



King James VI: Defender of the True Faith Against the Antichrist

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James VI: Theologian or King

My thesis answers the question: "Did James take divine right as a political theory, or a religious one"



Religion in the 1600's

James had a Protestant father and a Catholic mother, exposing him to both religions since birth

James wants unity, both between Scotland and England and between Catholics and Protestants



Religious Acts, Political Power

James took divine right as religious theory primarily, and saw it as his main duty to protect and promote religion, a goal he often achieved using political power

Examples:

James' 8 Proclamations concerning Lent

The KJV Bible

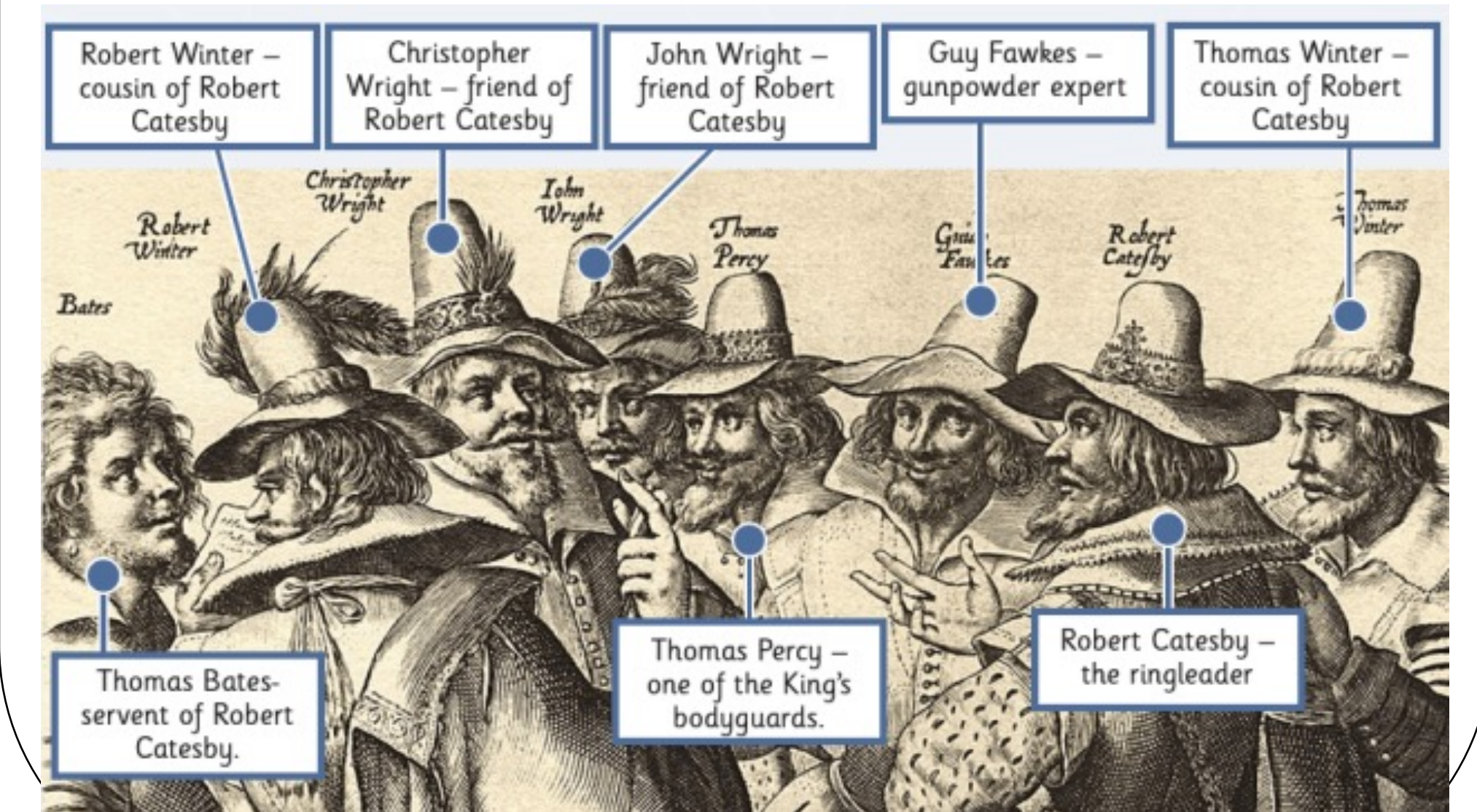
The Black Acts of 1584

The Gunpowder Plot

James' sense of religious obligation was redoubled after the Gunpowder Plot of 1605

James issues his Oath of Allegiance in response to the plot

Ignites a debate between James and Pope Paul V on who has ecclesiastical superiority



James utilizes Revelation along with the teachings of S. John and S. Paul to place the Pope within the seat of the Antichrist. He views himself and the Church of England as the "true" catholic church, aligned with the plans of God instead of trying to steal glory from him. My thesis uses James' *A Premonition to All Christian Monarchs* to establish an immediacy with which James felt he needed to act, incorporating his *Meditation Upon Revelation* to cement his biblical interpretation of the soon to come Rapture.