Church History



Church History

- Introduction to Church History
- The Ancient Church
- The Rise of Christendom
- The Early Middle Ages
- The Age of Crusades
- The Renaissance
- Conquest and Reformation
- The Age of Enlightenment
- The Age of Revolution
- The Modern Age
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- AD 1st-3rd centuries
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- Introduction to Church History
- The Ancient Church
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- Conquest and Reformation
- The Age of Enlightenment
 - Cromwell

AD 1st-3rd centuries

AD 4th-5th centuries

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AD 11th-13th centuries

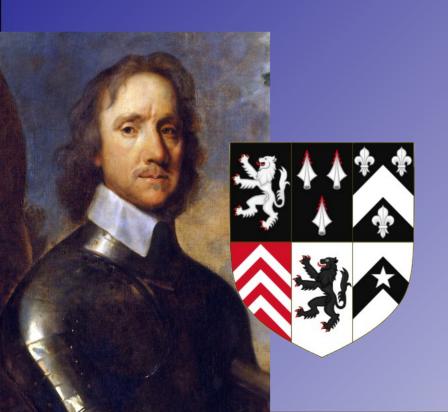
AD 14th-15th centuries

AD 16th century

AD 17th-18th centuries



The Enlightenment was finally here
1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland
Thanks to the help of Cardinal Rinuccini—





Funky little teaching moment—
You remember Cardinal Giovanni Rinuccini from

last week, right?

Pope Innocent X had sent Rinuccini to to Catholic Kilkenny, in Ireland, back in 1646, with guns, ammunition, and funding to help fight off the (Puritan) Parliamentary English

The Irish immediately loved Rinuccini, and they appreciated the gesture of support from Rome Later that year, the Duke of Ormonde tried to broker a truce between the Irish and the English, wherein the Parliamentarians would allow the Irish to continue to held property and to practice

to continue to hold property and to practice
Catholicism in private worship services
Rinuccini excommunicated anyone who supported such a treaty, and so, it was voted down by the Irish General Assembly





The Enlightenment was finally here
1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland
Thanks to the help of Cardinal Rinuccini, the Irish Confederacy had resisted any treaty which might diminish their rights as Catholics, and had stood with Charles I against Parliament
They even signed a treaty with the exiled Charles II, to support him onto the English throne
They also opened Irish ports such as Wexford to anti-English privateers, and encouraged attacks against English ships
(Bear in mind that in their own rebellion of 1641, the Irish Catholics had slaughtered upwards of 10,000 English Protestants who had settled in Ulster)

Ulster)





The Enlightenment was finally here
1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland
Thanks to the help of Cardinal Rinuccini, the Irish Confederacy had resisted any treaty which might diminish their rights as Catholics, and had stood with Charles I against Parliament
Cromwell used all of that as a pretext to invade
Ormonde—always trying to avoid an all-out war—led the Irish troops against Cromwell, but got utterly smashed by Cromwell's massive invasion force
Over the next couple of years, the New Model Army devastated Ireland
By the end of 1652 Ireland had surrendered

By the end of 1652, Ireland had surrendered, Cromwell had long since been recalled to England to try to deal with the *Third* English Civil War, and Ireland had lost over 618,000 people—or roughly 40% of its population in the span of three years

To this day, Cromwell is roundly hated in Ireland as a tyrant and a butcher



Funky little teaching moment—
But it was a little more complicated than that
First off, few of the original descriptions of the battles
listed the civilian casualties that detractors later

attributed to Cromwell and his troops
In fact, when the invasion began, Cromwell specifically ordered his men to be fair to civilians:
"I do hereby warn... all Officers, Soldiers and others under my command not to do any wrong or violence toward Country People or any persons whatsoever, unless they be actually in arms or office with the enemy... as they shall answer to the contrary at their utmost peril."

"As for the people, what thoughts they have in the matter of religion in their own breasts I cannot reach; but I shall think it my duty, if they walk honestly and peaceably, not to cause them in the least to suffer for the same."

same.



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In fact, when the invasion began, Cromwell
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He was absolutely ruthless—boasting that the siege
of the port city of Drogheda left maybe 30 people
alive—but not actively cruel
Cromwell even sent a warning message to the
garrison commander there:
"Sir, having brought the army of the

"Sir, having brought the army of the Parliament of England before this place, to reduce it to obedience, to the end that the effusion of blood may be prevented, I thought fit to summon you to deliver the same into my hands to their use. If this be refused, you will have no cause to blame me. I expect your answer and remain your servant, —O. Cromwell"

But the commander refused to surrender



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According to the rules of warfare for the day, when garrisons refused to surrender, it was just assumed that no quarter be given

Cronwell's official record of how many civilian townsfolk died as a result was

around 700

The Irish Catholic account claimed that the number was around 4,000 civilians (which was 500 more than the total number of dead in the whole siege...)

It's all very much a matter of

perspective...



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The same could be said of his siege of Wexford a few weeks later.

Again, Cromwell sent a message to the garrison commander, agreeing to his requested terms:
"Sir, I have had the patience to peruse your propositions; to which I might have returned an answer with some disdain. But to be short I shall give the soldiers... quarter for life and leave to go to their several habitations... and as for the inhabitants, I shall engage myself that no violence shall be offered to their goods, and that I shall protect their town from plunder"



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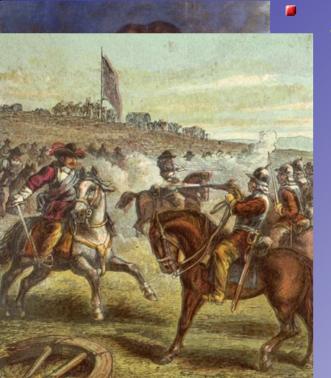
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Again, Cromwell sent a message to the garrison commander, agreeing to his requested terms.

But then, for some reason, a Royalist captain suddenly surrendered the town... before the terms could be officially agreed upon by both sides

Parliamentarian forces flooded into the streets, killing, burning, and looting—but not on Cromwell's orders

(though, to be fair, he didn't really try to stop them, citing Wexford's decade of slaughtering English on the high seas)



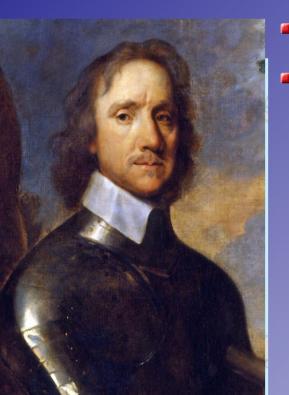
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To this day, the massacres at Drogheda and Wexford are seen by the Irish as the paramount examples of Cromwell's cruelty and tyranny even though neither one was technically due to any unusual cruelty or tyranny on Cromwell's personal part

(though both massacres were still under his watch, and under his authority...)



Funky little teaching moment—
But it was a little more complicated than that
First off, few of the original descriptions of the battles listed the civilian casualties that detractors later

attributed to Cromwell and his troops
Secondly, the large-scale massacres (and crop burnings, and using starvation as a weapon) were all carried out after Cromwell returned to England by his appointed successor, Henry Ireton
It's impossible to know how much of that Cromwell was even aware of at the time (though Ireton was Cromwell's son-in-law)

But under Ireton's command, the lands and goods of Catholics were all confiscated, and anyone—even civilians—who resisted were either imprisoned or sold as indentured servants to the colonies

Catholic priests were exiled or imprisoned—and any priests returning to Ireland were under sentence of execution.

No Catholic worship of any kind was allowed—even in private Cromwell didn't object to this...



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attributed to Cromwell and his troops
Secondly, the large-scale massacres (and crop burnings, and using starvation as a weapon) were all carried out after Cromwell returned to England Cromwell's hatred for Catholicism was so intense, and so much villainy was done in Ireland in his name, that Cromwell has literally become a curse in Ireland
The worst curse that an Irishman can bestow upon someone is, "Mallacht Chromail ort"

And the anniversary of his death is still often

And the anniversary of his death is still often celebrated in the streets of Ireland, with lynchings and burnings of Cromwell in effigy

So do you see how the Irish perceptions of Cromwell helped build a foundation for the current Protestant/Catholic hostilities in Ireland, and their hatred for the English in general?





The Enlightenment was finally here

1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland
1650 The Scots declared Charles II to be King
To gain their trust, Charles officially renounced the
Church of England and accepted Presbyterianism
and the Scottish promised to back his claim to the
English throne as well
(thus launching the Third English Civil War)



The Enlightenment was finally here

1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland
1650 The Third English Civil War broke out
To gain their trust, Charles officially renounced the Church of England and accepted Presbyterianism and the Scottish promised to back his claim to the English throne as well
Cromwell was thus called back from Ireland by Parliament to invade Scotland instead



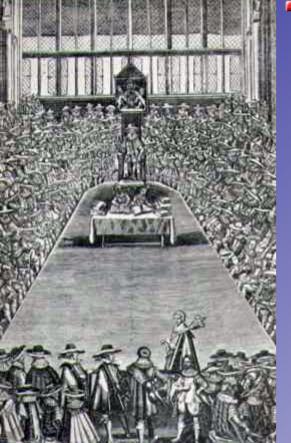




Funky little teaching moment
This wasn't exactly the same Parliament that had stood against King Charles I
In 1648, Cromwell's superior officer—Lord Thomas
"Black Tom" Fairfax—ordered that everyone who disagreed with the military's handling of the political situation be forcibly removed from Parliament
So on December 6, 1648,
Colonel Thomas Pride brought the New Model Army in to purge Parliament of those who didn't agree with Fairfax and Cromwell
To this day, the Roundheads' control of Parliament still stands as the only military stands as the only military coup d'état in English history



Funky little teaching moment—
This wasn't exactly the same Parliament that had stood against King Charles I
In 1648, Cromwell's superior officer—Lord Thomas "Black Tom" Fairfax—ordered that everyone who disagreed with the military's handling of the political situation be forcibly removed from Parliament Because this left only a "remnant" or a "rump" of the previous Parliament in power, this body has become known as the "Rump Parliament"





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To gain their trust, Charles officially renounced the Church of England and accepted Presbyterianism and the Scottish promised to back his claim to the English throne as well
Cromwell was thus called back from Ireland by the Rump Parliament to invade Scotland instead
But before he would invade Scotland, Cromwell begged the Scots to reconsider:
"I beseech you, in the bowels of Christ, think it possible you may be mistaken"



The Enlightenment was finally here 1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland

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But before he would invade Scotland, Cromwell begged the Scots to reconsider
The Scottish stood by their new king, and Cromwell invaded at Dunbar, winning a solid victory against a larger force

against a larger force
Charles saw an opportunity, so
he abandoned the Scots and took his Royalists south, to march on London while

Cromwell fought in ScotlandBut the Scots didn't come with him, Cromwell caught up with him, and by September of 1651, Charles was in custody and the Third Civil War was over



The Enlightenment was finally here 1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland

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However, Charles somehow got away and escaped through France to his family in the Netherlands, so we'll be seeing him again later on...

On...



The Enlightenment was finally here 1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland

1650 1651 The Third English Civil War broke out

Cromwell started fighting against Parliament With Charles out of the picture (for the moment), Cromwell called for Parliament to create a new Church of England that tolerated all Protestants
(and that even tolerated the rights of Catholics and Jews to practice their religion—albeit only privately)
In fact, he even officially overturned King Edward I's 1290 Edict of Expulsion, publicly asking the Jews abroad to return to England quoting Romans 10:12-15 in Whitehall—
"For there is no difference between Jew and

"For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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quoting Romans 10:12-15 in Whitehall
Cromwell's loudest opponent in reaching out to
the Jews was actually fellow Roundhead
William Prynne

William Prynne





The Enlightenment was finally here 1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland

1650
The Third English Civil War broke out
1651
Cromwell started fighting against Parliament
With Charles out of the picture (for the moment),
Cromwell called for Parliament to create a new
Church of England that tolerated all Protestants,
hold new, open elections to re-fill its empty seats,
and re-unite the United Kingdom
Parliament actively resisted on all of these counts
so in 1653, Cromwell called for them to name a
new, temporary, 40-man government who could
move forward (and abdicate their own positions)
They agreed to do so... but then did absolutely
nothing—nor did they even ever get a workable
constitution in place
They were, in fact, too busy redistributing the royal

They were, in fact, too busy redistributing the royal revenues to one another to actually govern...





The Enlightenment was finally here 1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland

The Third English Civil War broke out

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In their place, he created a commission, whose job it was to decide what kind of new government should be put together

(Note: In the 1970 movie, Cromwell, the character of Lord Thomas Fairfax is given a non-historical, but ironic line:

"I seem to remember we cut off the head of

a king for such as this...")

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Parliament!'

In their place, he created a commission, whose job it was to decide what kind of new government should be put together
 The commission created a new Parliament, based not on social rank, but on perceived religious fervor (and on perceived loyalty to Oliver Cromwell)
 Six months later, this experimental "Parliament of Saints" dissolved itself to create a new

Protectorate government for England...



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1653 Cromwell was named England's Lord Protector

Note the flags of England, Scotland, and Ireland (Wales being represented by another English flag), with Cromwell's white lion in the center





The Enlightenment was finally here 1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland

1650 1651 1653

Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland
The Third English Civil War broke out
Cromwell started fighting against Parliament
Cromwell was named England's Lord Protector
Technically, the title had been one of the many
titles held by the royals of England for centuries
but in point of actual practice, it was usually only
used by royals acting as regents for young kings
"Cromwell saw himself as essentially acting as a
"regent" for the nation itself, until a legitimate and
healthy king could come along to sit on the throne
He expressed that his rule had two core objectives:

1) To heal the nation after three bloody, Civil
Wars, and rebuild its government
Unfortunately, Speaker William Lenthall
couldn't get the new Parliament to work
together at all—none of the bills brought
before them passed

before them passed
So in January of 1654, Cromwell dissolved that Parliament, too

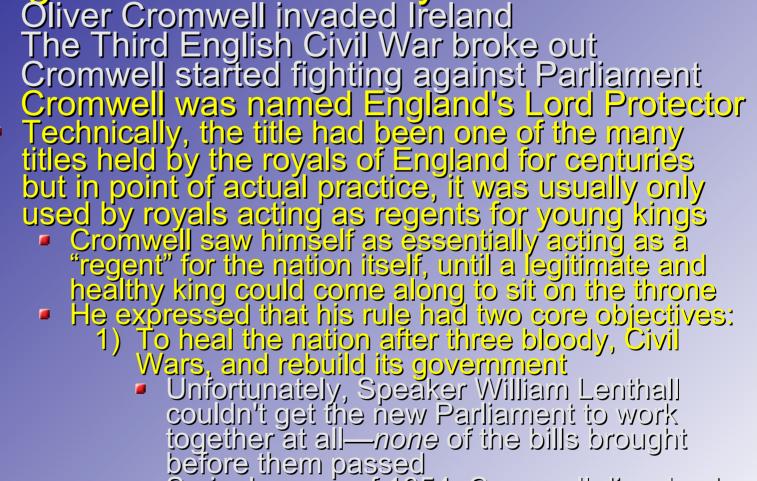
Instead, he set up a system of Major-Generals (kind of like military governors) to run England



The Enlightenment was finally here 1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland

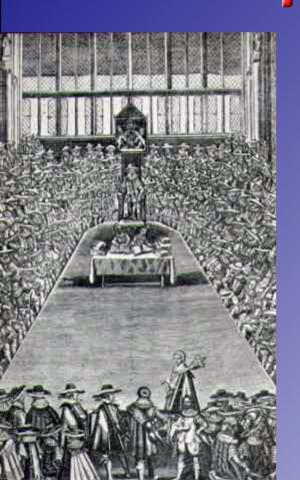
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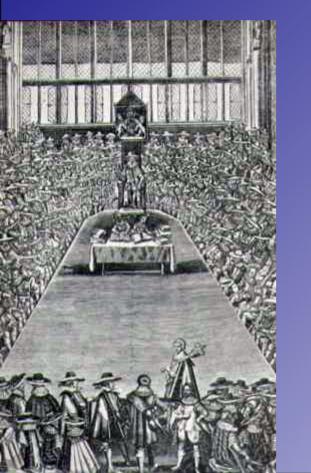


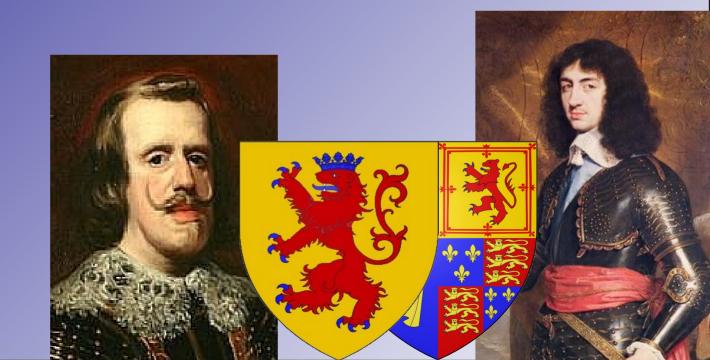
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So in January of 1654, Cromwell dissolved that Parliament, too

The Major-Generals quickly realized that they needed a Parliament, so a new new Parliament was formed



Funky little teaching moment—
This Parliament tried to exert their authority by lessening taxes, ending the war with the Dutch (which had been going on since 1652)
(NOTE: This meant that Charles couldn't get much political help from the Netherlands, without creating another international incident)
(So, ironically, he turned to England's long-time enemy, the Hapsburg King Philip IV of Spain)



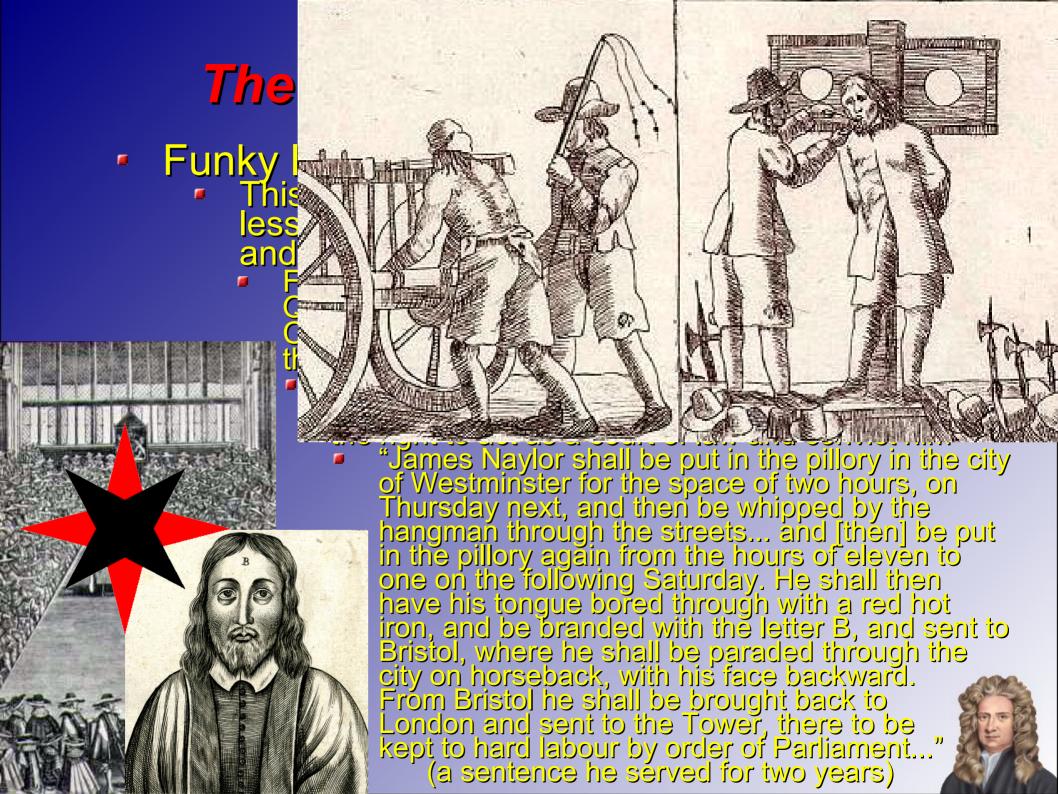


Funky little teaching moment—
This Parliament tried to exert their authority by lessening taxes, ending the war with the Dutch, and flexing their muscles as a "supreme court"
For instance, they tried the case of James Naylor—a Quaker who'd thought that God told him to re-enact Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem by riding in the same way to Bristol on Palm Sunday
The Puritans in Parliament didn't think that God had told him to do that

told him to do that

Nor, to be honest, did George Fox, who said, "James ran out into imaginations, and a company with him; and they raised up a great darkness in the nation"





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but in point of actual practice, it was usually only
used by royals acting as regents for young kings
Cromwell saw himself as essentially acting as a
"regent" for the nation itself, until a legitimate and
healthy king could come along to sit on the throne
He expressed that his rule had two core objectives:
1) To heal the nation after three bloody, Civil
Wars, and rebuild its government
2) To re-reform the spiritual life of England
Between Quakers like Naylor, Catholicizers
like Charles I, and rampant sinning on the
part of the commoners—Cromwell saw the
need to reform the theology of the people
as well as the government



Funky little teaching moment—
So that's why Cromwell banned Christmas
Like most Puritans of his day, Cromwell saw
Christmas as an essentially pagan celebration
because a lot of it kind of is

We have big parties where we celebrate a divine birth and give gifts—just like the Romans used to do during the pagan Saturnalia festival, which culminated each year in the Birthday of the Unconquered Sun celebration on December 25 (Note: In Cromwell's time, most people got crazy drunk at these parties, and God wasn't even remotely honored)



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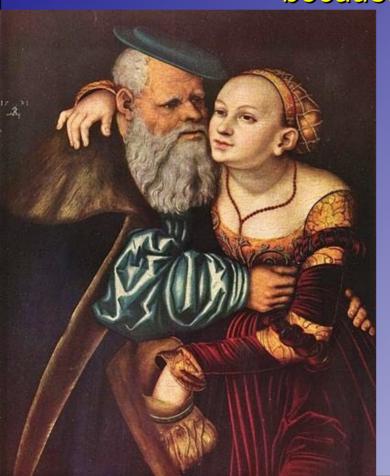
Cause a lot of it kind of is

We have big parties where we celebrate a divine birth and give gifts—just like the Romans used to do during the pagan Saturnalia festival, which culminated each year in the Birthday of the Unconquered Sun celebration on December 25 And even today, our cultural representations of Christmas include pagan holly and evergreen trees and a jolly old Yule elitocus on Christ's birth didn't outweigh the pagan elements, so it was banned Even cooking a goose for Christmas dinner could get a person thrown into prison on blasphemy charges

Funky little teaching moment
So that's why Cromwell banned Christmas
But Parliament also banned theaters
They thought that acting was basically a con artist's activity, and that most theaters were places of sin because they kind of were
Forget Shakespeare and the Globe Theater for a second—most actors were members of travelling troops that distracted you while the pickpockets that they scattered amongst the unsuspecting audience robbed you blind
And even at Shakespeare's relatively reputable Globe Theater, they tended to have problems with things like people getting drunk and rowdy, and having sex during the plays



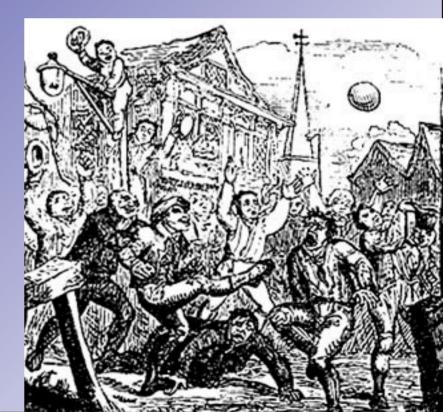
Funky little teaching moment—
So that's why Cromwell banned Christmas
But Parliament also banned theaters, and most pubs and inns
They thought that they were hotbeds of prostitution because a lot of them kind of were





Funky little teaching moment—
So that's why Cromwell banned Christmas
But Parliament also banned theaters, and most
pubs and inns, and sports (especially on Sunday)
Really, doing anything on a Sunday—including
taking a stroll





Funky little teaching moment—
So that's why Cromwell banned Christmas
But Parliament also banned theaters, and most
pubs and inns, and sports (especially on Sunday),
and colorful dresses, and make-up
In point of practice, Major-Generals and their officers
regularly dragged women off of the streets to scrub off
their make-up—and even to throw them into prison, if
they believed that the make-up was an indicator that the
woman was, in fact, a prostitute





The Enlightenment was finally here 1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland
The Third English Civil War broke out
Cromwell started fighting against Parliament
Cromwell was named England's Lord Protector
In 1657, Parliament offered Cromwell the crown—
to become officially the next King of England

He chewed on the offer for six weeks, considering
how it would take the stress off to know that his
government would not be based on seasonal whims

But as he ultimately explained,

"I would not seek to set up that which
Providence hath destroyed and laid in the
dust, and I would not build Jericho again"

"I would have been glad to have lived under
my woodside, and to have kept a flock of
sheep, rather than to have undertaken this
government" 1650 1651 1653





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Nonetheless, they did dress him in purple robes
and start calling him, "Your Highness..." 1650 1651 1653





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The Third English Civil War broke out
Cromwell started fighting against Parliament
Cromwell was named England's Lord Protector
Cromwell abruptly died
He contracted malaria—probably as the result of a
urinary tract infection—passing away at age 59
and he was buried with all of the pomp and
circumstance of a king
After his passing, his son, Richard, was paked to

After his passing, his son, Richard, was asked to step into the role of Lord Protector of England and was so horrible at it that he was asked to

resign within nine months of taking office, in 1659

The government that Cromwell had worked so hard to build ended up being only as strong as its leader, and so the whole system completely fell apart

(Which is why Richard became known as "Tumbledown Dick" in England)

(And which is also why the scrambling Parliament restored the monarchy by inviting Charles II back to be King of England in 1660...)



The Enlightenment was finally here
1649 Oliver Cromwell invaded Ireland
1650 The Third English Civil War broke out
1651 Cromwell started fighting against Parliament
1653 Cromwell was named England's Lord Protector
1658 Cromwell abruptly died
1661 Cromwell was executed

Three years after he died, Cromwell's remains were dug up, tried for treason, and then hanged, and then burned, and then chopped up

His head itself was put on a pole and displayed for public ridicule









Conclusions on Oliver Cromwell...
 He's remembered as a butcher in Ireland for his massacres at Drogheda and Wexford
 Though technically, both of those battles followed the rules of war for the day
 And it was actually Ireton who perpetrated most of the subsequent cruelty against the Irish
 And yet, Ireton was Cromwell's hand-picked successor in Ireland—as well as his son-in-law





Conclusions on Oliver Cromwell...
 He's remembered as a butcher in Ireland for his massacres at Drogheda and Wexford
 He's remembered as a hypocrite for disbanding Parliament after beheading Charles I for that
 But technically, it was Thomas Fairfax who did that

the first time

And when Cromwell did it again later, it was because they were incompetent and rife with corruption





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 He's remembered as a butcher in Ireland for his massacres at Drogheda and Wexford
 He's remembered as a hypocrite for disbanding Parliament after beheading Charles I for that
 He's remembered as a religious zealot who hated anyone who wasn't a Puritan
 Though he argued for tolerance even for the Jews And it was Parliament that made the most stringent laws and legal decisions





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But he was both very pious and very powerful—
and that's a dangerous combination
He was personally strict, intense, and mercurial
—but even more to the point, cruelties were
inflicted on people on his watch, in his name, by
people under his authority—and he let it happen
And yet, a BBC documentary recently just
lauded Cromwell as the "father of modern
democracy," and attributed the existence of
both the modern British Parliamentary system
and the United States of America to
Cromwell's efforts Cromwell's efforts

Conclusions on Oliver Cromwell...

He's remembered as a butcher in Ireland for his massacres at Drogheda and Wexford He's remembered as a hypocrite for disbanding Parliament after beheading Charles I for that He's remembered as a religious zealot who hated anyone who wasn't a Puritan

anyone who wasn't a Puritan

But he was both very pious and very powerful—
and that's a dangerous combination

He was personally strict, intense, and mercurial—but even more to the point, cruelties were inflicted on people on his watch, in his name, by people under his authority—and he let it happen Cromwell has ultimately been judged by the actions of the "Cromwellian Era" more than by the actions of Cromwell himself—for good or for ill But that wouldn't surprise him—as he once wrote, "Do not trust the cheering, for those persons would shout as much if you or I were going to be hanged..."

