

Thinking Like a Historian



Primary Sources

Definition: Main text or work that you are discussing, actual data or research results, or historical documents. Also: first-hand testimony.

Examples

Diaries, journals, speeches, interviews, letters, memos, manuscripts, memoirs, autobiographies, government records, records of organizations (e.g. minutes, reports, correspondence)

Published materials (books and journal/newspaper articles) written AT THE TIME about a particular event

Documentary: photographs, audio recordings, movies or videos

Public opinion polls, field notes, scientific experiments, artifacts

Reprinted primary sources (often in reference books such as: Speeches of the American Presidents and Documents of American History)

Maps, oral histories, postcards, court records, paintings, sculptures, consumer surveys, patents, schematic drawings, technical reports, personal accounts, jewelry, private papers, deeds, wills, proceedings, census data

Secondary Sources

Definition: Records generated by an event but written by non-participants in the event. Based on/derived from primary sources - but they have been interpreted, or analyzed.

Examples

Encyclopedias, chronologies, fact books

Biographies, monographs, dissertations

General histories

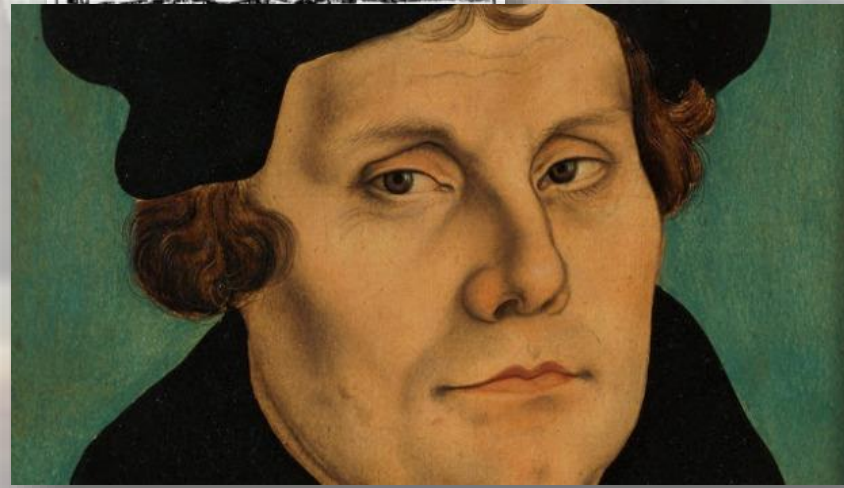
Most journal articles (except those discussed in column one)

Most published books (except those discussed in column one)

World History Recap

The “Calamitous” 14th Century

- The Hundred Years’ War (1337-1453) between England and France
 - Who will control Europe?
 - Where will they get the resources to dominate?
- The Black Death
 - One-third of Europe’s population dead
 - Decline in the workforce led to greater reliance on technology
 - Decline in the popularity of the Catholic Church
 - Priests couldn’t save the dying
- Papal Schism leads to Reformation
 - Martin Luther – with the help of the printing press – challenges the Catholic Church’s authority
 - Individual understanding of the Bible
 - Religious wars follow



American History – Exploration and Conquest

EUROPEAN MOTIVES FOR COLONIZATION

Economic

- Mercantilism → govts wanted gold and silver through trade (needed colonies for raw materials)
- Wares in Europe were expensive (England was broke) and raw materials were scarce → need for bigger and stronger navy
- Expanding trade to new places (new markets)
- MONEY → Spanish **conquistadores** looking for El Dorado

Social

- Navigation technology improved (mapmaking, astrolabe, new sails) → encouraged curiosity
- Tensions between Protestants and Catholics (and Christians and Muslims)
- Disease and poor harvests led to rioting in England
- Get rid of trouble-makers (poor, criminals, religious minorities, etc.)

Political

- European powers were competing for (more) power
- European powers were looking for Christian allies on other continents
- Acquire new territories (build an empire) → England needed to do it the cheap way by relying on **joint-stock companies** to establish colonies
- Decrease reliance on neighbors for goods/increase their neighbor's reliance on THEM

American History – Exploration and Conquest

IMPACTS ON THE AMERICAS

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Native Americans had no concept of private land ownership → can't buy• Columbian Exchange → new trade goods exchanged between Old and New World (corn, potatoes, cattle, horses)• Europeans extracted gold, silver, etc. (mercantilism) → work was done by natives, but many died	Economic
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Columbian Exchange → new diseases (smallpox) introduced to Americas (led to rapid depopulation – 90% died)• Declining native populations led to a need for more laborers → importation of African slaves• Many African slaves died on the Middle Passage (journey from Africa to the Americas)	Social
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Native Americans had governments built on peace and defense• Many European slave traders bartered for slaves using crops grown in the New World (cloth, rum, etc. in exchange for slaves) → Triangular Trade → created opposition among Europeans, Africans and Native Americans	Political

The Columbian Exchange

NORTH AMERICA

EUROPE

AMERICAS TO EUROPE, AFRICA, AND ASIA

EUROPE, AFRICA, AND ASIA TO AMERICAS

- Peanuts
- Potatoes
- Tomatoes
- Corn

- Turkeys
- Pumpkins
- Squash
- Sweet Potatoes
- Onions
- Peppers
- Citrus Fruits
- Tobacco
- Pineapples
- Grapes
- Bananas

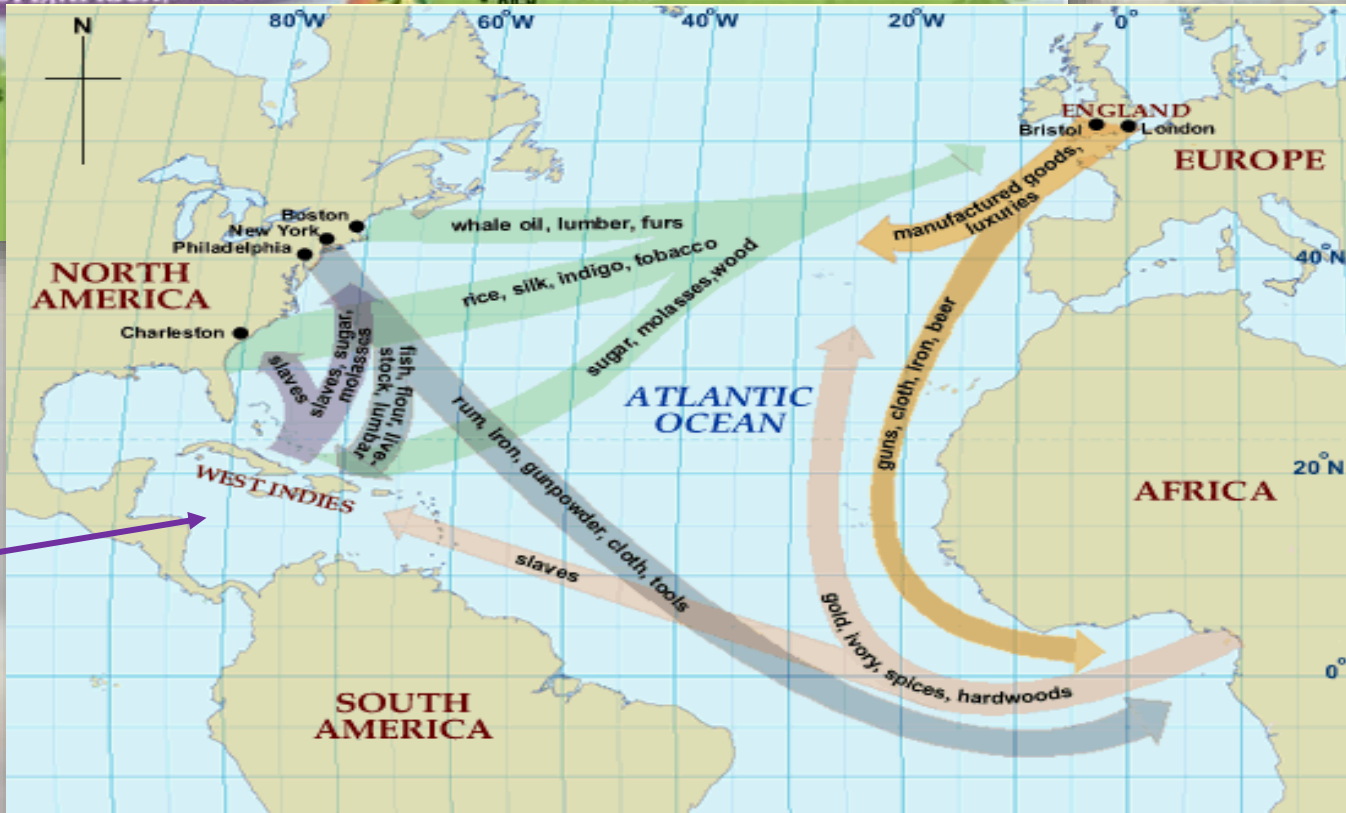
- Beans
- Vanilla
- Cacao
- Sugar Cane
- Honeybees
- Grains
- Wheat
- Rice

- Disease
 - Smallpox
 - Influenza
 - Typhus
 - Measles
 - Malaria
 - Diphtheria
 - Whooping Cough
- Livestock
 - Cattle
 - Sheep
 - Pigs
 - Horses

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Columbian Exchange

Triangular Trade



Selected North American Cultural Groups c. 1600

- Subarctic
- Northwest Coast
- California
- Plateau
- Great Basin
- Mesoamerican
- Southwest
- Plains
- Eastern Woodlands
- Southeastern
- Caribbean



0 400 800 miles
 0 400 800 kilometers
 Azimuthal Equal-Area Projection

Colonies in America

European Settlements in the Americas 1650



Types of Colonies

1. Proprietary: owned by a joint-stock company or an individual - started for profit & granted full rights of self-government



2. Royal: ruled directly by English govt - Parliament appointed a governor and a council known as the “upper house” & colonists elected an assembly (the “lower house”)



Calvinist Protestantism in England

- Protestant Reformation: 1517; leads to different Protestant “schools of thought” →
- Calvinist doctrines swept into England just as King Henry VIII was breaking his ties with the Catholic Church in the 1530s
- Henry’s action stimulated some English religious reformers to undertake a total purification of English Christianity (AKA the “Puritans”)

Religious Beliefs and Practices in the 16th Century

	Roman Catholicism	Lutheranism	Calvinism	Anglicanism
Leadership	Pope is head of the Church	Ministers lead congregations	Council of elders govern each church	English monarch is head of the Church
Salvation	Salvation by faith and good works	Salvation by faith alone	God has predetermined who will be saved	Salvation by faith alone
Bible	Church and Bible tradition are sources of revealed truth	Bible is sole source of revealed truth	Bible is sole source of revealed truth	Bible is sole source of revealed truth
Worship Service	Worship service based on ritual	Worship service focused on preaching and ritual	Worship service focused on preaching	Worship service based on ritual and preaching
Interpretation of Beliefs	Priests interpret Bible and Church teachings for believers	Believers interpret the Bible for themselves	Believers interpret the Bible for themselves	Believers interpret the Bible using tradition and reason

Persecution of Pilgrims

- Many came from the commercially depressed “woolen districts” where Calvinism fed on this social unrest and provided spiritual comfort
 - Wanted to see the Church of England “de-Catholicized”
 - King James I was head of both the state and the church from 1603 - 1625 and he quickly realized if subjects could defy him as their spiritual leader, they might defy him as political leader (his son, Charles I was later executed)
- James threatened to harass the Calvinists and drive them out





ATLANTIC OCEAN

MOHICAN

PENNACOOK

MASSACHUSET

Massachusetts Bay Colony

Salem

Boston

Massachusetts Bay

POCUMTUC

NIPMUC

Plymouth

Plymouth Colony

NAUSET

Cape Cod Bay

WAMPANOAG

Buzzards Bay

ATLANTIC OCEAN

0 20 40 miles
0 20 40 kilometers

- Present-day state of Massachusetts
- Pilgrims, 1620
- Colonial boundaries

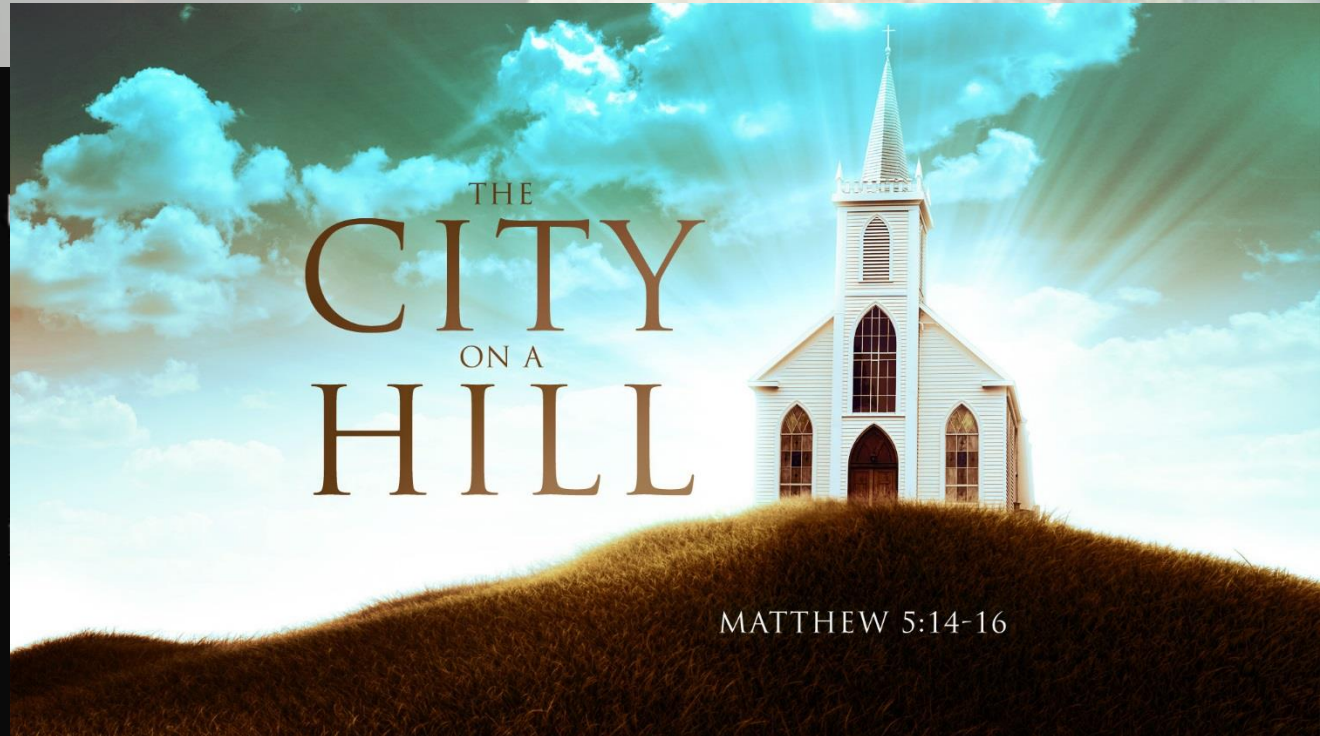
Puritans/Non-Separatists

Wanted to rid the English Church of Catholic traditions; PURIFY the English (Anglican) Church

John Winthrop – governor of the MA Bay Colony (1630) wrote “*City on a Hill*” - Boston’s Puritans must set an example to the world; education was crucial to spreading their faith

-Direct connection between church and state

-Strict adherence to Puritan rules prohibiting blasphemy, fornication, drunkenness, playing games of chance, and participation in theatrical performances (these were severe offenses)



“Freemen”—adult males who belonged to Puritan congregations

- “Unchurched” men remained voteless in provincial elections as did women; on this basis about 2/5ths of males enjoyed the franchise in provincial affairs (much more than in England)
 - The provincial government, somewhat liberal, was not a democracy
 - Winthrop feared and distrusted commons and democracy
 - Church members and non-church members paid taxes for the church



Tight community controls of the Puritans led some individuals to begin to offer dissenting opinions

Roger Williams – Salem minister; questioned legitimacy of MA charters over NAs; believed in the “wall of separation” and was exiled from the colony and founded Providence, Rhode Island colony in 1636





Anne Hutchinson's belief in individual worship, women's spiritual meetings, and claim that God spoke to her challenged Puritan leaders

-Excommunicated in a famous trial (from 1636-1638) and fled to New Amsterdam



The Enlightenment

17th – 18th Century

Stressed the use of reason & scientific method to answer questions

-A celebration of the gaining of individual control: educate oneself through questioning preexisting thought and authority → gain the power to improve your own condition → happiness

Benjamin Franklin: famous early “enlightened” British colonial (later American political figure)

-Put the emphasis on higher education for men

-Led to the founding of colleges and universities (which remember - many began with the initial purpose of religious training)



Enlightened Philosophers

1. **John Locke:** (English) believed every human was born with **Natural Rights** of life, liberty, and property that the govt **MUST** protect →

Social Contract Theory: an agreement between a people & their govt to protect their rights in exchange for their loyalty and respect for authority/laws
-Ideas we will see in the Declaration of Independence

-Also a firm advocate of the separation of “Church and State”

2. **Baron Montesquieu:** (French)
“Separation of Powers” - one branch writes laws, another enforces them, another judges them

3. **Rousseau:** (French) govt power needs to be “checked” in order to be balanced & fair

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS IDEAS

John Locke (1632-1704)



- *Essay Concerning Human Understanding* (1690)
- *Two Treatises of Government* (1690)

- knowledge comes from the senses
- the state owes rights to the people, including the right of rebellion

Sir Isaac Newton (1642-1727)



- *Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy* (1687)

- law of gravity
- scientific proof through rigorous experiments

Baron de Montesquieu (1689-1755)



- *The Persian Letters* (1721)
- *The Spirit of the Laws* (1748)

- criticized cruelty, superstition, slavery
- believed society and laws were molded by circumstances

Voltaire (1694-1778)



- *Philosophical Letters* (1734)
- *Philosophical Dictionary* (1764)

- admired the freedoms of England
- promoted religious tolerance

Rousseau (1712-1778)



- *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality* (1755)
- *The Social Contract* (1762)

- humans are naturally good
- conscience is the true guide

Diderot (1713-1784)



- *Encyclopedie* (1751-1772)

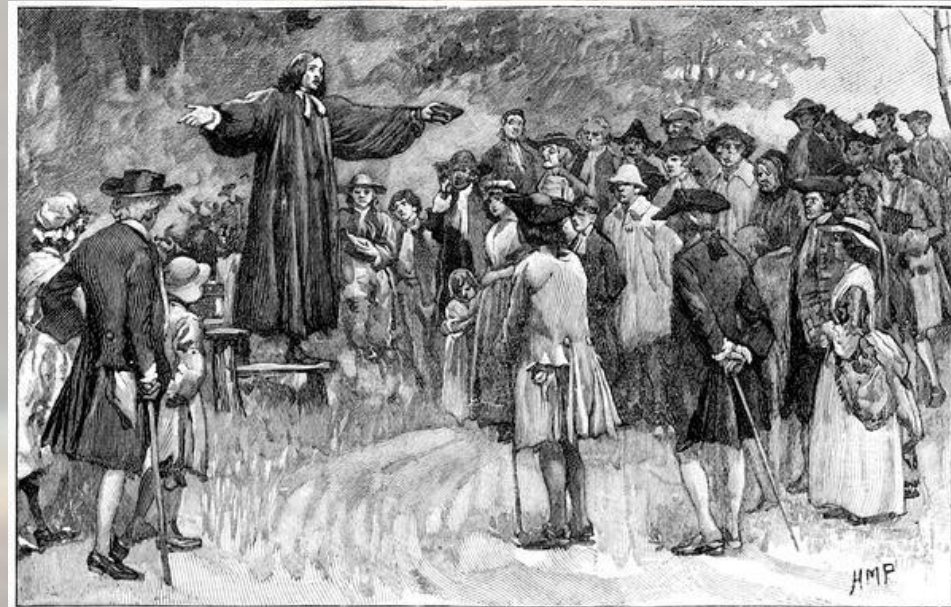
- freedom of thought and expression
- progress through knowledge

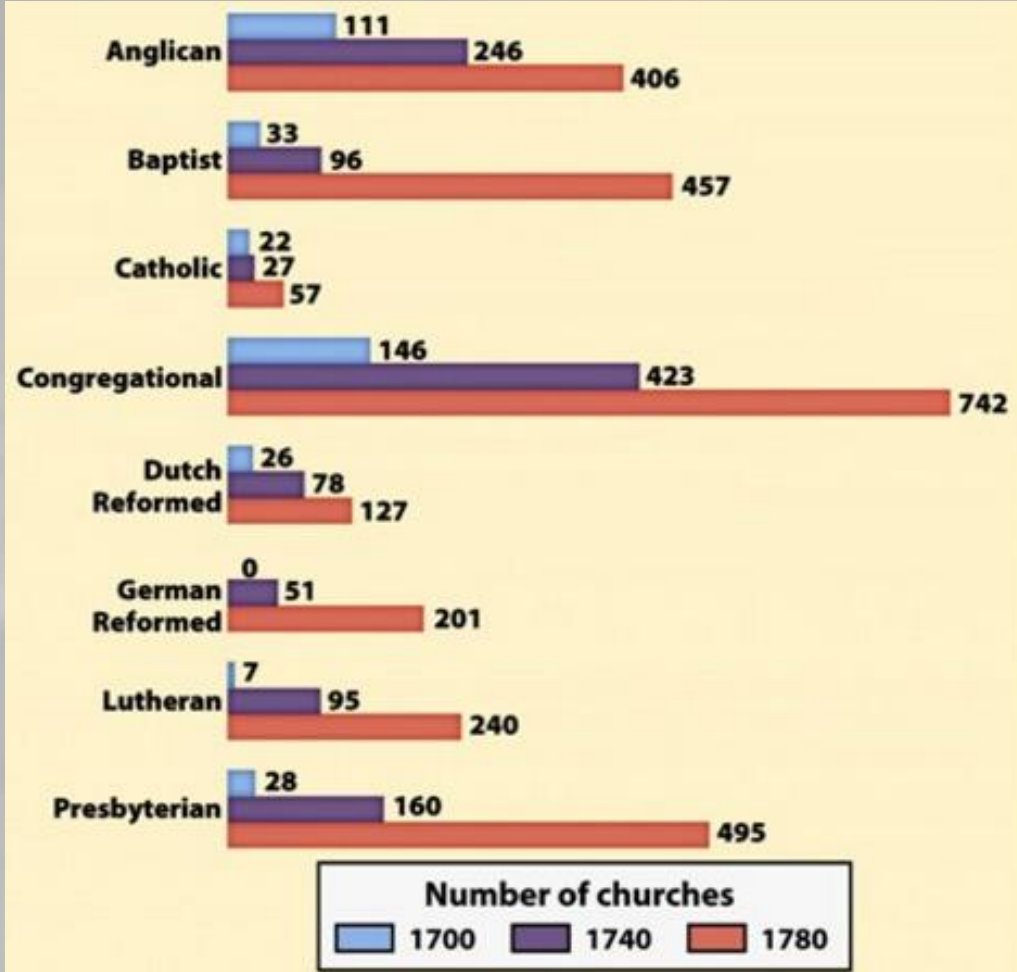
First Great Awakening

A **reaction** to the **Enlightenment**, the “Halfway Covenant”, Deism → decline in traditional Christian beliefs

1730s-1760s: revival of Christian faith to draw more of an emotional connection from Christians to God

Jonathan Edwards gave a sermon titled “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”





Old Lights	New Lights
<i>Rational Appeal</i>	<i>Emotional Appeal</i>
<i>Educated Ministry</i>	<i>Converted Ministry</i>
<i>Established Classes</i>	<i>Dispossessed Classes</i>

“New Lights” (heaven by salvation by grace of Christ) vs. “Old Lights” (salvation over time through bible study, rational/cautious ministering, and morality) clashed over these issues publicly

*1st G.A. ALSO encouraged Christians to question religious authority and promoted the idea that when churches weren't living up to believers' expectations, they could break off and form new denominations (e.g., Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran)

→ Led to the formation of colleges and universities