

House of Tudor

Edward VI 1547-1553

Son of Henry VIII and Jane Seymour, who died twelve days after giving birth, and his only male heir. He was ten on his accession and died at fifteen from tuberculosis. His first protector was his uncle, Edward Seymour, later duke of Somerset. On his fall, the duke of Northumberland became Protector. Both favoured a move from Catholicism to Protestantism; and Edward agreed the reforms and ordered his older half-sister Mary, who adhered to Catholicism, to obey the move to Protestantism. On his deathbed Edward was persuaded to name Lady Jane Grey as his heir, to keep Mary from the throne.

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