

A Brief History of  
Christianity in Britain

1549-1845

# Anglican Church vs. Catholicism & Protestant Dissenters

- ◆ Schism

- ◆ King Henry VIII & Church of England (1534)

- ◆ Act of Uniformity (1549)

- ◆ Five Mile Act (1665)

- ◆ The Test Acts

- ◆ 1673: Oath of Supremacy; Lord's Supper

- ◆ 1678: reject transubstantiation, invocation of saints, sacrifice of mass

- ◆ Toleration Act (1689)

# Evangelicalism

- ◆ conversionism / Acts 16:31
- ◆ activism / James 2:14-26
- ◆ Biblicism / Hebrews 4:12
- ◆ crucicentrism / John 14:6
- ◆ opposed to:
  - ◆ latitudinarianism (practice over doctrine)
  - ◆ antinomianism (faith alone—morality irrelevant)

# Developments in the 19th c.

- ◆ 1828: Repeal of Test Acts
- ◆ 1829: Catholic Relief Act
- ◆ 1833-39: Oxford Movement & "Tracts for the Times" was a product of high church Protestants concerned with:
  - ◆ Branch Theory [pro]
  - ◆ erastianism (state over church) [anti]
  - ◆ doctrinal laxity; neglect of church heritage [anti]
  - ◆ movement towards disestablishment [anti]

# Challenges & Responses

- ◆ 1845: J. H. Newman becomes a Catholic
- ◆ Marian Evans' (GE's) translation (1846) of David Strauss' Das Leben Jesu (1835-36): miracles, and narrative, as myth
- ◆ Charles Darwin's The Descent of Man (1871): origins and evolution of humankind, sexual selection, etc.
- ◆ Gerard Manley Hopkins' poems: 1870s and '80s