



December 25, 1066

▲ **William the Conqueror, the first Norman king of England, was crowned in London two and a half months after his victory at the Battle of Hastings**

1741: Anders Celsius devised the centigrade temperature scale

1758: The comet portrayed as the Star of Bethlehem in medieval art returned as predicted by astronomer Edmund Halley, after whom it was later named

1926: Emperor Hirohito acceded to the throne of Japan. He ruled until 1989

1991: The Soviet Union officially ceased to exist with the resignation of President Mikhail Gorbachev