

Start of Chapter 3

Was religious persecution a major “Push Factor” in the colonization of English America?

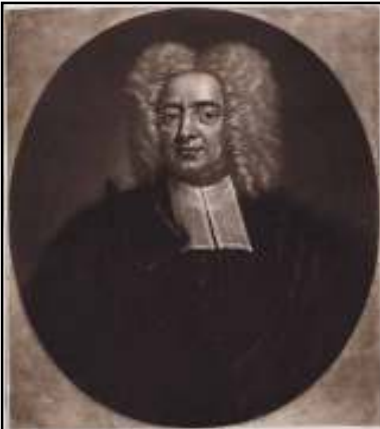
Martin Luther asks a question

- How to make the Gospels and the Old Testament reconcile????
- He became convinced that the church had lost sight of what he saw as several of the central truths of Christianity — the most important being the doctrine of justification by faith alone.
- Luther's study of theology was based on the *via moderna*, or "modern way," it emphasized on the one hand the all-powerful will of God and, on the other hand, human being's ability to contribute toward their salvation through Faith.
- **Antimoninists** did not accept this. Antimonianism influenced Anne Hutchinson to preach a perfect world on Earth. Puritans evicted her for this, they believed instead, in the idea of the **elect**, only certain, unknown people could be saved.

- Relics are objects considered to be holy and the viewing of which considered meritorious, allowing the viewer to receive relief from temporal punishment for sins in purgatory. By 1509 the Elector "already owned 5,005 of them, including several vials of the milk of the Virgin Mary, straw from the manger [of Jesus], and the entire corpse of one of the innocents massacred by King Herod
- Luther said of his excommunication by the Pope: "As for me, ... I do not wish to be reconciled with her; or even to hold any communication with her. Let her condemn and burn my books; I, in turn ... will condemn and publicly burn the whole pontifical law, that swamp of heresies." In 1545, Luther wrote a pamphlet entitled, *Against the Papacy Established by the Devil*, and during his life became known for diatribes against the papacy.

Puritans and the smaller Pilgrims came over for:

- COVENANT—GOD TOLD THEM TO BUILD A “CITY ON THE HILL—A BEACON IN THE NIGHT”
- ECONOMIC REASONS (most were from the Woolen Districts)
- During the Catholic reign of Mary—they came to avoid persecution.
- To be intolerant of others.



COTTON MATHER - helps start Salem Witch Trials 1688

Puritanism: The English Reformation

- In the 16th century, Henry VIII had separated the Church of England from Rome.
- Elizabeth I consolidated the Church of England along moderate lines.



a portrait of Henry VIII

- Some members of the Church of England, the Puritans, demanded more radical **Calvinist** reforms.
- They opposed church government through bishops, and came into conflict with the absolutist ambitions of the Stuart kings in the 17th century.

Puritanism: Central Beliefs

- Puritans were inspired by the theology of John Calvin.
- **Predestination**
- **Covenant of Grace** v. Covenant of Works
- They engaged in constant soul-searching and study of scripture.

- They opposed many church rituals, such as Christmas.
- **Separatist** Puritans (a minority group called **Pilgrims**) wanted to form a new church, Non-Separatists Puritans SAID that they wanted to reform the system from within.
- Puritans were often persecuted by the English state in the early 17th century because they were so difficult to get along with. (Bloody Mary had 250 burned)

Plymouth Plantation: The Pilgrims

- In 1620, a group of separatist Puritans (“**Pilgrims**”) traveled to North America aboard the ship *Mayflower*.
- The *Mayflower* compact established a “civil body politic” for themselves and their non-Pilgrim companions.



- The plan was to establish a spiritually pure colony in the new world, away from corrupt England.
- On their second landing site, they established a settlement they called Plymouth after the hometown of some of the colonists.

Plymouth: Survival Problems

- + The Pilgrims had arrived as family groups, ready to farm.
- + Also, the Native American population had been decimated by an epidemic introduced by European traders, so land was available.
- However, The Pilgrims arrived in December, giving them no time to farm, just to build some shelter.
- A starving time resulted.
- + Native's, (decimated by disease, and **internecine** warfare), help the Pilgrims survive in order to win over these strange “allies”.

- However, the good cooperation between local Indians and English settlers was very short.
- The idea of a single Thanksgiving event is mythical.
- **Absorbed by Puritans in 1690. So why are they remembered as so important?**

Massachusetts Bay Colony

- While Plymouth (Pilgrims) remained small, a second colony, Massachusetts Bay, (Puritan) prospered.
- Not QUITE a Theocracy
- In the **Great English Migration** 1630-1642 over 20,000 came to New Eng.
- The colony was relatively well-prepared and profited from a large # of settlers.



Why the mass Puritan migration

- Charles 1st wanted to reclaim supreme power from Parliament
- Believed that the High Anglican church had to control the rise of Puritanism
- Many noblemen including Lord Cromwell had converted to Puritanism
- Thus, if he crushed Puritanism he might also crush the growing power of a growing Puritan Parliament.
- He dismissed Parliament in 1630
- By 1642 he had to recall it to fund his war with Scotland

“A City Upon A Hill“

- Massachusetts was founded as a Christian utopia, outlined by John Winthrop in his sermon “A Model of Christian charity.”
- The colony was to be based on strict Puritan theology, as an example to the old world.



- It was supposed to be a model of brotherly love and economic cooperation.
- Emphasis on education (Harvard 1636)
- These ideals were reflected in the New England village settlement patterns.
- The focus on subsistence agriculture and family coherence led to a rapid increase in population.

- **The Merry mounters** showed why it was not a place of toleration
- Settlement spread and the new colonies of **Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire** were formed by Puritan dissenters kicked out of the **Commonwealth.**



Puritans (NOT Pilgrims)

- Came for ECONOMIC reasons as much as religious reasons
- “cruel and Unusual” punishment???
- John Cotton: “Toleration is liberty to tell lies in the name of the Lord”.
- You can tell a lot about a group by the names they give their children:
 - Constance
 - Joy From Above
 - Kill Sin
 - Increase
 - Hope
 - Wrestle With The Devil

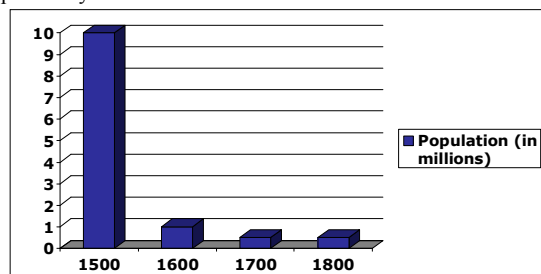
Religious Dissent and Secularization

- Even though the Puritans had left England to escape religious persecution, they did not advocate religious toleration.
- 3 famous dissenters were exiled in the 1630s: **Roger Williams, Anne Hutchinson and Thomas Hooker.**
- Quakers were first exiled and then executed on return.

- Several major wars were fought, such as the **Pequot War** (1637) and **King Philip’s War** (1675-76).
- Puritan efforts at christianizing New England Indians (**Praying Towns**) were relatively unsuccessful and mostly abandoned after 1676.

Amerinds and 3-D’s

- Disease
- Disunity
- Disposability



King Philip’s War

- Indian – White relations at low ebb by 1670s.
- Treaties with Indians not kept, no real attempt by whites to engage with Indians, nefarious tactics to get land.
- Metacom – named ‘King Philip’ by whites, chief of Wampanoags, Grandson of Massasoit (at thanksgiving feast).
- Specific grievances over loss of tribal lands, effect of alcohol and guns on people, also Puritan treatment of ‘praying Indians’ – confined to praying villages, taken away from homes and families

King Phillip’s War

- Wampanoags have better of initial skirmishes – success leads to other tribes such as Nipmuc, Narragansett, Pocasset and Pocomtuck joining in – general Indian war
- But as the war drags on into 1676, Indians unable to continue a long war (lack supplies and planning). English were able to re-group and re-supply, then counter-attack – eventually capture and kill King Phillip.

Consequences of King Phillip's War

- 3000 Indians killed (50% of pop), loss of tribal leaders, exile of many Indians to west, captives sold into slavery, remaining tribes confined to praying villages. End of threat in New England
- cost £100,000 - came close to bankrupting many colonies. 2500 white settlers killed, (10% of white men of fighting age), damaged 52 of the 90 settlements in New England, totally destroying 12 of them.
- Psychological - KPW 'so dreadful a judgment' for straying from path of righteousness; a warning from God, yet victory showed God still on white side.
- White settlement restricted, doesn't reach 1675 levels again until 1710

Religious Prevalence in Colonial America

- Most people did not consider themselves religious during the colonial period- only about 1/5
- Most colonists arrived for nonreligious reasons
- Church membership never surpassed 20% during the colonial period
- Approximately 80% of Americans, slaves excluded, were WASPS (**W**hite **A**nglo-**S**axon **P**rotestants)
- Other forms of Christianity were opposed by the Protestants

- The second and third generations of Puritans often did not become full church members. The **Halfway covenant** was adopted in 1662 to accommodate them.
- Church membership continued to decline and ultimately became today's Non-Denominational or **Congregationist** churches.
- Puritans are important to us culturally and historically because of the ideas and ideals they left behind
 - Puritan work ethic
 - Blue Laws
 - Importance of community
 - Etc.

The **Middle Colonies**. Half way between New England and the Southern colonies; politically, geographically, culturally

- New York: taken from the Dutch by the Duke of York
- New Jersey
- Delaware: Taken from Swedes but really part of Penn.
- Pennsylvania: **Proprietary** colony for Quakers



The Stuart Restoration

- 1642-1660, the Stuart dynasty was interrupted by the Civil War and the Cromwell (Very **Puritan**) Interregnum.
- In 1660, the Stuarts were reinstated: Charles II (1660-85 Very **Anglican**) and James II (1685-88 **Catholic**). Both had ambitions to absolute monarchy.
- To pay off political and financial debts, Charles II issued colonial patents: the Restoration Colonies.
- In the late 1680s James II tried to unite New England and New York into the Dominion of New England.



James II

The Glorious Revolution

- The Stuart dynasty ended because James II tried to reimpose Catholicism on England.
- Leading Englishmen called on James II daughter Mary (**Protestant**) and her husband William to replace him. The bloodless Glorious Revolution, 1688.
- Important results:
 - Dominion of New England ends. (Pilgrims lose charter—Salem Witch trials begin)
 - End of Puritan power
 - Bill of Rights
 - Era of salutary neglect



William and Mary

New York

- New York had originally been a Dutch fur-trading colony, New Netherlands, since 1625.
- In 1664, Charles II granted a charter to his brother James, ignoring the Dutch title.
- The colony was conquered against little resistance.
- Dutch property titles and many laws remained. Religious toleration was practiced.
- New York became the central commercial harbor in the 18th century.



New Jersey

- New Jersey was also part of the New Netherlands conquest.
- James granted titles to his friends Sir George Carteret and John Lord Berkeley, splitting the land into East and West Jersey.
- East Jersey was similar to New York in population and economy.
- West Jersey was dominated by Quakers, like later Pennsylvania.
- In 1702, the Jerseys were united as the royal colony of New Jersey.



Pennsylvania

- In 1681, Charles II gave a grant to William Penn, the son of a major creditor.
- Penn, a Quaker leader, envisioned his colony as a haven for Quakers and a center of tolerance and fair treatment for all.
- Philadelphia, the main city, was meticulously planned.
- Pennsylvania was very successful: Many immigrants, including Native Americans.
- Land clashes marred the egalitarian vision, but still more tolerance than elsewhere.
- Despite the colony's success, Penn went bankrupt and died in a debtor's prison, 1718.



Delaware

- Delaware was part of New York until 1682, when James ceded it to Pennsylvania as an outlet to the sea.
- In 1703 Penn permitted a separate colonial assembly for Delaware.
- This made Delaware into a *de facto* colony of its own.



Conclusion

- Overall process of colonial maturity. In only 100 years from desperate settlers fighting for survival to full-blown complex societies, economically dynamic and with a tradition of considerable self-government.
- Despite many initial problems, the English colonies in the Chesapeake, New England, and Middle colonies endured and sometimes prospered.
- They were greatly aided by the large numbers of migrants from England in the early 17th century.
- At same time, a mother-child metaphor was widely used for colonial-imperial relationship. Trouble is built-in: what happens when the child grows up?

- All regions faced similar problems and shared some experiences, such as the decimation of the Native Americans.
- New England and the Chesapeake also differed significantly in many ways such as their basic goals and outlook, family structure, settlement patterns, economic development, labor systems and political institutions.
- The Middle Colonies were in all aspects--"in the middle"
- Next week: process of conflict in the colonies, witchcraft, and slavery