



Elizabeth the Virgin Queen of England (1554).

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INTRODUCTION

The following is a snippet from the movie Elizabeth Queen of England. It is here because it beautifully shows the integrity of her faith and the empathy, she had for the people she reigned over.

ELIZABETH AND MARY

Elizabeth reigned in an era when Catholics were vehemently against Protestants. Protestants were considered heretics and tortured or put to death if they did not renounce their faith and declare the Catholic Church to be the one true faith to God. Elizabeth was the half-sister to Mary Queen of England. While Mary was Queen her advisers tried to get her to sign a petition that would have Elizabeth put to death before Mary died. They wanted a legal excuse to put Elizabeth to death, because they did not want her to take the throne after Mary's death for fear the Catholic faith would be in danger.

Mary died and Elizabeth became Queen of England. She fought various wars during the beginning of her reign and became victorious. During the wars there was so much killing and treachery that it caused Elizabeth to suffer emotionally because of all the innocent bloodshed. She went into a Catholic church and stood before a full-size statue of the Virgin Mary and while standing before it, considering all the men that had been killed in battle because of religion she made the following comments:

- She (referring to the Virgin) Mary has such a hold on men's hearts that they would die for her.

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One of her trusted advisers standing next to her said to her:

- They could find nothing to replace her, all men need to look to something greater than themselves; they must be able to touch the divine on earth.

Elizabeth then went to her private room found some scissors and shaved her hair and became known as the Virgin Queen of England.

SHAVING THE HEAD

The Catholic Church considered Protestant women heretics and would shave their heads they also shaved women's heads that were considered whores so that people who looked upon women with a shaved head knew they were either heretics or whores. Shaving the head of women was a common practice used to shame them. Elizabeth had never married and after shaving her hair she came before the people of England and said:

- I am married, I am married to England.

She reigned forty-years and never again saw the one man who really loved her (Dudley), but on her deathbed it is said, she whispered his name. By the time of her death England was the richest and most powerful country in Europe, her reign has been called the Golden Age.

THE SPIRITUAL LESSON TO LEARN

Men who believed in the Virgin Mary not only had passionate emotions accordingly, but were willing to kill, imprison and torture those who refused to believe the same doctrines as they did. The lesson to learn in this is that passion, feelings emotions that a person has toward whoever they believe to be God are not evidence or proof that they have true Christian faith or are believing in the God of all creation. Only by looking at the life of the Lord Jesus Christ and embracing the New Covenant of Grace and the message of the cross can true Christian faith be guaranteed and only acts of love not cruelty testify to it.

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