

Mary's Husband

- As soon as Mary became Queen she did all she could to make England a Catholic again and to make links with her mother's country – Spain.
- Her first step was to marry **King Philip** of Spain in 1554 (a VERY IMPORTANT catholic).
- This was not popular with the English people – there were major rebellions against the marriage.
- Many English people did not like the fact that suddenly had to obey the King of a foreign country.

How did Mary treat her enemies?

- Mary ordered her people to become Catholics again.
- But many protestants refused.
- Mary decided to carry out public executions of important protestants.
- The main method was burning at the stake as supposed to cleanse someone's sins.
- She hoped that doing this often - and in public - would encourage others to become Catholic.

Was Mary really cruel?

- Mary sometimes executed people who disobeyed her.
- But she gave them all several chances first. Only those who absolutely refused to become catholic were punished.
- Even then she sent some abroad rather than face punishment in England.
- Burning people at the stake wasn't really that unusual, her father and grandfather had used this method before. However Mary burned 284 in 5 years!

Mary's Mother

- Mary's parents were Henry VIII Katherine of Aragon. They were married for 23 years and had many children but only Mary survived.
- Henry was desperate for a son but Katherine was too old to have any more children- so he divorced her.
- Divorce was banned by Catholics. So to get his divorce, Henry changed England's religion to Protestantism.
- He set up this religion just to get rid of Mary's mother. Mary was angry about this.

Mary's Religion

- Mary was a Catholic, so she wanted England to be a Catholic country. This meant that:
- the Bible was printed in Latin so that ordinary people were forced to go to church to understand it.
- Divorced was banned.
- It was possible to 'pay' to get into heaven, so rich people could get away with committing sins.
- Priests were more important than ordinary people and that they should be obeyed