

# The History of Henry IV

All right, I don't have anything ready from the other guys, huh? You got something for me? I'll pass on to Henry IV, I have to recapture Henry IV part I, because I'm doing part II tonight, and next week Henry V. This is a series of Shakespeare; I'll just finish all the Shakespeare plays. Now Henry IV in general I'll recap. He reigned from 1399 to 1413, he's a Lancaster, the west of England, the Beatles, huh? Liverpool, Merseyside, that area, and he got the crown from Richard II, whom he tricked. In the first part of the play, he has to fight an important battle, Shrewsbury, to consolidate his reign. and the Scots were to come, the Welsh were to come. And there is the Yorkist defection. The Yorkshiremen, the Percys, they fought him at Shrewsbury, he won, the Welsh never came. He won that battle, and he sends his son John of Lancaster to fight the Archbishop of York, and he was going to fight the Welsh. And the play ends there.

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In Part II, is going to be the battle of Gaultree Forest by his son John. He's going to beat, by a trick, I'll explain that next, the forces of the Yorkists, but the king is going to die, and he's gonna be succeeded by Henry V. And in the play Henry V, Shakespeare's going to take up the challenge, "What is a philosopher king? What is leadership? It's the frontal play to discuss leadership by Shakespeare. That's his hero, if you like, you want to put it in those godforsaken Hollywood terms, Henry V. But Henry IV is to prepare the stage. There's some comic characters in the play, which you know, Pistol, Bardolph..and Falstaff, I told you about those before. So, when the play opens, the king has defeated his enemies and he sends his son (John of Lancaster) and the Duke of Westmoreland to Yorkshire to fight a battle. He himself has Prince Hal, (later) Henry V, the son, the Prince of Wales, they're gonna fight the Welsh. They never get there.

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Secondly, and this is important for you guys who are Platonists, a mystic named Peter Pontefract, said, "You will die in Jerusalem," to Henry IV. (1)

He's going to go on a crusade, the Pope organizes crusades. See, what he does, sends the French, and the British and whoever, they go and fight crusades. When they're away he manipulates their kingdoms, can't consolidate their reigns. If he wants to, if you go away and play too independent, he will get the Duke of Austria to capture you, Richard the Lion-Hearted, put him in a castle in Austria. He ran the world that way. You're supposed to believe he ran only, in the sense of sacredness, he was a very, the Pope has always been a secular figure, always.

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I can tell you some stories about some popes would kill you but leave it there. The trick of this, and I better spend, about three minutes on this. In the palace of Westminster, the British monarch has several palaces: Windsor, Westminster, you name it. Westminster you should know because that's where the Parliament is. Parliament is in the Palace of Westminster, so that's what that is. The favorite room of this king (Henry IV) was a room called the Jerusalem Chamber. He used to rest there in Westminster, and he used that room for that. So, when this mystic says, "You will die in Jerusalem,"...see the trick? It's more probable than not. And of course, that's what happens, the king goes to Westminster to rest and he dies in 'Jerusalem,' the chamber. That's important, because that's how mystics operate.

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I always tell you guys the one about, before the Greeks went to Troy, they went to the Oracle at Delphi. What will happen if they attack Troy and bring back our Helen, this beautiful woman? And the oracle said: "A great empire will be lost." (2) \* They didn't say what empire. So these stupid guys went, and a great empire was lost, you know, a great empire was lost. So watch these prophecies, and these ESP people, and people with psychic this and psychic that, you know. I knew a guy who used to be, when I was practicing law, a confidence trickster. He would go to the racetrack and get every horse in the race, somebody's bound to win. And they watched him, said "Ah, you're a great tipster." So watch for this, watch for this.

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Well, John of Lancaster is the second, the third son. In the English hierarchy, the first son is called the Prince of Wales. The second son is the Duke of York. The third son is the Duke of Lancaster, that's how they rank them, it's still the same, in 1986\*. They go to Yorkshire, a place called Gaultree Forest, which is just outside the city of York. Now, York is a very important county in Britain. There's a town called York too. It's the largest county in Britain, it's on the east coast facing the continent, and that is where much of the Boston, Massachusetts, Joint Stock Company migration, from that area...Hartlepool, Yorkshire... here's a Boston there, the place Boston is from there. The name Boston, that's where they got the name from. Hull, It's on the east coast. So, it's good to know where Yorkshire is.

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Andrew is the Duke of York, who married Fergie. That tells you how important it is. Incidentally, (Harold) Wilson was from Yorkshire, the Prime Minister, Thatcher is from the south, pure English, you see. And Wilson is from Yorkshire.

OK, having said that, John of Lancaster and the, let's see - all of these people are related by blood - the Earl of Westmoreland, the Duke of Westmoreland. Westmoreland is a county in the west, over Lancashire. It's called the Lake District, you know, [indicates on a map], somewhere up here. Over here, it's called the Lake, that's where Wordsworth used to write his poetry, you know? And all those guys (the Lake Poets) used to go out and walk...

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So they go to fight these troops, which have rebelled against the King. And are in Yorkshire. Whose troops are they? Northumberland, west, east coast people, the Yorkists, and the Archbishop of York.

In those days, there were two archbishops reigning. The rest are bishops.



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When he came back with the Scots said he was beaten up in Northumberland up there by the sheriff of Northumberland, somebody like that, but ignore him. The Welsh were never fought because Henry died. Lancaster went down with Westmoreland to fight these troops and I must tell you what happened.

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I'll give you the narrative now. These guys are all ready to fight in Gaultree Forest and he (John, Duke of Lancaster) goes and he says, "Let me...these are...do you...what are your terms? Do you want to fight a battle? What are your terms? What are your grievances?" Remember what the American settlers did in their, in Philadelphia, wrote their grievances out for the king? So these guys now, they don't understand. There is no such thing as an independent diplomacy. There is no such thing as war and peace. A period of war, it's finished, a period of peace. That doesn't exist. Only fools believe that. If you think there is no US war going on, go and live in [Korea, Berlin? Cuba?]. [00:09:46] If you think there is no Russian war going on, go live in Afghanistan. You know? There's no condition, no fixed, static condition of war or peace. That doesn't exist.

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I always give the joke how in 1876, Sitting Bull and some others pulled a fast tactical, it was a good tactical trick. And got Custer to go down to Little Bighorn, surrounded him, and annihilated him. And four months later Sitting Bull is hiding up in Canada, you know?

He's already finished the war, by defeating the troops. It's like the fools, a lot of you weren't even alive in the Second World War, when Hitler sent von Paulus into Stalingrad. Von Paulus('s army) was beaten, surrounded, killed, captured in the middle of Russia. People believed the war was over. It lasted so many years after that; you know?

Now this guy goes there to Gaultree Forest and says, John of Lancaster, "What are your grievances? Gets the list and, then he goes and says, "Look, man, I agree. We grant you your grievances. These are honorable things. And we agree, my Uncle the Duke, go and tell all your troops to disband, you tell your troops to disband, we agree." And of course, these asses disbanded their troops. His uncle never disbanded

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those troops, but they just divide et impera,...divide them up and just captured them in detail and arrest this lot. The play says too, itself, but that's what happened.

Now that is called a balance of power play. You al - if you're in a power struggle - you always have to say, "Well look, he said, you say this, all right, and we'll take account of what you said". But we must decide, "No. Suppose you are lying, what do we do?" You have to play that way, or else you lose. You have to play that way. What was it, Crazy Horse said, uh, said " White man came, and made us many promises. He broke every promise except one: he promised to take our land. He took it." That one he didn't break. Or, what was the other one, Kenyatta in Kenya, when I was an ambassador over there, said, "The Englishmen came to Kenya, and taught us religion: Christ, Paul, the Apostles, Joseph, Mary, the whole kaboodle, Martha, Lazarus,, And the white man told us to lift our hands to pray to God in the Heavens. And when we lifted our hands to pray to God in

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Heaven, he stole the land from under our feet." You know, it's the same story all the time. People who don't say "But suppose you're lying." You know; "Suppose you're lying. Let me examine why you are saying what you're saying." Well, that's what happened at Gaultree Forest. And Shakespeare puts it in there as an examination of the kind of statecraft with which you have to deal. Your principles must be different. But you must expect your opponent might be the Devil. And you can't expect the Devil to have heavenly ideals, you know?

It's like the stupid people, the liberals up here. A seven-year-old stabbed his parent, or a five-year-old, whatever it is. They now start a whole case study, you know, and investigate why did this five-year-old, seven-year-old, stab the parent. Empirical studies, you know. May I remind you just en passant that Jesus Christ and Socrates never did case studies, you know that. Jesus Christ didn't go around and say, "Look, what do you think? Give me a poll there." Then say, "Ah, render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's." You know, And of course I always tell you guys, that I used to teach at Rutgers, He couldn't teach here, couldn't have

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published a book up here, and neither Jesus Christ nor Socrates published a book. But you know this, I don't have to tell you that. END

## Notes

- (1) Pontefract prophesied in 1212 that King John would give up his crown
- (2) Editors believe this is actually the story of the Oracle's response to Croesus, which holds: if Croesus made war on the Persians, he would destroy a mighty empire.