

New Covenant PCA
Reformation Celebration,
2019:

The Times of JOHN KNOX



The Background of 16th Century Scotland

- The history of Scotland emerges out the mist.
 - The Roman Emperor, Hadrian, built a wall.
 - The 'ancient enemies of England' dominated Scotland for more than 400 years.
- The Scottish monarchy began in the 10th c.
 - Supported and defended by "lairds".
 - Law and order controlled by clans.





Scotland

- As a result of Flodden, Scotland became an even more important factor in European politics, but as a pawn, not a power.
- James V (1513-1542) was on the throne at the time of Knox' birth.



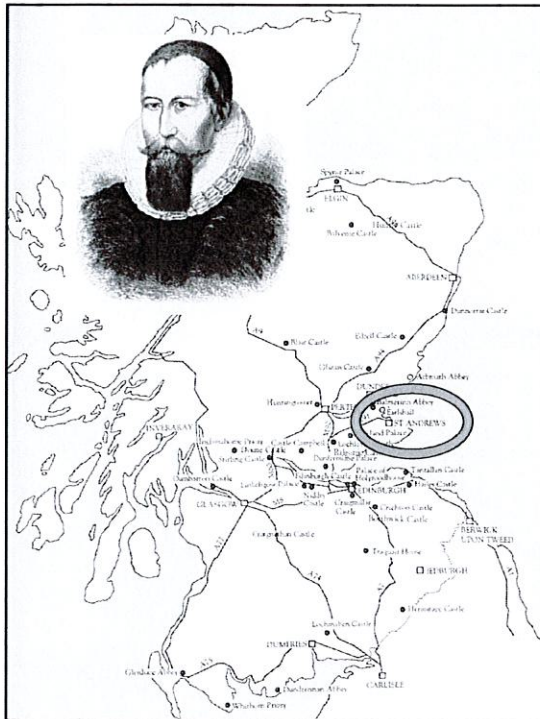
Mary of Guise



Mary, Queen
of Scots

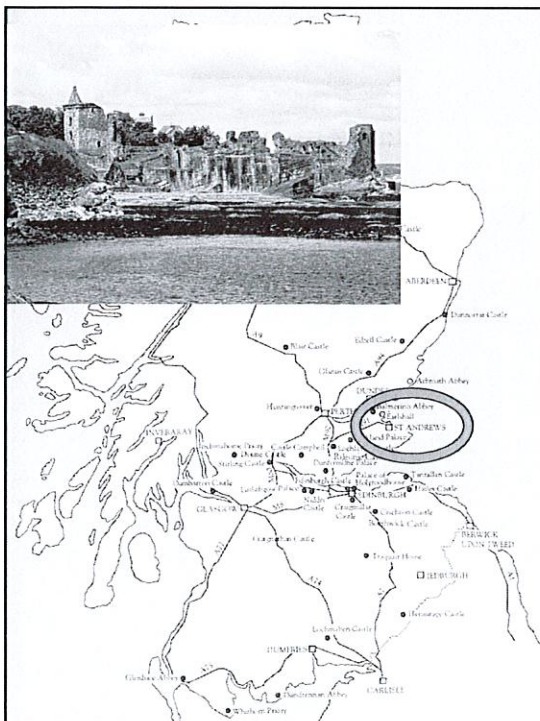
Scotland

- Life was harsh
 - Widespread poverty
 - Vindictive and cruel "justice" among clans
- "At the beginning of the sixteenth century, Scotland was a poor, primitive, and far-away country which the civilized nations of Europe regarded with contempt and romantic fascination. ... Scotland was a weird, barbaric land, inhabited by wild Scots and savages, and ending in a great field of stone and ice, where nothing grew; ... the land where the Devil lived." (Ridley, p. 1)
- John Knox grew up in a brutal world.



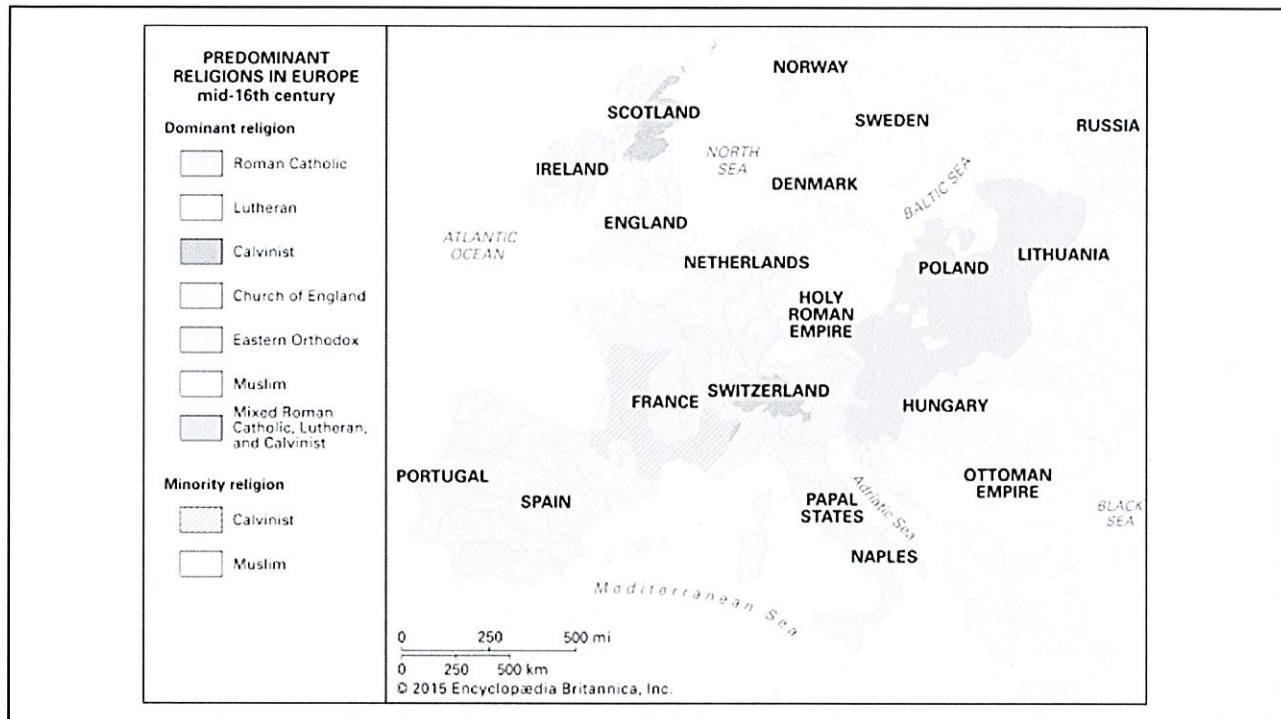
St. Andrews

- “The home of golf” – early 15th c.
(James IV was an avid golfer.)
- Ecclesiastical capital prior to the Reformation
 - St. Andrews Cathedral
 - seat of the archbishop
 - Constantly visited by pilgrims
 - Known for its relics
- St. Andrews University
 - Oldest university in Scotland (granted by Pope Benedict IX, 1413)
 - Extended to include St. Salvator’s College (1450), St. Leonard’s College (1511), and St. Mary’s College (1538)
 - Knox studied at St. Salvator’s, primarily under Mair
 - Patrick Hamilton executed in front of St. Salvator’s, (1528)



St. Andrews

- “The home of golf” – early 15th c.
(James IV was an avid golfer.)
- Ecclesiastical capital prior to the Reformation
 - St. Andrews Cathedral
 - seat of the archbishop
 - Constantly visited by pilgrims
 - Known for its relics
- St. Andrews University
- St. Andrews Castle – built in 1200
 - Provided housing for wealthy and powerful bishops as well as being the residence of the archbishop
 - Also its basement used as a prison
 - Destroyed/rebuilt over the centuries prior to the Reformation
 - Finally abandoned in 1689



French vs. English control

- Up to early 1500s, Scotland entirely Roman Catholic
- Henry VIII in England
 - *Fedei Defensor* ("Defender of the Faith"), for ordering the execution of Tyndale
 - The Treasons Act: break with Roman Catholic Church, 1534
 - Battled with James V at Solway Moss to force Scotland to leave the RC church and won
 - James V died soon after the battle, leaving his 6-day old daughter, Mary, as Queen
 - James Hamilton, 2nd Earl of Arran, becomes Regent – ruling on Mary's behalf
 - Arran makes peace with England agreeing to the future marriage of Mary to Prince Edward
 - which opens the door to Protestantism in Scotland
 - allowing the distribution of the English Bible
 - and sending Protestant preachers into the country



French vs. English control

- Cardinal David Beaton, archbishop of St. Andrews,
 - persuades Arran to break with England and return to their traditional ally, Catholic France (1545)
 - He arrests, tries, and executes George Wishart outside his residence castle (1546)
 - Protestant rebels overrun the castle, murder Cardinal Beaton, and occupy the castle
 - Mary of Guise, James V's widow, petitions Catholic France to intervene before Protestant England does
 - The French army arrives and takes the castle
 - Henry VIII dies (1547)



French vs. English control

- Edward VI (takes throne at the age of 10) (1548)
 - Promises and allows real progress of Protestantism
 - Mary, Queen of Scots, is transported to France for safety (1548)
 - Edward VI dies only 5 years later (1553)
- Mary I (daughter of Henry VIII/Catherine of Aragon) becomes queen
 - She is set on returning England to Roman Catholicism
 - She earns the reputation of "Bloody" for executing over 280 Protestants
 - She dies only 5 years later (1558)
- Mary, Queen of Scots, in hiding in France, marries the Dauphin at Notre Dame de Paris (1558), but he dies after only 2 years (1560)
- Elizabeth I (daughter of Henry VIII/Anne Boleyn) becomes queen
 - Reigns for 40 years (1559-1603)
 - Determinably Protestant
 - Fiercely independent
 - Committed to a unified, Anglican kingdom



French vs. English control

- The time is right for a Protestant Revolution in Scotland
 - John Knox returns to Scotland (1559)
 - Protestants clash with Catholic Mary of Guise
- Mary of Guise is forced to abdicate and dies; and King Francis II also dies (1560)
- Treaty is signed, Protestants win control of Parliament
 - Scottish Church organized
 - Roman Catholicism outlawed
 - Political strength tires and becomes distracted
- Efforts are made to restore Roman Catholicism
 - Mary, Queen of Scots, returns to Scotland (1561), 19 yrs of age
 - Those efforts stunted by violence and by Mary's personal life
- Mary, Queen of Scots,
 - is forced to abdicate (1567) and escapes Scotland (1568)
- Knox dies in Edinburgh (1572)
- Mary, Queen of Scots, is held captive in England until she is executed (1587)



French vs. English control

- James VI, only child of Mary, Queen of Scots,
 - becomes king of Scotland (1567)
 - And with the death of Elizabeth I, becomes king of England (1603)
 - He prefers Anglicanism to Presbyterianism
 - Presbyterianism stresses democracy
 - Anglicanism stresses hierarchy ("Divine Right of Kings")
- Charles I becomes king (1626/1633)
 - Insisted on "Divine Right of Kings"
 - Married a Roman Catholic
 - Appointed William Laud to be Archbishop of Canterbury who initiated a system of Anglican reforms throughout the united kingdom.
- Scots revolted, signing the National Covenant (1638)
- English Civil War – Parliament vs. King (1642)
- Westminster Assembly convenes (1643)