Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Time 2 hours 15 minutes

Paper reference **9HI0/33**

History

Advanced

PAPER 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth

Option 33: The witch craze in Britain, Europe and North America, c1580–c1750

Source Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

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Source for use with Section A.

From *Newes from Scotland,* written 1591 by an anonymous author. *Newes from Scotland* described the North Berwick witch trials and was included by James VI in his publication *Daemonologie* in 1597.

The all-powerful God is, at all times, alert for the protection of his own worshippers. He prevents the wicked practices and evil intentions of all those who seek to act against his holy commands. By this same power, he has lately limited and defeated the intentions and the wicked dealings of a great number of ungodly persons, who are no better than Devils. These creatures allowed themselves to be enticed by the Devil, whom they served. They had sworn themselves to him and then entered into the damnable art of witchcraft. They studied and practised witchcraft for so long that they seduced, by their sorcery, a number of others to be as bad as themselves. These witches were dwelling in Lothian, which is an important part of Scotland, where King James VI has his main residence. In the end, their damnable wickedness came to light. They had previously used their wickedness against the King, the wellbeing of the country, the nobility and the subjects of the King.

This account may be doubted by some who read it, and those who believe that the King would not risk himself in the presence of such notorious witches. There might have followed great danger to his person and to the general state of the land. But in answer to this, let it be known: that first, the King is the child and servant of God, and witches are merely servants to the Devil. The King is God's anointed and the witches are to be subjected to God's rage. The King is a true Christian and trusts in God. However, the witches are enemies of Christ for they only trust in the Devil, who daily attends them until he has led them to cause utter destruction.

But it seems that the King has such a principled mind and was not persuaded by the witches' enchantments. He was determined in this; that as long as God is with him, the King fears not who is against him. Truly, the whole scope of this account does plainly display the wonderful wisdom of the Almighty. If the King had not been defended by God's absolute power, His Highness would never have returned alive from his voyage from Denmark. There is no doubt that God would defend him on the sea as on the land, wherever the witches carry out their damnable practice.

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Acknowledgement

Source from: https://www.gethistory.co.uk/reference/sources/early-modern/tudor/newes-from-scotland