

Was James I a powerful ruler in a Golden age?

Was James I a powerful ruler?

James himself thought he was a powerful man and called himself god, he said "Kings are not only God's lieutenants on earth, and sit upon God's throne, but even by God himself they are called Gods. They have power of raising and casting down; of life, and of death."

This shows that James opinion was that he was a powerful man; this makes me think that James ruled in the same way, thinking he knows best.

Although James thought himself to be strong and powerful others thought that he wasn't strong enough to rule: Sir John Oglander said "King James was the most cowardly man I ever knew, to hear of war was death to him."

This shows many thought he hated war as he did not want to fight.

Another person said: "If the king fancies a particular stag among the herd, he lets his keepers know. There they lead the dogs and away they run on its trail. Without stop the king hurries after the dogs until they have caught the stag."

This shows James had the powers over workers and lots of followers.

James I was thought to have weak legs and had to lean on other men's shoulders. This gives me the feeling that although he had the power over workers, he didn't have everyone on his side. It also sounds like he might not be as powerful as he thought himself.

James I was thought to be clever man who hated others to speak ill of someone else.

Because of this evidence I think that James I was a clever man but was scared of war and had trouble being strong, I believe that he had power over some, but not over everyone. Because of this I think he was not a Powerful Ruler.

Was it a Golden Age?

When James I began his role of ruling over England he hoped that the Golden Age of the Elizabethan times would become the Golden age of the Stuarts.

I believe it wasn't a Golden age because:

One advisor said: "My Lord, the Puritans are angry because you have banned their books, and force them to be under the orders of your bishops." This hints that James had a problem with some kinds of religion. The same advisor also said: "My Lord, the Catholics say that you not allowing them to practice their religion freely because you are a Protestant." This shows that he had caused conflict because he was banning Catholics to practice as he was not of the same religion.

Another advisor told James: "My Lord, Parliament is furious because you will not give them the right to question you over the way you raise money from your people." This shows that, again, he caused anger at making people give him money.

Another quote from this person is: "My Lord, the M.P.s are outraged because you tore out the page of the House of Commons journal in which they claim their rights against you, and then dissolved parliament."

This shows that he has angered people by doing something to stop others overpowering him, I believe this shows he was childish and scared to be questioned as he might lose his role as King.

Again another Advisor said: "My Lord, the people of Ireland hate you for seizing their lands and dividing it between your supporters." This shows he was a man who was only kind and generous to the people that supported him.

Because of the evidence I have shown and of the evidence I found out about James I, I believe that at the time he ruled it was not a Golden Age. This is because he caused rebellion against himself, making people hate him as he was selfish and racist about other religions. Also he caused arguments as he destroyed papers allowing people to overrule him, showing that he was cowardly and insecure.



James I

