Further Reading:


Time line:

- 1629: Charles I suspends Parliament sine die.
- 1639 and 1640: First and second Bishops’ War (point of contention: Episcopacy in Scotland).
- 1641: Irish Rebellion and establishment of the Irish Catholic Confederation, massacre of Protestants in Ulster, heavily reported in the English press.
- 1642: Charles I attempts to have 5 members of the House of Commons arrested; eruption of armed conflict between Royal and Parliamentary armed forces.
- 1642-1646: First Civil War; Charles captured in 1646; abolition of episcopacy; abolition of Book of Common Prayer; execution of Archbishop William Laud for treason; creation of the New Model of Common Prayer; execution of Archbishop William Laud for treason.
- 1648: Second Civil War after Charles’ escape and negotiation with the Scots.
- 1649: Trial and execution of Charles I for treason; monarchy abolished.
- 1653: Protectorate established (with a nominated “Protectorate Parliament”).
- 1655: Marvell becomes tutor to William Dutton, Cromwell’s prospective son-in-law.
- 1657: Marvell appointed Latin Secretary to the Council of State.
- 1659: Marvell elected MP for Hull; position held until his death.
- 1660: Restoration: George Monck enters England from Scotland; Charles II issues Declaration of Breda promising hem to moderate his father’s penal policy for those who would recognize him as king, and some religious toleration. Charles II reinstated as king. Act of Oblivion.
- 1662: Act of Uniformity outlaw Israeli opinion in the Church of England, schools and universities; 200 ministers ejected; “Quaker Act” demanding that Quakers swear the Oath of Allegiance (to the Crown); Systematic, “legal” persecution of Quakers.
- 1664: Convocation Act prohibits religious gatherings of more than five people outside the control of the church of England and not conducted according to the Prayer Book.
- Marvell after the Restoration: some travel as ambassadorial secretary; enters a fierce battle of verbal pamphlets on the issue of freedom of religion versus absolutism.