

Sanctuary: Second Window on Left Facing Chancel

Lower Medallion: John Knox

Preaching at St. Giles in Edinburgh, Scotland
Knox was the founder of the Scottish Presbyterian Church
and Spiritual Father of American Presbyterianism



“His voice could put life into them more than 500 trumpets”

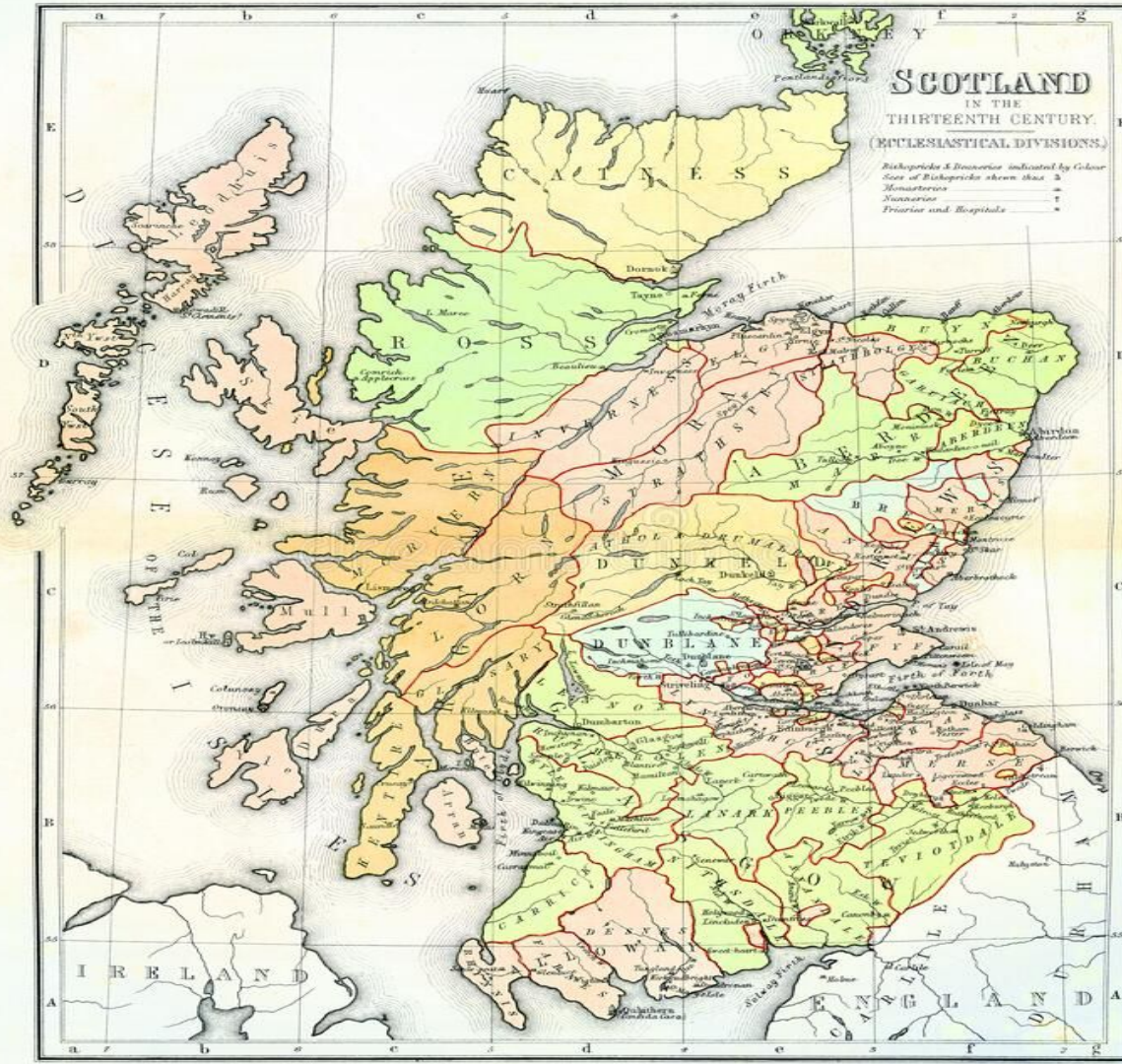
Thomas Randolph, English Ambassador quote



John Knox 1510 –1572



**St. Giles Cathedral
Edinburgh, Scotland**



Scotland's History

Rome did not try to conquer them.

Hadrian's Wall

Braveheart: William Wallace
1305 refused to let Edward be made King

House of Stewart 1371
Robert II King of Scots

Country is torn between
France and England wanting to rule them

In 1453, the 100 years war has just ended over the question of who is the legitimate successor to the French crown

Tudor England 1485-1603



Henry VII 1485-1509



Henry VIII 1509-1547 He had 6 wives and 3 children. He declared himself Head of the Church of England.



Edward VI 1547-1553
Aged 10-16



Mary I 1553-1558
Called Bloody Mary because of the number of Protestants she had killed.



Elizabeth I 1558-1603
Pope excommunicates her

Elizabethan Settlement
Golden Age of English History



Birthplace of John Knox

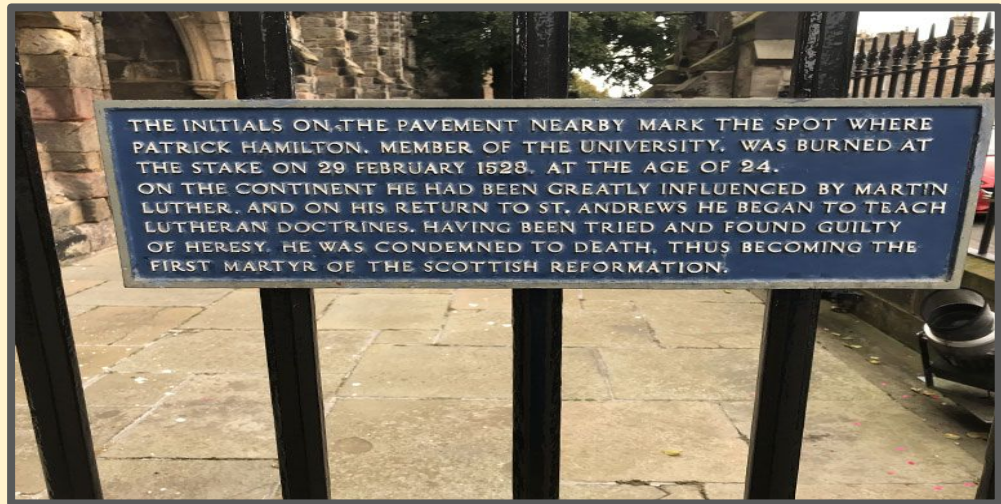
Educated at the University of St. Andrews

Called “Sir” because he finished his education but with no degree





Patrick Hamilton
1504-1528





**1538 James V of Scotland
married Mary Guise of France
Daughter is Mary Queen of Scots**



**George Wishart leaves
Scotland for more
Protestant education**



1543

**Wishart returns to
Scotland**

**He teaches from the
Greek New Testament
about Christ.**

**John Knox becomes his
bodyguard as he travels
across Scotland
preaching.**



**Wishart's most famous preaching was at the city of
Dundee. Plague had hit the city and he was willing
to bring the people a message of Hope, faith in
Christ, and God's love for them.**

1545-1546

December 1545, Wishart was preaching at Ormiston in East Lothian when he was seized by the Earl of Bothwell on Cardinal Beaton's orders.

He was transferred to Edinburgh Castle in January 1546, and then handed over to Cardinal Beaton for a show trial prosecuted by John Lauder, Scotland's Public Accuser of Heretics.

The outcome was fairly predictable, and on 1 March 1546, George Wishart was executed by being burned at the stake in St Andrews.

According to John Knox, Wishart predicted Cardinal Beaton's death before he himself died, and on 29 May 1546 Cardinal Beaton was murdered in St Andrew Castle, in retaliation.

Immediately the Protestants took over St. Andrews and it became their headquarters.



1547-1549

Knox remains a fugitive and returns to tutoring but ends up at St. Andrews.

Here his gifts as a preacher are recognized by the chaplain and gives his first sermon - Bible as sole authority and justification by faith alone are key.

At the request of Queen Regent Mary of Guise, the French send a large military fleet to St. Andrews.

Knox is arrested with many others and placed on the Nostra Dom, a gally slave ship for a death row experience.

He knows that God is watching over them and shares this with other captives.

While the ships were lying offshore between St Andrews and Dundee, the spires of the parish church where he preached appeared in view. James Balfour, a fellow prisoner, asked Knox whether he recognised the landmark. He replied that he knew it well, recognising the steeple of the place where he first preached and he declared that he would not die until he had preached there again.

He is released in a prisoner exchange and goes to England to be with King Edward.



1549-1554 Exile in England

Reformation in England was less radical than on continent.

Knox was licensed to work in Church of England in Berwick-upon-Tweed.

He became preacher in Newcastle upon Tyre and was eventually appointed a royal chaplain in the king's court.

He was offered a position as Bishop of Rochester but refused.

He was told to preach in Buckinghamshire where he remained until King Edward's death in July 1553.

Edward's successor, Mary Tudor, re-established Roman Catholicism to England and restored Mass in all churches.

No longer safe to Protestant preachers, Knox left for the Continent in January 1554.



1554 - 1556 Geneva to Frankfurt and Scotland

Knox asked Calvin four difficult political questions:

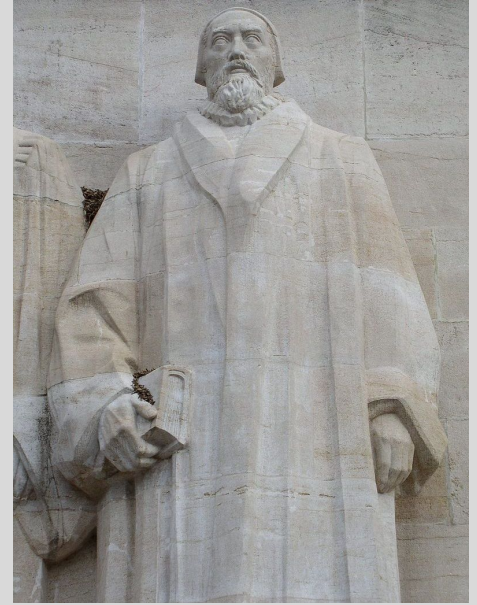
- 1) whether a minor could rule by divine right
- 2) whether a female could rule and transfer sovereignty to her husband,
- 3) whether people should obey ungodly or idolatrous rulers
- 4) what party godly persons should follow if they resisted an idolatrous ruler.

Both Calvin and reformer Heinrich Bullinger in Zurich gave cautious answers.

In July 1554, Knox published a pamphlet attacking Mary Tudor and the bishops who had brought her to the throne. He also attacked the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V, calling him "no less enemy to Christ than was Nero".

In September 1554, Knox took a minister position in a Frankfurt congregation of English exiles. After conflicts on the use of different reformed versions of the Book of Common Prayer, with a parishioner exposing his earlier attack on the Holy Roman Emperor, he returned to Geneva after only 6 months.

Encouraged by family and friends he returned to Scotland in May 1556.



1556 - 1559 Geneva

Knox returns to Geneva as minister at Auditiore de Calvin.

He viewed Geneva as best place of asylum for Protestants, "The most perfect school of Christ that ever was in the earth since the days of the apostles."

He publishes the First Blast of the Trumpet anonymously.

The pamphlet calls the "regimen: or rule of women "monstruous", meaning "unnatural", which was directed specifically at Queen Mary 1 of England and Mary of Guise.

In England it was officially condemned by royal proclamation and complicated his relationship with Queen Elizabeth when she came to power although she supported Protestants.

Know returns to Scotland with Elizabeth as queen of England in May 1559.



1559 - 1560 Revolution and end of regency

Knox returns to Scotland and within two days he is declared an outlaw by the Queen Regent, Mary Guise.

Protestant riots follow the sermons of Knox.

Knox returns to St Andrews fulfilling the prophecy he made in the galleys that he would one day preach again in its church.



Queen Regent brings in French troops which results in Knox discreetly negotiating for England's support from Queen Elizabeth.

The Scottish nobility formally deposes the Queen Regent and England send troops in support of Scotland's Protestants.

Queen Regent Mary of Guise dies unexpectedly in June 1560 which ends the revolution.



Reformation in Scotland 1560-1561

1560 Scottish Parliament

- Approved Knox's Scots Confession - part of PCUSA Book of Confessions
 - Sets forth three marks of the true and faithful church: "the true preaching of the Word of God," "the right administration of the sacraments of Christ Jesus," and "ecclesiastical discipline ... whereby vice is repressed and virtue nourished."
 - "Cleave, serve, worship, trust" are key words in this document.
- Abolished the jurisdiction of the Pope in Scotland
- Condemned all doctrine and practice contrary to the reformed faith
- Forbade the celebration of Mass in Scotland
- Tasked Knox and other ministers with organizing the newly reformed church of the Kirk

1561 Scottish Parliament

- Reconvened to consider Book of Discipline (basis of Presbyterian Book of Order)
 - Set out a system of church order that included superintendents, ministers, teachers, elders and deacons.
 - Contained a program of parish-based reformation that would use the resources of the old church to pay a network of ministers, a parish based school system, university education and arrangements for poor relief.
 - Rejected since nobles retained much of old church wealth

In 1578 a Second Book of Discipline was adopted, which was much more clearly Presbyterian in outlook. It placed church supervision fully in the hands of groups of elected church leaders, in presbyteries, synods and the general assembly.



Mary Queen of Scots (Mary Stewart)

Born December 8, 1542

Her father died at the Battle of Solway Moss

5 days later, she became Queen of Scotland at 6 days old.

She was betrothed to Henry VIII's son Edward, but her guardians disapproved.

At the age of six years old she sailed to France and the French court of King Henry II and her future husband, the Dauphin Francis.

She briefly became Queen of France in 1559, uniting the French and Scottish crowns, however she was soon to be widowed at 18 when Francis died of an ear infection.

Catholic Mary's return to rule over officially Protestant Scotland was regarded with suspicion.

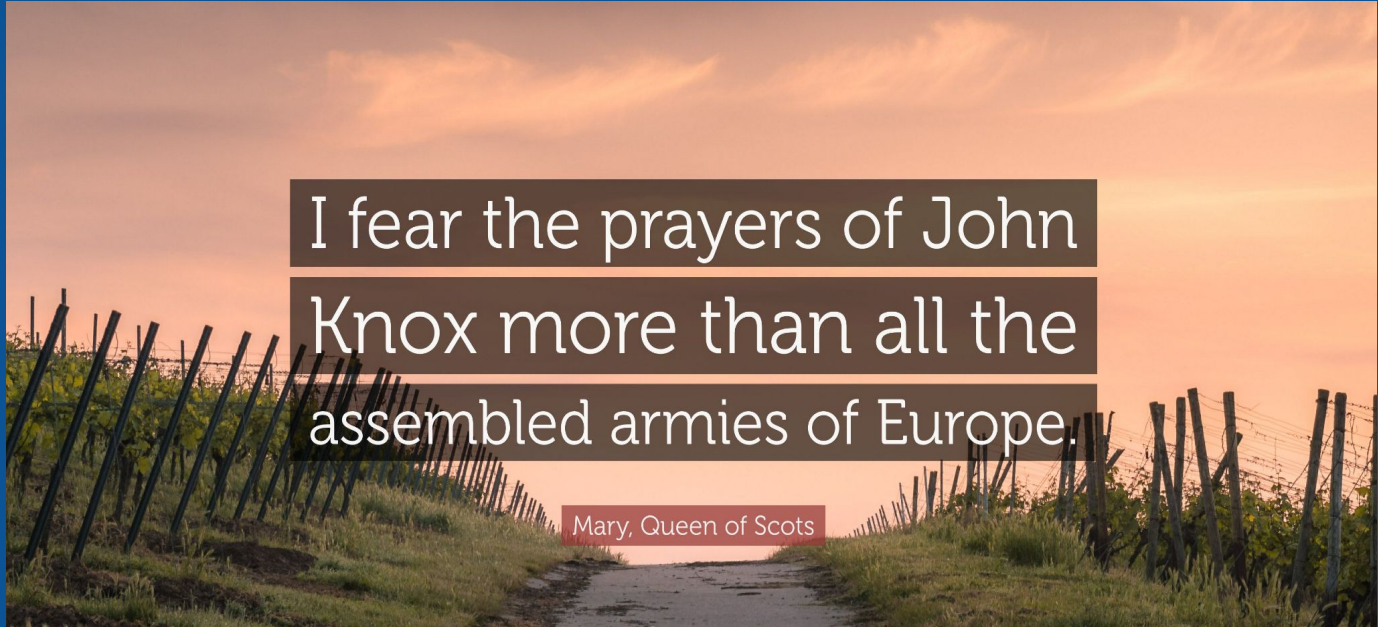
To further secure the Scottish throne, Mary married her cousin Henry Stewart, Lord Darnley and quickly became pregnant.

Knox and Queen Mary 1561-1564



I fear the prayers of John
Knox more than all the
assembled armies of Europe.

Mary, Queen of Scots



Edinburgh 1564 - 1572

Knox is minister at High Kirk of Edinburgh.

Knox continues to hold Mary Queen of Scots to account until her abdication and imprisonment in 1566 and eventual escape to England in May 1568.

Knox preaches James VI coronation sermon.

Knox has stroke and is removed to St Andrews in 1571 when Edinburgh becomes a battleground between the factions.

When the news of the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre of French Protestants (5,000 to 30,000) reached Scotland in 1572, Knox dragged himself to his pulpit in St. Giles's and drove home the lesson of that tragedy

He stood one last time in the pulpit of St. Giles's, to introduce his successor, James Lawson.





The Scriptures of God are my only foundation and substance in all matters of weight and importance.

I never once feared the devil, but I tremble every time I enter the pulpit.

O Lord Eternal, move and govern my tongue to speak the truth.

A man with God is always in the majority.

Prayer is an earnest and familiar talking with God.

How good we are as preachers depends - not altogether, but (make no mistake!) primarily on how good we are as men.

When I think of those who have influenced my life the most, I think not of the great but of the good.

You cannot antagonize and influence at the same time.

I sought neither preeminence, glory, nor riches; my honor was that Jesus Christ would reign.