

Papal Power: Popes vs. Kings

Main Idea → Popes and kings were some of the most powerful men of the Middle Ages. However, they were each powerful for different reasons. Which were *more* powerful?



Task: You will be working to determine who was more powerful during the Middle Ages: a pope or a king?

Step 1: Examine a case study of a historical interaction between a pope and a king from the Middle Ages. On Google Docs, summarize the events of your case study and identify the sources of power for the pope and for the king.

Step 2: Compare your case study to the summaries of the other case studies.

Step 3: Answer the question on the back of this page

MIDDLE AGES CASE STUDIES:

Pope Leo III & King Charlemagne
Pope Gregory VII & King Henry IV
Thomas a Becket & King Henry II
Pope Boniface VIII & King Philip IV
Pope John XII & King Otto I



In 1077, Pope Gregory (left) and Emperor Henry (center) settled their differences. Countess Matilda (right) helped arrange the meeting.

