

The Restoration	
1660	The Restoration: Charles II was acknowledged as King in England and Scotland.
1661ff	<p>Charles II's acts of turning from the covenants with the "Drunken Parliament"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act of Supremacy: Asserted the <i>Divine Right of Kings</i>. • Acts Recissory: This act repealed all ecclesiastical legislation since 1633.s
1662	<p>The Acts of the Scottish Parliament concerning the Church of Scotland (CoS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lay Patronage was established. The ministers installed after 1649 had to obtained a presentation from a patron before Sept 20, 1662. Acceptance of Episcopacy was req'd. • Abjuration Act declared all the oaths to the National Covenant and Solemn League and Covenant unlawful oaths. The <i>Oath of Abjuration</i> declared the covenants unlawful.
1662-1663	<p>Ejection of 400 Ministers from the Church of Scotland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 400 ministers had not applied for presentation to keep their parishes. • As a result, the Privy Council extended the deadline to Feb 1, 1663. Some Resolutioners and almost all Protestors resigned on Feb 1, 1663. • The ejected ministers forfeited their salary, had to remove their families from the parish, and were forbidden to preach. 400 ministers and their families were left impoverished.
The Covenanter Conventicles	
1663	Many ministers continued to preach and conduct services in homes and open fields. These services were called "Conventicles." Laws were passed against conventicles.
1666	<p>Battle of Rullion Green: <i>a spontaneous uprising in self-defense</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxes were imposed upon all those who did not attend the parish churches. 4 covenanters at Dumfries learned that a man named Grier was being tortured for not paying these taxes, so they disarmed the soldiers and rescued Grier. The next day, they attacked a dozen soldiers "in defense" of their rights and liberties, but still swore allegiance to Charles II. • Spontaneously, 700 men marched from Dumfries to Lanark. There they renewed the Solemn League and Covenant, and they stated their goal was self-defense the cruelty. • The King's troops (~3000) met the army of the Covenanters (~900) at Rullion Green, southwest of Edinburgh. The Covenanters were completely defeated.
1669	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assertory Act: Charles II was given the authority and supremacy over all people and over all the Church. He could introduce any heresy or corrupt practices now as Pope and King. • First Indulgence: Charles II had the Privy Council offer to allow some ejected, Resolutioner ministers to return to the parishes. This indulgence divided and weakened the Covenanters. It allowed a minister to continue to preach by becoming an Episcopalian.
1670	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggressive legislation was passed against the conventicles. Parish church attendance was required. Children had to be baptized in the parish church within 30 days of birth. Only conforming ministers could marry. Conventicles were forbidden with the penalty of death. The persecution was great, but the Covenanters just continued with greater secrecy. • Archbishop Robert Leighton attempted to reconcile the Presbyterian Covenanters and the Episcopalians in Scotland. He went to southwest Scotland to find some way of reconciling with the Covenanters. Leighton was amazed that even the poor and lowest servants could argue for the dissent with Scripture texts at hand. Leighton recognized that the ministers had taught the people well. This insight explains why so many common people were willing to die as Covenanter martyrs.
1672	Second Indulgence: Charles II offered 80 ministers the opportunity to return to their parishes.
1678-1679	Covenanters continued to resist and gather in conventicles. 7,000 covenanters gathered at Maybole in Ayrshire, and 14,000 covenanters gathered at Skeoch Hill.
1679	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On May 3, Archbishop Sharp, one of the chief persecutors of the Covenanters, was assassinated at Magus Moor, near St. Andrews. This murder is hard to justify, but

	<p>remember that the Covenanters saw him more as an enemy in a war.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In May, conventicles were outlawed by the Privy Council as “rendezvouses of rebellion.” Why? The conventicles were in opposition to the State Church and by implication Charles II. The Covenanters now met in conventicles, armed for self-defense. • On the Sabbath of June 1, Claverhouse attacked a conventicle at Drumclog, and the covenanters, who were armed for self-defense, defeated Claverhouse’s troops. • The Covenanters believed that the defeat at Drumclog was a show of divine favor, so they all gathered at Bothwell Bridge on June 7. The King’s army defeated the Covenanters and took ~1200 prisoners. 250 prisoners were sent as slaves to the West Indies. • On Jun 29, Charles II issued the third indulgence to get ministers to return. He permitted house conventicles. Some ministers were released from prison.
1680	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanquhar Declaration: Richard Cameron wrote this 850 word declaration of the principles of the Cameronian Covenanters or Reformed Presbyterians. The document disowns Charles II as king over Britain and declares war upon him. • Torwood Declaration: Donald Cargill excommunicated Charles II.
1681	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Act: A special oath of allegiance was required of every person holding public office. Later it was imposed on all people. • Cameronian Covenanters were organized and united together into the Covenanter Societies. The societies participated in meetings of private social worship, not formal worship. These societies were not an ecclesiastical organization, but they served a substitute for the Church from 1681 to 1743. The book <i>Private Social Worship</i> established the regulations for how the society meetings would be held.
The Killing Times	
1685	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charles II died, and James II was crowned King. • Death was the penalty for attending a conventicle or large family worship. • Margaret Lachlane (63) and Margaret Wilson (~25) were martyred for refusing to take the Oath of Abjuration.
1687	James II repealed laws against Roman Catholics.
1688	George Wood was the last Covenanter martyr. He was sixteen and killed for reading & praying under a tree by his home.
	<p>About 18,000 Covenanters were killed from 1660 to 1688. They tried to maintain Presbyterian worship in spite of all the opposition from the civil and military powers. The goal was not to gain civil liberties. They fought, suffered, and died because they recognized the divine right of Jesus Christ as the <i>mediatorial king</i> and head of the Church and State. They were not extraordinarily special Christians. They simply knew who they were in Jesus Christ, and they longed for the glory of King Jesus.</p>