Exam 2

1. Historians have described the early Stuart period in terms of a growing constitutional crisis. In this essay, describe how this assessment fits: what were the problems facing the Stuart monarchy (politically, religiously, economically, socially)? How did problems develop, compound, or resolve over this period? How do the Civil Wars reflect this breakdown in English government, in both church and state, as well as in English society? How do the later forms of government during and after the Civil Wars (Long Parliament, Rump, Protectorate) reflect attempts to solve the same set of problems? In your concluding thoughts, who or what group of interests (if any) “won” at the end of this period? **(1000 word limit)**
2. Analyze the following text passage (from Thomas Edwards, *Gangraena*, 1646) and connect it to themes we have discussed in this class: 1) What are the inner tensions of Puritanism and how were they worked out (or failed to work out)? 2) What was the role of the Church of England to be in English society and how did Puritans disagree? 3)What were the divisions over the role of the state in adjudicating religious questions? Ultimately, how does Edwards’ complaint reflect the “logic of Puritanism inverted”? In answering this question, not only analyze the text below, but connect it to other readings in class, lectures/discussions, and the textbook **(800 word limit)**

There have beene and are daily many strange speeches uttered, wholly tending to Libertinisme and Atheisme: A Reverend godly Minister told me July the fourth 1646. he heard and Independent say, what if I should worship the Sunne or the Moone, as the Persians did, or that Pewter Pot standing by, what hath any man to do with my conscience? A great Sectary pleaded in the hearing of persons of worth (from whom I immediately had it) for a Toleration of Stage-playes, and that the Players might be set up againe. I heard a Sectary plead for a Toleration of Witches, and I urging that argument, that Witches might say, they in their conscience hold the Devill for their God, and thereupon worship him; it was answered, that precept against not suffering Wirches was spoken to the Israelites, not to us; and will you because Witches deale with a familiar spirit, therefore send them to the Devill by taking away their lives? Many Sectaries often say, that all the judgements of God upon us, are, because we will not receive the Government of of Christ, suffer it to be set up among us, viz. to let every one beleeve what he will, and serve God according to his conscience; as also they say, if ever the Magistrates shall come to use a coercive power in matters of Religion, then this Kingdome will bee utterly destroyed. I might also relate some strange passages out of speeches spoken not long since by some Independents as Ma∣ster Sympson in the Assembly, and elsewhere too, for a Toleration