

Reformation

BY DYLAN / #DJ DB

What is reformation?

After 24 years of marriage, his first wife, Catherine, had failed to give Henry a male heir. He went to the pope to ask for a divorce, but the pope wouldn't allow it.

Unhappy, Henry took matters into his own hands. He broke away from the catholic church, creating his own church of England and naming himself the pope.

He appointed his friend Thomas Cranmer as Archbishop of Canterbury, and made him grant a divorce - easy! Thus ended the first (there were to be many more!) of Henry's marriages.



what happened next?

The religious reform caused widespread divide in England, with many people disliking the new church. Followers of the new church were known as protestants, whereas worshippers of the roman catholic church were known as Catholics. There was often tension and clashes between the two groups - an unrest that would last for many years.



More

- ▶ Henry's actions were revolutionary because they changed the identity of English religion. If it weren't for Henry's desperate desire for a male heir, the reformation could have been very different today. Today the queen is still the head of the church and divorce is allowed.

