

Topics

- Introduction to Church History 1600-1800
- The British Church: The Anglicans
- Grace Abounding: The Puritans
- For Christ's Crown & Covenant: The Scottish Presbyterians
- God's Free Mercy: The Church in the Netherlands
- The Westminster Assembly
- Calvinism in the New World
- Protestant Orthodoxy
- The Path of Life: Brother Lawrence and Blaise Pascal
- The Great Divide: Enlightenment and Romanticism
- A Warmth From the Fire of God in the Heart of Germany: Pietism and Bach
- The Inextinguishable Blaze: The Evangelical Revival in Great Britain
- The Great Awakening in America
- From the Awakening to the Revolution: Davies to Witherspoon
- Summary

James 3:1 - Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. (ESV)

Calvinism in the New World - Outline

- Others in the New World (non-Calvinists)
- French Huguenots
- The Church of England
- Puritans
- Presbyterians and Dutch Reformed

“Religion stands on tiptoe in our land [England], ready to pass to the American strand.”
– George Herbert in *The Church Militant*, early 17th Century

“Surely the divine Herbert’s prophecy is now being fulfilled.”
– George Whitefield’s journal, 1739

The New World

- Motivation for European Colonization of the New World
 - Gold
 - Material wealth – individual and national
 - Conquest
 - Settlement
 - God
 - Freedom to worship as they like
 - Establishment of their religion
 - Missions to the native populations



Others in the New World – Non-Calvinists

- Spain

- Roman Catholic
- Significant presence in the New World prior to Calvinists
 - ☐ South America
 - ☐ Central America
 - ☐ New Mexico Territories
- Prior to Jamestown (1607) thousands of Indians in the southwest “US” had been evangelized and baptized



Others in the New World – Non-Calvinists

- France

- Roman Catholic
- Began arriving at approximately the same time as Protestants
 - Quebec started in 1608
 - Canada
 - Ohio River Valley
 - Mississippi River Valley
 - To Gulf of Mexico



Calvinists – The French Huguenots

- Small numbers of Calvinists came to the New World from France prior to those coming from England
 - Brazil 1555 – 14 Settlers including 2 Geneva-trained Ministers
 - ❑ Effort abandoned
 - South Carolina 1562, Florida 1565
 - ❑ Florida colony exterminated by the Spanish
- Larger migration of Huguenots after 1685 termination of the Edict of Nantes
 - Calvinists again persecuted in France
 - Most Huguenot settlers eventually joined other Calvinist churches

Calvinists – The Church of England

- Expedition to Virginia chartered “for the glory of the Divine Majesty”
- Earliest settlement included Anglicans and Puritans
- Famous Virginia Puritans
 - John Rolfe – student of Calvin’s Institutes; married Pocahontas
 - Alexander Whitaker – the “Apostle of Virginia”
- Situation in Virginia evolves under the Stuarts to enforced Anglican conformity
- Many Puritans flee to Maryland, Pennsylvania, and else where



John Rolfe & Pocahontas Wedding



Calvinists – The Puritans

- The Pilgrims – English Separatists
 - Favored separation from the English national church
 - England to Holland to America
 - Mayflower Compact 1620
- The Great Migration of the 1630's
 - 30,000+ migrate from England to create a model Christian community in the New World
 - *“We shall be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are on us.”* – John Winthrop



Hebrews 11:16 - But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

Calvinists – The Puritans

- Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay Colonies
 - Vast majority of population were zealous Christians
 - Worship God in the Puritan manner vs. Religious Freedom
 - Doctrinally united around the Cambridge Platform and the Synod of 1646
 - ❑ Cambridge Platform adopted from the Savoy Declaration (Congregationalist version of Westminster Confession of Faith)
 - ❑ Substantial independence of each local church in New England
 - Puritan town as Christian community – governed by strong Christian elected officials
 - Importance of family as a little church
 - Puritan Church Buildings
 - ❑ Central pulpit
 - ❑ Clear windows – so people can read their Bibles!
- 1640's – Puritan oriented Parliament ascendant in England
 - Reduction in migration from England to New England
 - Henry Vane Jr. (former Governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony) returns to England – participates in Westminster Assembly and Parliament

Calvinists – The Puritans

DISSENTERS

- Roger Williams

- Calvinist, came to express Baptist belief in baptism
- Left Massachusetts Bay for Providence Plantation (Rhode Island)
- 1639 – First Baptist church in America founded in Providence
- Rhode Island becomes early center of religious toleration

- Anne Hutchinson

- Accused clergy of teaching a covenant of works
- Charged with Antinomianism
- Excommunicated when she claimed direct revelations from God
- Fled to Rhode Island



Roger Williams
1603-1683



Anne Hutchinson
1591-1643

Calvinists – The Presbyterians and Dutch Reformed

PRESBYTERIANS

- First Presbyterian congregation in the New World at Long Island 1640
- Large number of Scottish and Scots Irish settlers
- 1706 – Francis McKimney key in organizing first presbytery
- Synod of Philadelphia established 1717

DUTCH REFORMED

- Dutch Reformed Church organized in New Amsterdam – 1628
- Later known as Dutch Reformed Church in America then Reformed Church in America

GERMAN REFORMED

- Came from the Palatinate with the Heidelberg Catechism to Pennsylvania
- Later known as Evangelical and Reformed Church then United Church of Christ (with many New England Congregationalists)



BACKUP SLIDES

Witches

The Old World

- Revival of belief in Witches & Witchcraft in the late 15th Century
- ~100,000 trials 1450-1750, ~40,000 – 50,000 Executions in Europe
- Witch hunts abundant in areas bordering areas impacted by 30 Years War
- Accused tended to be vulnerable women often those not conforming to societal expectations (e.g., beggars, childless, unmarried, socially awkward)
- Accusations triggered by events such as crop failures, lame livestock, etc.



Exodus 22:18 – *Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.*

“The fearful abounding at this time in this country, of these detestable slaves of the Devil, the Witches or enchanters, hath moved me (beloved reader) to dispatch in post, this following treatise of mine, not in any wise (as I protest) to serve for a show of my learning & ingenuity, but only (moved of conscience) to press thereby, so far as I can, to resolve the doubting hearts of many; both that such assaults of Satan are most certainly practiced, & that the instruments thereof, merits most severely to be punished:”

– King James I from Preface to the Reader in *Daemonology*, 1597

Witches

The New World – Salem 1692

- Minister's daughter and niece behaving strangely at afternoon event at the local parish house
- Under questioning they accuse 3 women of influencing their behavior
 - One, a Caribbean slave, pleads guilty (probably coached by minister)
- Accusations flow among others who had participated in similar events
- 5/27 - Governor Phipps implements special Court of Oyer and Terminer to address the cases
- 19 hanged, 1 crushed by rocks often based on spectral evidence (June – September)
- Cotton Mather and Increase Mather lobby against allowing spectral evidence
- Phipps (whose wife is under suspicion of witchcraft) disbands the special court
- Remaining cases referred to Court of Judicature which disallows spectral evidence and dismisses 53 of 56 remaining cases
- May, 1693 – Phipps pardons all accused of witchcraft

