

# Tudor Kings and Queens: Edward VI



Henry VII

Henry VIII

Edward VI

Mary I

Elizabeth I

# A New King

Edward VI ruled from 1547 to 1553, just six years. Edward died aged fifteen. His father was Henry VIII and his mother was Jane Seymour.



*The New King*



## Edward's Advisers

Edward was only nine years old when he became king. Because of his young age, he had two advisers. The first was his uncle, the Duke of Somerset, who became Lord Protector.



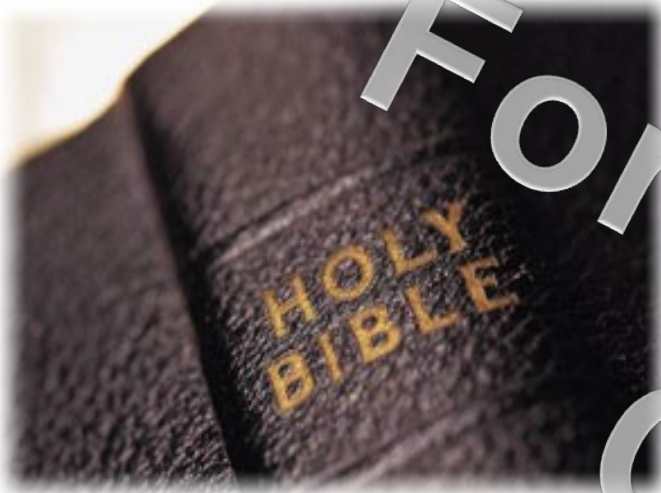


For the first two and a half years of Edward's reign, Somerset advised and guided the young king.

Somerset was replaced by the Duke of Northumberland. Both men wanted major changes made to England's religion.



# Simple Churches



Church services became simple. People could now understand what was being said as services - now called Holy Communion - were in English.

Archbishop Cranmer wrote a prayer book in English. Priests did not have to dress in the bright clothing as they did with the Catholic Church. Under Edward, they were allowed to marry. The king remained as head of the church.



All of these changes were very different to the Catholic Church. England wasn't the only country to break with the Catholic Church.



In parts of Germany and Switzerland, religious groups also complained about the power and corruption of the Catholic Church. Instead they became known as Protestant. England, under Edward, became a Protestant country.



# Poor Health

Edward had never been a healthy boy and he died in 1553. Nine days after his death, his half-sister Mary became queen of England.

