

STUART ENGLAND 1603-1714

3: Charles I (1600-49)



- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jF17FS0KXic>
- Monteverdi, *Vespers of the Blessed Virgin* (1610), performed by the English Baroque Soloists







CONCILIVM SEPTEM NOBILIVM ANGLORVM CONIVRANTIVM IN NECEM IACOBI ·I·
MAGNÆ BRITANNIÆ REGIS TOTIVSQ ANGLICI CONVOCATI PARLEMENTI ·



Vides Spectator humanissime .hic expressas effigies septem Anglorum .qui Regem suum cum paracipues Status Anglici Præcibus ad Parlamentum .ut vocant comocatis pulvere tormentario simul horrendo modo in ipsa domo Parlamentis euertere valuerunt . Cuius Coniurationis nefande Auctores fuere imprimis Robertus Catesby . & Thomas Percy . qui sibi deinde adiungere alios . videlicet . Thomam & Robertum Winter . Guidonem Faukes . Johannem & Christopherum Wright quibus denum accessit Bates Roberti Catesby Famulus . Sed coniuuratione hac Diuina providentia & Clementia decem antea . horumque futurum Cessationem Parliamenti detecta . & Coniuratis persecutus ex ijs Robertus Catesby & Thomas Percy iclu scilicet petri perire & eorum Capita domui Parliamenti in perpetuum rei memoriam impigra cæteri . cum multis alijs . qui eandem in rem conspirarunt adhuc captivi detinentur . dignam facinoræ sententiam expectantes .

Icy se voient les effigies des sept Seigneurs Anglois lesquels de façon nouvelle et fort Horrible on attente contre le Roy et son estat ains entrepris p mines et quantité de poudre de faire Saillir sa Maies te avec les premiers Du Royaume et principaux officiers estans en parlement a Westminster les premiers auteurs de la dñte conspiration . Sont . Robert Catesby et Thomas Percy . auxquels depuis adjoins le Thomas et Robert Winter . Guido Faukes Jean et Christophe Wright . et depuis encor le Serviteur dudit Catesby appelle Bates Mais estante la dñte Conspiration decouverte p la grace et providence de Dieu . enuon des heures deuant l'assemblée et assisee dudit parlement et les dñtes Conspirateurs poursuivis lesdñs premiers auteurs Catesby et Percy sont es le attains et tues de Harquebuzade leurs testes coupées et portees a Westminster et posees la maison du parlement en memoire de l'acte de ces Fable Restons avec plusieurs autres trouues Couppables dudit fait sont encor prisonniers . attendons l'arrest du Parlement condigne a leurs merites .

Hie habt ihr gunstiger Leser . etliche nemlich . der furnemsten Engellander . Welche ohnlangst ihren König sampt dem gantzen Parlament mit Buchsen . pulver schrocklicher Weis zuvertilgen surgenommen nach dem leben abgebildet . vnd sind diese : Robert Catesby . vnd Thomas Percy . so noch andere hernach zusehen gezogen . nemlich Thomas vnd Robert Winter . Guido Faukes . John vnd Christopher Wright . neben Bates Catesbys Diener . nachdem aber die Verrathery entdeckt . sind Robert Catesby vnd Percy vonden so sie verfolgt erschossen . vnd ihre Haupter auff das Parlaments hauss gesetzt worden : die andere aber so noch gefangē . habē nach ihrē verdienst lohn zuerwarten







Charles I (1600-1649)

- King of England, Scotland and Ireland from 1625 to his execution in 1649
- Conflict with parliament over tax, religious and political rights that leads into civil war
- Reputation as an arrogant, incompetent ruler...
- But some say he was the victim of bad luck, an ambitious parliament, political conflicts that splintered society, and economic problems left over from his father's rule...

- "Charles was a shy man of few words, possibly as a result of a speech defect... Consequently, his contemporaries found that he was unapproachable and, what was worst, uncommunicative, especially in parliament, where his intentions and his actions often went unexplained, leaving others free to interpret them to his disadvantage. Charles also showed that he possessed none of his father's political shrewdness or flexibility." – Barry Coward
- "Princes are not bound to give an account of their Actions but to God alone." – Charles, Declaration on the dissolution of Parliament (10 March 1628)



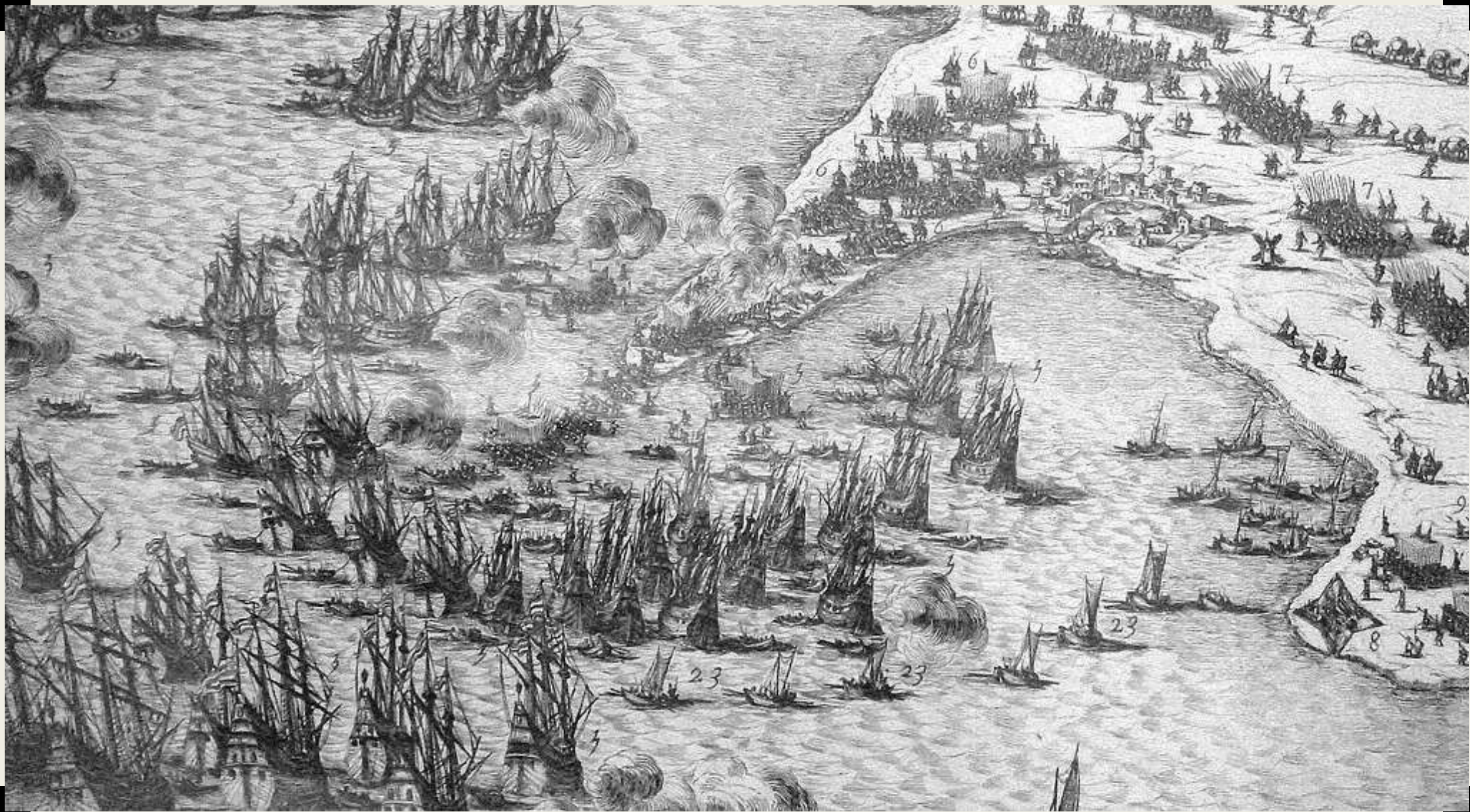
Young Charles (the wrong heir)

- Charles was the second son of James VI and I, born in 1600 in Scotland
- A weak and sickly child with rickets, he remained at a relative's while his family moved south to England to take the throne
- His older brother by six years, Henry Frederick, was heir to the throne and considered by many to be one of the most wise, well-educated, loved and competent leaders to one day govern the three kingdoms...
- Disastrously, Henry dies from typhoid fever aged 18 in 1612. The nation is in mourning for weeks
- Charles, who had not been expected for great things, is thrust into the role of heir...
- Unusually short, with a stammer, quiet and nervous...



The Spanish Match

- From 1614-23 James pushed for his son to marry the Spanish princess Maria Anna
- While parliament hated the prospect of peace and future kings with a Catholic state and enemy...
- The Infanta despised the infidel Charles
- To break the deadlock, Charles visits Spain in secret with his father's favourite, George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham
- It's the first of many disasters to come, and eventually leads to war with Spain
- "They urged James to marry his son to the daughter of Philip III of Spain and use her huge dowry to pay off his debts, with the ultimate aim of reconciling the English church with Rome." - Kenyon



Charles vs Parliament: a bad start...

- In 1625, weeks after his father's death, Charles marries Henrietta Maria, sister of the (Catholic) king of France
- One condition was that she could practise her religion freely, and was responsible for her children's upbringing to the age of 13. Parliament was worried...
- In France, the king was violently subjugating the Protestant minority (Huguenots)
- Parliament pushed Charles into sending soldiers to help the Huguenots at La Rochelle, but Charles wavered, and ordered them to attack the Protestants instead. His men refused the order
- Meanwhile, over 1625-27, Buckingham organised an expensive army to fight in the Thirty Years War. Martial law was declared amid major economic crisis...





Peter Paul Rubens,
George Villiers, 1st
Duke of Buckingham,
on Horseback, 1625

“Crown” vs “Country”

- Angered at Buckingham's inefficiency and perceived corruption, Parliament begins impeachment proceedings in 1626. Charles arrests two ringleaders, then soon dissolves parliament...
- Buckingham led another mission to La Rochelle in 1627 but it failed
- Desperate to finance the war without parliament, Charles levies a 'forced loan'. Those who refused to pay were imprisoned, among them five prominent knights, including a young Oliver Cromwell...
- Parliament sets out a Petition of Right the following year to protect civil liberties against the king...
- No imprisonment without a cause, forced billeting of soldiers, non-parliamentary taxation and use of martial law. Charles is forced to agree

To the Kings most Excellent Maieſtie

Soit donc fait comme est desire.

Quamlibet

[illegible]

Cherlye theſe humbly pray yo^r maſt excellent Maieſtie That noe man hereafter be compelled to make or ſell any maſſe, loane, beneuolent, tow or ſuch like charge without reuerenſe by Act of Parliament. And that none be called to make anſwer or take ſuch oath, or to give attendance, or be confined or otherwiſe miſuſed, as ſhould containe the ſame, or be ſubſtall thereof. And that noe ſherman in any ſuch manner as is diſcontented be impriſoned or detened. And that no Maſſie ſhould be ſeized to reuene the ſaid Lordes and Marynours. And that your people may not be burthened in ſhure to come. And that the aforeſaid Comſſion for proceeding by Maſſhall ſame may be ſeized and annulled. And that hereafter noe Comſſion of like nature may be giue to any perſon or perſons whatſoever to be executed or ſeized, that by ſeller of them any of the ſaid Maſſes ſhould be deſtroyed or put to death contrary to the ſame and ſingularite of the Land.

And that ye Maistie might alle-
geously declare, that the Ruarie doctrine and plantation, to the prejudice of your people in any of the exchequer, shall not be deemed heretofore, subsequent, or contrary.
And that your Maistie might be able to further comfort and safety of your people to satisfy your royal will and pleasure. That in the things aforesaid or suffered
and Maistie shall serve you according to the Lawe and Statute in that behalf made, and they touch the Lawe of the Maistie and the profits of the same.

Down with Buckingham

- In 1628 the Duke of Buckingham is assassinated. Hated by parliament and the public, celebrations ring out
- Charles was heartbroken: he 'threw himself upon his bed, lamenting with much passion and with abundance of tears' (Hyde)
- While his early marriage years were marked by disagreement, after Buckingham's death the couple have their first child
- The conflict with parliament sets the tone for the rest of his rule. From 1629-40 without it, the 'Eleven Years' Tyranny'
- Only in the midst of a Scottish invasion, after years of economic hardship across the land, personal bankruptcy, and growing religious conflict, does Charles call parliament again

- *What mistakes do we think Charles is making at this point?*
- *What influences and ideas might his father's reign have left on him?*





Anthony van Dyck, Charles I and Henrietta Maria with Prince Charles and Princess Mary ("The Greate Peece"), 1632.

Anthony van Dyck, Charles I, 1635-6.



Anthony van Dyck,
Charles I in the
Hunting Field,
c.1635,

Charles Stuart: art collector

- Charles built up one of the most extensive collections of European masterpieces by any monarch, and was the focal point of a group of collectors
- His passion was expensive and compelling – collecting Titian and other Italian masters, and the Gonzaga collection of Mantua
- He and Henrietta Maria also encouraged contemporary artists like Anthony van Dyck, Daniel Mytens, Orazio and Artemisia Gentileschi to visit England and paint royal subjects
- Rubens would paint the ceilings of the Banqueting House by 1634, as well as...





Peter Paul Rubens,
Landscape with St
George and the
Dragon, 1630-35.

Rubens, left

Anthony van Dyck on
following slide





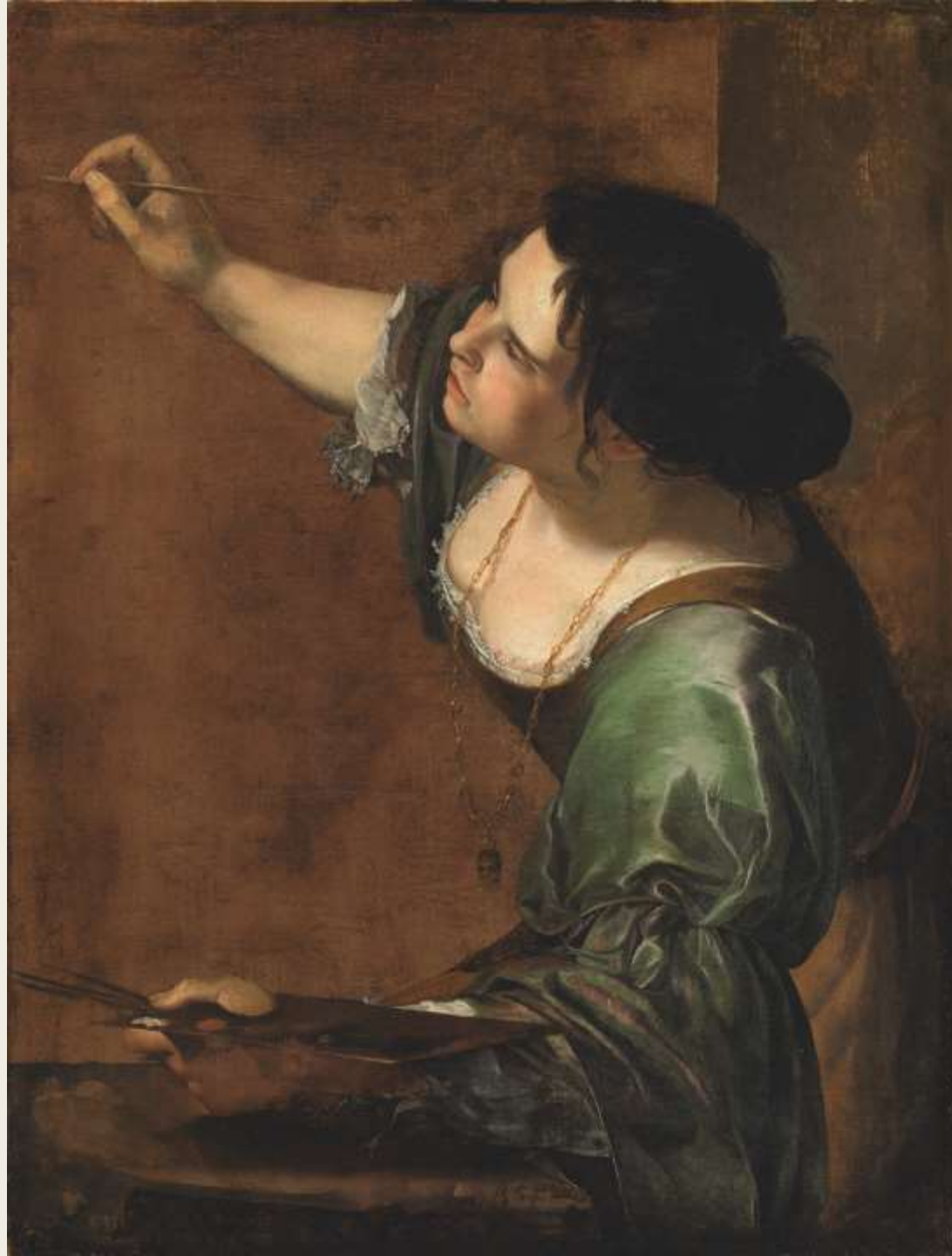
Anthony van Dyck,
Cupid and Psyche,
1639-40.



Andrea Mantegna,
Triumph of Caesar:
The Trumpeters,
c.1484-92.

Next slide: "The
Triumphal Carts"





Artemisia Gentileschi,
Allegory of Painting, c.
1638-39.



Artemisia Gentileschi,
Judith Slaying Holofernes
(1616-20)



Titian, The Pardo Venus (1551)



The Countess and Earl of Arundel (Thomas Howard)



Anthony van
Dyck, Henrietta
Maria with Sir
Jeffrey Hudson,
1633.





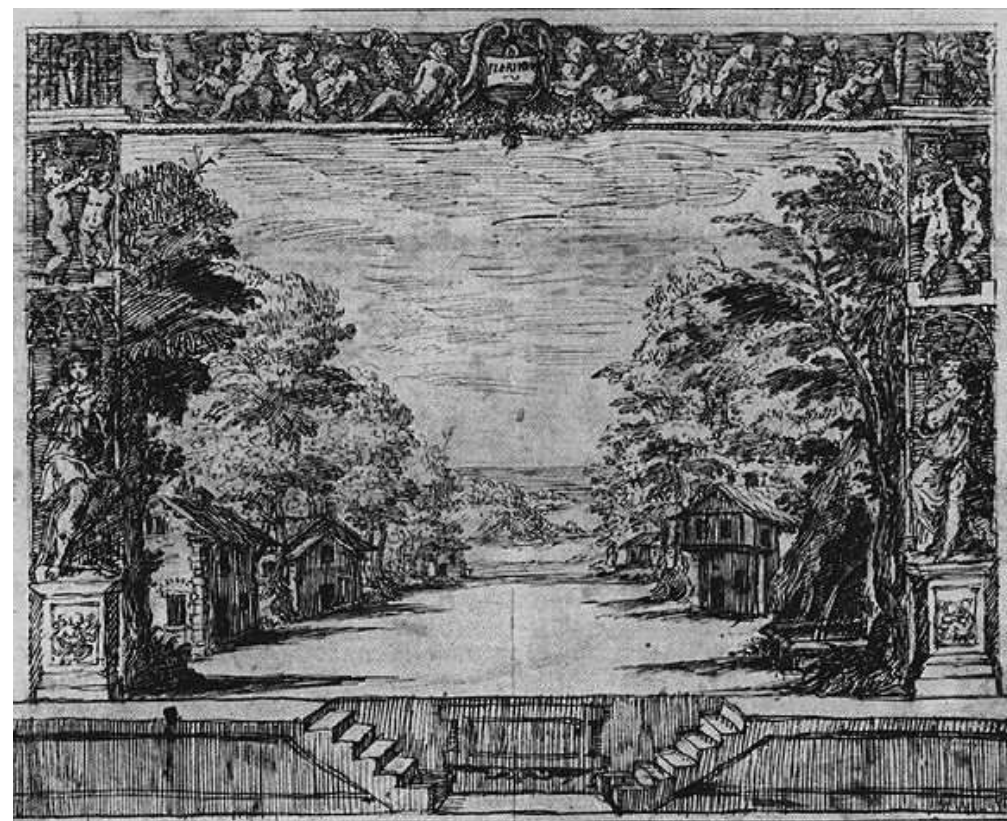
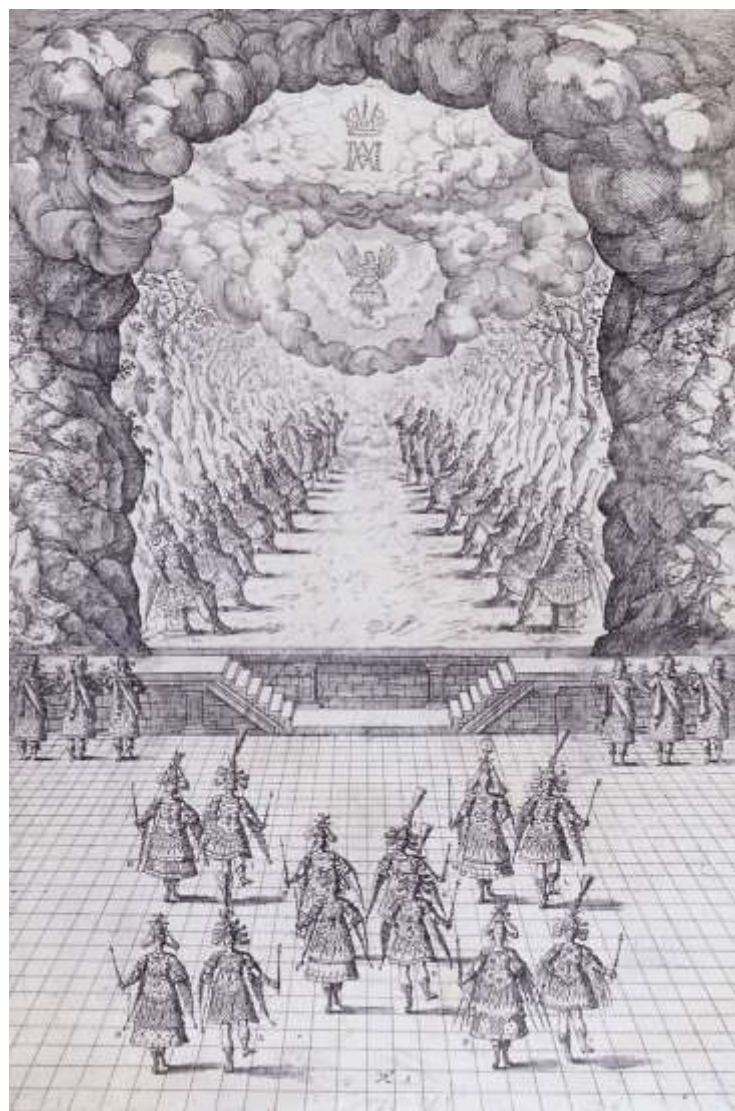
Anthony van Dyck,
Henrietta Maria,
1638



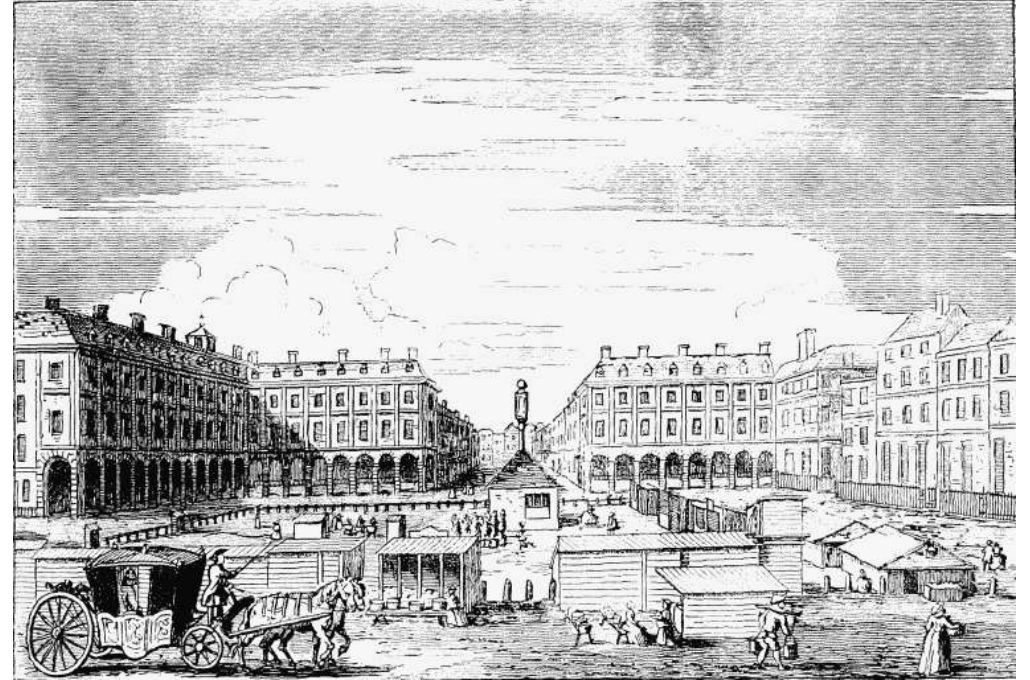
- *What do these artworks and interests tell us about Charles, Henrietta and their world?*
- *Do they change the way you view Charles?*
- *Let's take two sides on this. One group, quickly bring together some criticisms of Charles; second group, think of some defences...*



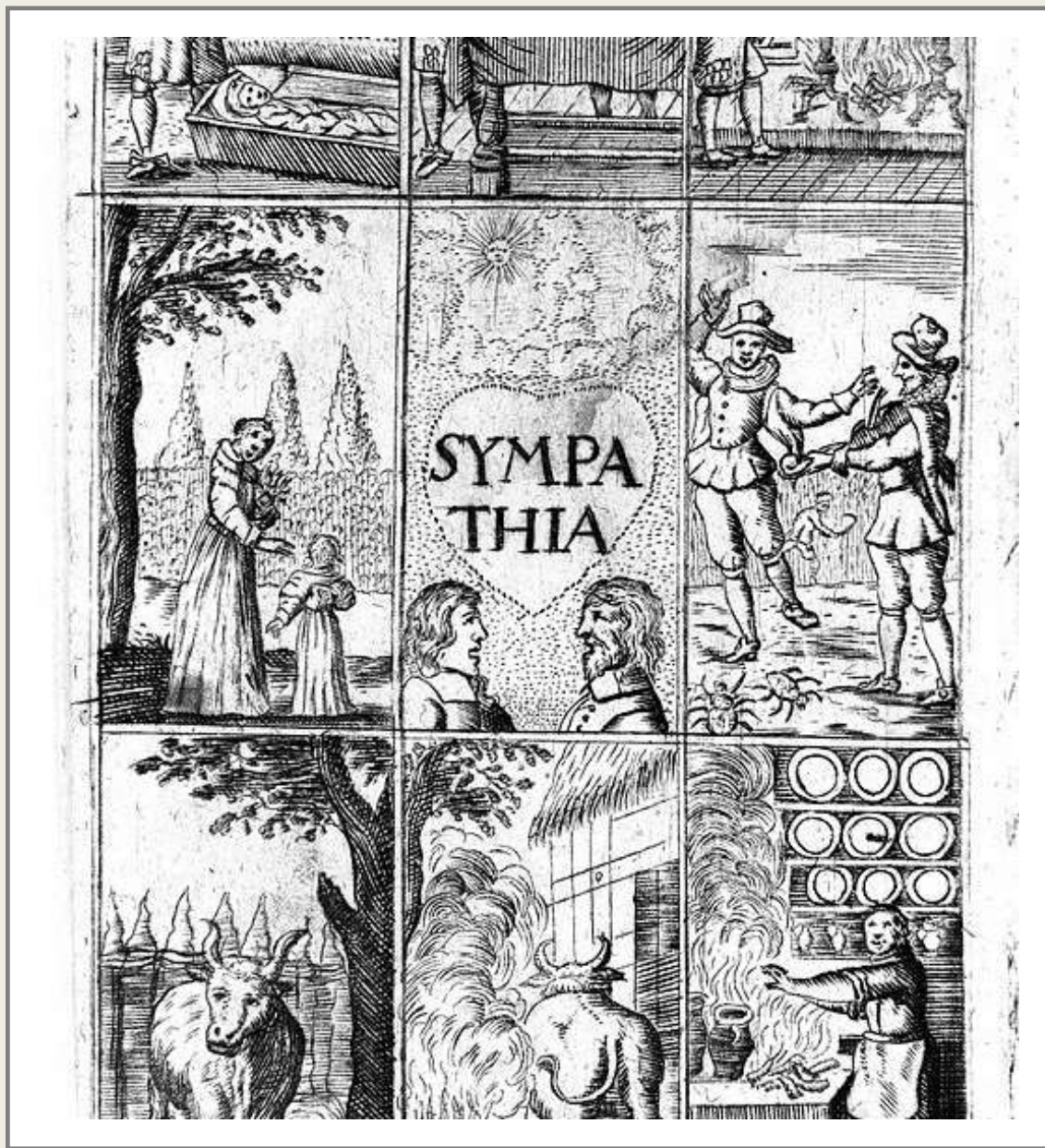
Inigo Jones







Covent Garden



Kenelm Digby, "the Powder of Sympathy"

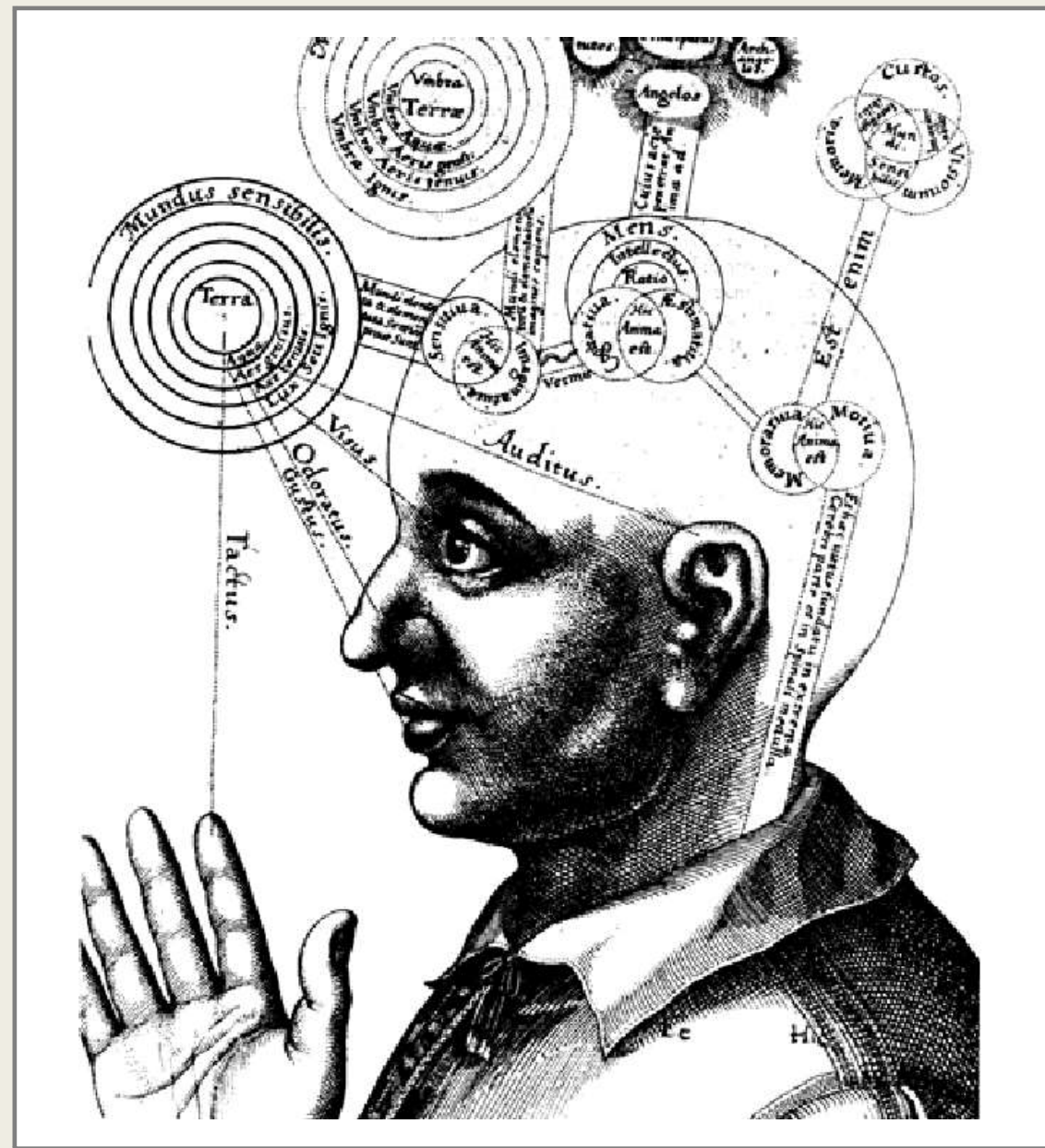


Image from Robert Fludd, microcosm of the mind



Anthony van Dyck,
Charles I on Horseback
with M. de St Antoine,
1633.



William Laud (1573-1645)

Catholicism returns?

- His unpopularity was compounded by religion...
- From the open Catholicism and papal links of his queen, to his preference and protection of Arminians like William Laud and Richard Montagu...
- Who wanted to transform religious worship in England and Scotland, making it closer to Catholic customs and ideas
- Many Puritans within Parliament feared a Catholic takeover, an anxiety compounded by Laud becoming Archbishop of Canterbury in 1633
- He cracks down on unlicensed preachers, reintroduces secular activities on the Sabbath, and intensifies censorship and punishment of the gentry



Thomas Wentworth,
Earl of Strafford
(1593-1641)

1630s: Charles falters

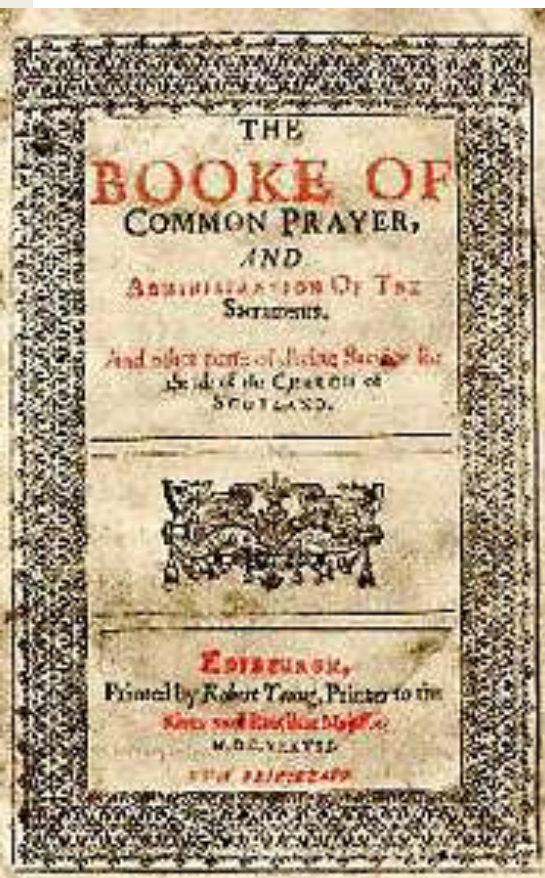
- An unpopular king with expensive tastes, ruling single-handedly three divided kingdoms with very little income...
- The kingdoms have the least tax in Europe, with no direct taxation
- In desperation, Charles sells monopolies, land, honours, and levies a tax for the protection of coastal areas during war – Ship Money – over the whole country from 1634
- While it raises some money initially, many members of the gentry and population oppose it. By 1636 there is open rebellion, led by John Hampden, who refuses to pay £1, taking the case to Court
- While he narrowly loses, the damage is done. By 1639 few are paying...



"The alteration of government... goes no less than the subversion of the whole state? Hemmed in with enemies; it is now a time to be silent, and not to show his Majesty that a man that has so much power uses none of it to help us? If he be no papist, papists are friends and kindred to him."

– John Hampden

*The Arch-Prelate of S^t Andrewes in Scotland
reading the new Service-booke in his pontificalibus
assaulted by men & Women, with Cricketts, stooles
Stickes and Stones.*



1630s: Charles falters

- In 1637, Charles imposes a new Prayer Book on the Scottish Presbyterian Church. Mass protests follow against the introduction of Anglican ideas...
- 1639: a Scottish Covenanter army invades, easily overpowering the weak and demoralised English at Newcastle
- 1640: Charles is forced to call parliament to pay for the war. The “Long Parliament” is very critical of Charles, and moves to impeach his advisors, like the Earl of Strafford, Lord Deputy in Ireland
- 1641: Rebellion breaks out in Ireland against the English planters. Alarm spreads of Catholic massacres and a looming invasion, supported by Charles...
- 1642: Charles attempts to arrest 5 parliamentary leaders. It backfires epically

English Protestantes striped naked & turned
into the mountaines, in the frost, & snowe, whe:
reof many hundreds are perished to death,
& many lyng dead in ditches & Sauages
upbraided them saynge now are ye wilde
Irisch as well as wee,



Companyes of the Rebells meeting with the
English flyinge for their liues falling downe
before them cryinge for mercy thrust their
into their Childrens bellies & threw them into
the water.





Where did it go wrong?

Unlucky, incompetent, or misunderstood?

In groups, you are going to take one side of the debate...

Be prepared to discuss:

- Wars, taxation and economic crises
- Relations with parliament and the country
- Religion
- Art and culture
- The difficulties of managing three very different kingdoms



*William Dobson, Charles II,
when Prince of Wales, with a
Page, c. 1642.*

Wednesday: Banqueting House

- Field trip! Meet outside the entrance of the Banqueting House on Wednesday at 14:00
- Address: Banqueting House, Whitehall, Westminster, London SW1A 2ER
- We'll explore some of Rubens' beautiful ceiling paintings and the iconography therein
- We'll also visit the site of Charles' execution
- If you're running late etc, give me a text: 07784 084754





