English Culture II 2022

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Causes of the English Civil War

TIMELINE



1637:

1638:

1640:

1641:

1642:

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An army was sent to Scotland to try to put down the riots and enforce the New Prayer Book. They were easily defeated. It was later known as the First Bishop's War.

Charles tried to get Strafford released from the Tower but failed. He was tried for treason and charged with planning to use his Irish army to defeat Parliament, later executed. Parliament started to dismantle the way that Charles had ruled England during the "Eleven Years Tyranny". Royal courts were ended, one being the Court of Star Chamber.

Charles went to Parliament with soldiers to attempt to arrest his five biggest critics. They had already fled to London. The City of London's troops sided with Parliament. Charles raised his standard at Nottingham and war was declared on Parliament.

Charles and Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, imposed a New Prayer Book. They wanted the Scots to pray the same way as the English. Riots broke out in Edinburgh. They believed it was an attack on their religion.

Charles called Parliament to ask for money to fight a war in Scotland. They refused. Months later, Scottish forces invaded and attacked England. Charles had to call Parliament again to acquire the money needed to pay the Scots to leave.
Laud and Strafford were both sent to the Tower of London, as men who were abusing the authority given to them.

Source: C N Trueman "Timeline For Causes Of The English Civil War" historylearningsite.co.uk. The History Learning Site, 17 Mar 2015

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