### Key Context
- 1517: Martin Luther protested against the corruption of the Church.
- Luther's supporters become known as Protestants.
- Protestants wanted changes to the church = Reformation.
- Henry VIII (ruled 1509-47) introduced Protestantism to England and created the Church of England.
- Henry VIII’s children:
  - King Edward VI = Protestant (ruled 1547-53)
  - Queen Mary I = Catholic (ruled 1553-58)
  - Queen Elizabeth I = Protestant (ruled 1558-1603)

### New Crimes
- Heresy = crimes against the Church/God.
- Heretics = the people who commit crimes against the Church/God.
- Treason = challenging the ruler of the country.
- Vagrancy/vagabondage = wandering the countryside without a job.
- Smuggling = illegally bringing goods into a country without paying tax

### Acts of Law
- 1495: Vagabonds and Beggars Act: people without work can be put in stocks and sent back to their place of birth.
- 1542: Witchcraft Act
- 1547: Vagrancy Act
- 1563: Act against Conjurations, Enchantments and Witchcraft
- 1597: Act for the Relief of the Poor
- 1601: Poor Law sets up parish-based organisation for poor relief; a house of correction is setup in every county to detain offenders.
- 1604: Witchcraft Act
- 1671: Game Act designed to control behaviour

### Early Modern Crime and Punishment c. 1500-1750

#### Punishments
- Fines: payments collected by courts.
- Pillory/Stocks: Placed in wooden stocks in the town to embarrass people.
- Corporal: whipping, maiming and branding (marking with a hot iron)
- Hanging: execution by tying with a rope and dropping through a hole in a platform.
- Burning: tied to a stake and a fire set around the person.
- Prison: locking up in a building for a set amount of time.
- House of Correction: like a prison but also involves doing hard labour.
- Transportation: sent to North America (later Australia)
- Penal colony: the term used to describe the country that someone was sent to by transportation

#### Methods of Policing/Law Enforcement
- Hue and cry: if someone raised the alarm by calling for help, citizens still had to look for the criminal.
- Parish constables: would deal with matters such as begging without a licence. They could inflict some punishments such as whipping.
- Town watchmen: patrolled the streets of towns. Arrested drunks and vagabonds.
- Justices of the Peace (JPs): Judged cases at Manor Courts. They could fine, send to stocks or have people whipped.

#### Gunpowder Plot
- 1603: James I becomes King
- Aims: religious freedom for Catholics.
- Plotters: Guy Fawkes; Robert Catesby; Thomas Percy; Thomas Winton; Jack Wright,
- Plan:
  - Met 20th May 1604
  - 36 barrels of gunpowder placed under the Houses of Parliament
  - To set off an explosion on 5th November 1605 that would kill many MPs and the King.
- Guy Fawkes was caught and tortured.
- Trial took place in January 1606.

#### Context - Religion: Protestant and Catholic
- Catholic beliefs:
  - Churches can have lots of decoration e.g. stained glass windows.
  - Priests can wear expensive robes and wear some colour.
  - Priests will tell people the views of God.
  - Pope is head of the church.
  - Bible written in Latin
- Protestant beliefs:
  - Churches have no decoration
  - Priests were plain and simple robes
  - People should read the bible for themselves.
  - The monarch is head of the church in their country.
  - Bibles written in the language of the country e.g. English

#### Trials
- Court: an official building where cases are heard with evidence being used to test guilt.
- Benefit of the clergy: members of the church were tried in separate courts.
- Habeas corpus: anyone charged with a crime had to be put in front of a court within a set period of time.