

# 1688 - 90

## || “THE GLORIOUS REVOLUTION”

### The Birth of Episcopalianism

In 1688, the Protestant William of Orange and his wife Mary landed in Torbay in England, and they were acclaimed King and Queen, replacing the Catholic King James VII of Scotland and II of England who had fled abroad.



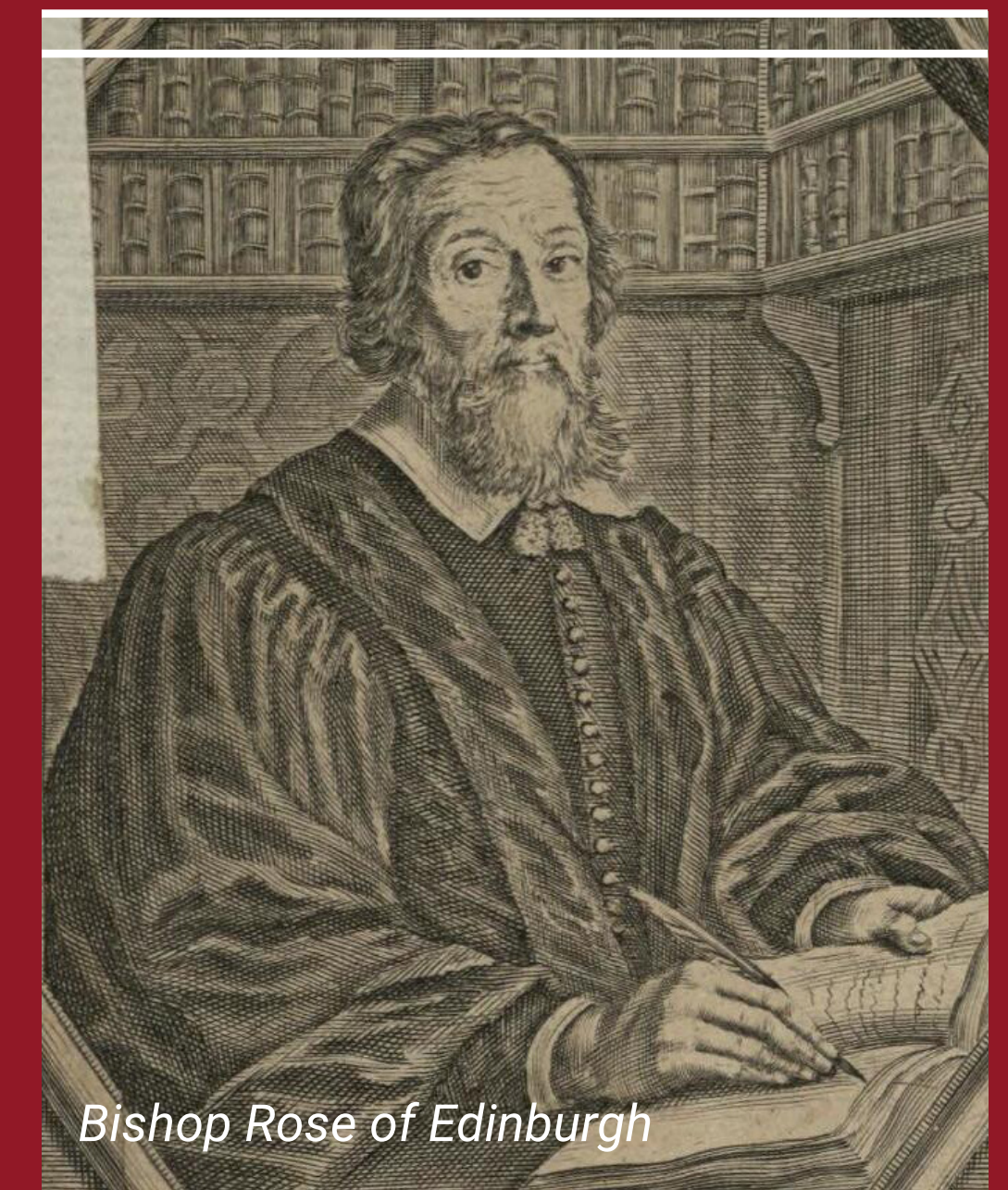
In 1689, Bishop Rose of Edinburgh went to London, but had an awkward conversation with William in which he felt unable to give full loyalty on behalf of the Scottish Bishops to the new King. The King then turned to the Presbyterians for support in Scotland.

Episcopacy was disestablished as the form of church government of the Church of Scotland in July 1689, to be replaced by Presbyterianism in June 1690. While almost all Episcopal priests south of the Forth were thrust out of their livings, in the northern half of the country many Episcopal priests held the parish churches until their deaths, some until well after 1720.

It was estimated that more than two-thirds of the people, and most part of the gentry, were Episcopalian. When the Diocesan Synod of Aberdeen supplicated the Estates to hold a General Assembly to settle the polity of the Church, Presbyterians vigorously opposed the idea, because Episcopal clergymen would have outnumbered Presbyterians by six to one.

However, increasingly laws were passed which persecuted those who would not take the Oath of Allegiance to William and Mary, and who were then called “scandalous, inefficient or disaffected persons”. Episcopalianism was equated with the hated “Papists”.

For the next hundred years, Episcopalianism was subject to a number of ‘penal laws’, were evicted from their churches, persecuted and they had to worship as best they could.



More information can be found by visiting our website [www.stjames-stonehaven.org.uk](http://www.stjames-stonehaven.org.uk)