come for many years. This would produce a confusing picture over the next 100 years and would not end the political warfare between the two nations. It would heighten the significance of the interference of the French and Spanish in the affairs of both lands. It would also confuse the religious picture, more than might otherwise have been expected, as both James and his son, Charles, would leave the reformed concepts of the church of Scotland and accept a more elaborate ceremonial Anglican concept in England. At times they seemed to favor the Roman communion. (The union of the thrones came about in 1707) In his move to London, James was met with a group of dissenters and presented the Millenary Petition --so named as it reportedly had the names of 1,000 signatores. This