

Popes and Kings in the Middle Ages

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Summary

This book is about how popes and kings fought for political power in the Middle Ages.

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Before Reading

Think Ahead

Look at the pictures and answer the questions.



1. What is an illegal gift of money called? _____
2. How can we describe someone who gives a bribe? _____
3. What are religious leaders such as popes and priests called? _____
4. When people confess their sins, what do they want? _____

Vocabulary

A Read and match.

1.



•

• a. kidnap

2.



•

• b. clergy

3.



•

• c. exile

4.



•

• d. mistreat

5.



•

• e. poison

6.



•

• f. kingdom

7.



•

• g. blessing

8.



•

• h. invade

B Write the word for each definition.

annulment corrupt excommunicate weaken sin

1. _____ to ban someone from the church and its teachings
2. _____ something bad done against God
3. _____ to become less strong
4. _____ bad; being responsible for dishonest practices
5. _____ an official announcement that a marriage is ended because it was never valid

C Choose the word that means about the same as the underlined words.

1. People wanted to be a part of the church to pray and to admit they did something wrong in their sins.
 a. bribe b. confess c. invade d. interdict
2. In 1084, Henry IV attacked and occupied Italy to set up a rival pope.
 a. weakened b. kidnapped c. invaded d. blessed
3. Pope Boniface VIII was kidnapped and probably tortured.
 a. excommunicated b. mistreated c. annulled d. poisoned
4. The Protestant movement, begun by Martin Luther, was the big movement to reform the church.
 a. Papal Indulgence b. Forgiveness c. Roman d. Reformation

Comprehension

A Match the pictures with the correct sentences.

- a. People believed that dying without being blessed by the church meant they would go to hell.
- b. A bishop is in charge of a diocese and all the churches and priests in it.
- c. Today, most western countries are governed by people elected by the citizens.



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____

B Choose the best answer.

1. What could the pope do to people who did not obey him?
 - a. He could forgive their sins.
 - b. He could excommunicate them.
 - c. He could bless them.
 - d. He could offer them a papal indulgence.

2. Why did King Philip IV of France disagree with Pope Boniface VIII in 1286?
 - a. Boniface VIII wanted to live in France.
 - b. Philip IV wanted to tax the church.
 - c. Philip IV tried to poison Boniface VIII.
 - d. All of the above

3. Why did Martin Luther begin the Protestant Reformation?
 - a. He wanted his marriage to be annulled.
 - b. He wanted kings to appoint clergy.
 - c. He objected to the selling of indulgences.
 - d. All of the above

C Choose the correct phrase for each picture. One (1) choice will not be used.

- a. The pope addressing his followers
- b. Indulgences for sale
- c. A wonderful place called heaven
- d. An angry king preparing for war
- e. White smoke signaling the election of a new pope



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____

D Read each sentence. Write “T” if it is true or “F” if it is false.

1. _____ In the Middle Ages, kings and queens made all decisions by themselves.
2. _____ The pope’s decisions affected people in many countries.
3. _____ The pope had a large army to impose his will.
4. _____ Henry VIII wanted an annulment, but the pope said no.
5. _____ Today, the pope is elected by the citizens.

E Complete the sentences with the correct words.

1. During a(n) _____, the church doors stay locked.
exile interdict
2. If a person angers the pope, he can _____ him or her from the church.
confess excommunicate
3. A bishop is in charge of a big area called a _____ and all of the churches within it.
diocese clergy
4. In the Middle Ages, the leaders of the church would take _____ to vote a particular way.
bribes blessings
5. Henry VIII married Anne Boleyn in a secret wedding _____.
ceremony annulment

F Number the events in order from 1=first to 5=last.

- a. _____ Henry VIII was excommunicated and made himself the head of the Church of England.
- b. _____ Henry IV argued with Pope Gregory VII over who should appoint clergy.
- c. _____ Charles I of England tried to rule without the support of his people.
- d. _____ Martin Luther objected to the selling of indulgences and began the Protestant Reformation.
- e. _____ Pope Clement V moved the papal court to France.

Think About It

A Look in the reader to write the answers to the following 5-W questions.

Who?	What?	When?	Where?	Why?
A _____ _____ had absolute power over their country while the _____ had power over the Roman Catholic Church.	In the Middle Ages, _____ was an important part of life.	Life was difficult in the Middle Ages, about _____ to _____ years ago.	Pope Clement V moved the papal court to _____, and the next seven popes lived there.	The pope believed he should have ultimate _____ over everyone, but the kings objected to his interference in their kingdoms.

B Complete the sentences below with your own ideas.

From this book, I learned _____

_____.

Before I read this book, I knew _____

_____.

Now I also know _____

_____.