

Chapter 1: The Nation's Beginnings (Prehistory–1824)

This chapter will cover Native Americans and European colonization, The American Revolution, the creation of a government, and the nation's early years.

- **Section 1:** Many Cultures Meet
- **Section 2:** Colonization & the American Revolution
- **Section 3:** The Constitution
- **Section 4:** The New Republic



Ch1.2 Part A: A City Upon a Hill

Objectives

- Describe the European colonial presence in North America.
 - Compare and contrast the 13 Colonies
- Trace the development of democratic ideals in Europe and America.
 - Explain the significance of the Enlightenment and the Great Awakening.



Terms and People

- **House of Burgesses** – elected Virginia legislature, begun in Jamestown in 1619
- **Mayflower Compact** – provided a framework for self-government at Plymouth in 1620
- **Magna Carta** – 1215 document signed by King John that limited the power of the English monarch
- **English Bill of Rights** – 1688 document signed by King William and Queen Mary that listed freedoms of Englishmen

Terms and People (continued)

- **Enlightenment** – 18th century European intellectual movement; stated that all problems could be solved by human reasoning
- **Great Awakening** – 1740s evangelical movement that led to the birth of new churches in the colonies



What important ideas and major events led to the American Revolution?

European nations explored and established colonies in the Americas.

England established 13 colonies that later became the United States of America.

Spain, France, and England all established major colonies in the Americas.

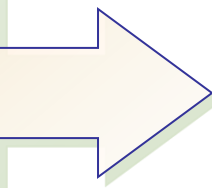
Spain gained wealth from Mexico and South and Central America.

French traders traded for furs in Nova Scotia.



England established a string of colonies along the east coast of North America.

In 1607,
Jamestown was
founded on
Chesapeake
Bay.



Despite Indian attacks, disease, and starvation, the colony grew, raising tobacco for export.

Planters established the **House of Burgesses** as an elected legislature.

JAMESTOWN



The First Permanent English Colony



KING JAMES I

- **Granted a charter to the Virginia Company in 1606 to settle & “civilize” America**
- **Wanted to prevent Spanish advancements in the New World & find a Northern passage to Asia**

VOYAGE TO THE NEW WORLD

- **In December 1606, 105 settlers & entrepreneurs set off for America**
- **Arrived in Virginia in April 1607**
- **Edward Winfield elected president of governing council & selects the island location**

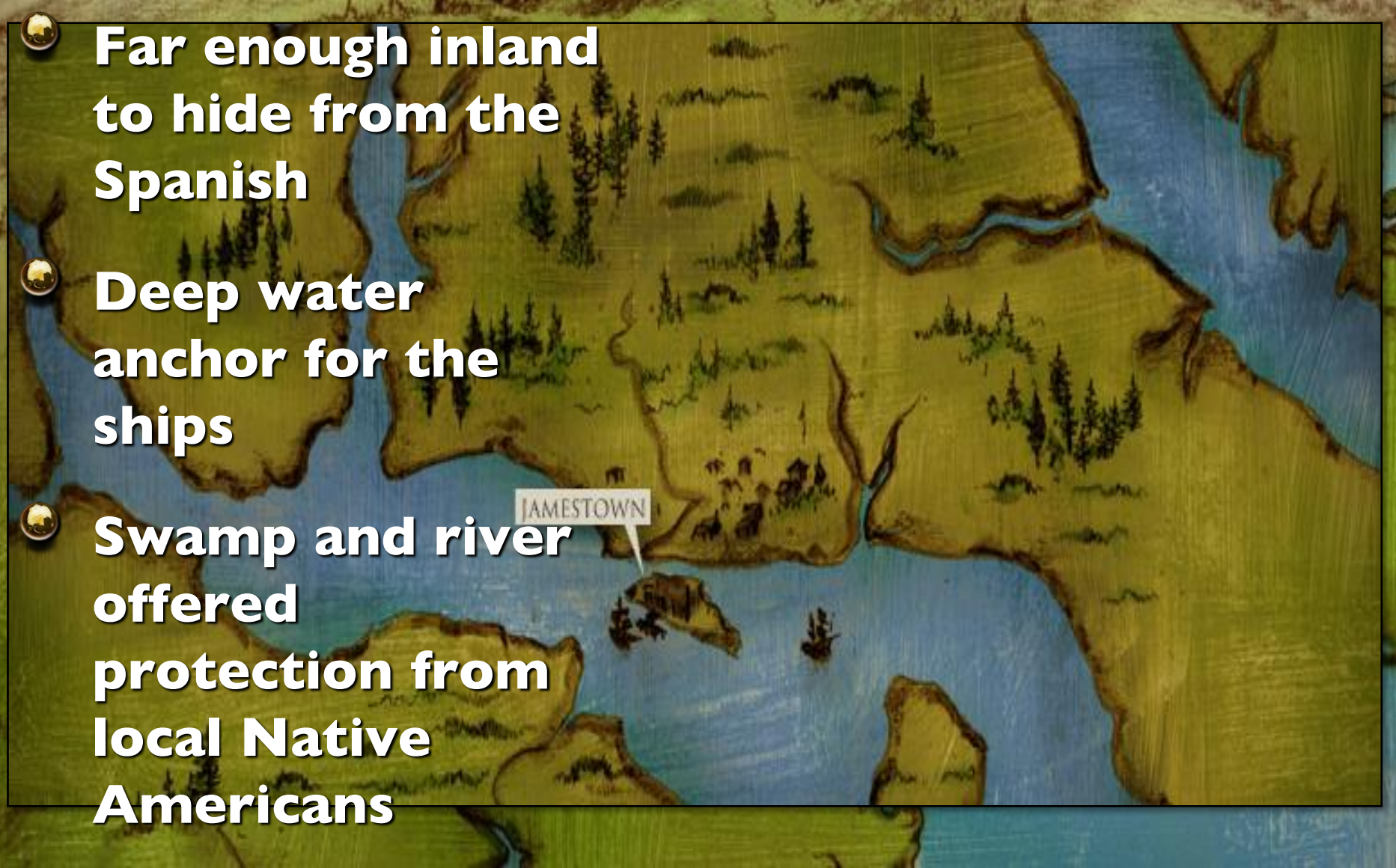


WHY JAMESTOWN ISLAND?

- **Far enough inland to hide from the Spanish**

- **Deep water anchor for the ships**

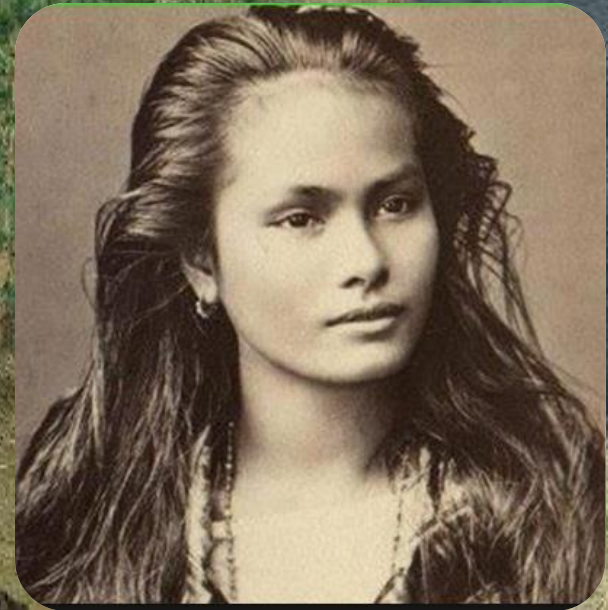
- **Swamp and river offered protection from local Native Americans**



JAMESTOWN

THE NATIVES

- **About 14,000 Powhatan Indians lived in the Virginia area**
- **Chief Powhatan's daughter was the famous Pocahontas- she married John Rolfe, which helped English/Native relations.**



THE FORT



G.E. King

THE FORT



THE HOUSE OF BURGESSES

- Established in 1619 so colonists could make their own laws

- Becomes the first representative government in America





House of Burgesses: 1619 - Virginia

Legislatures = Lawmaking Bodies

The first legislative assembly in the American Colonies. "Burgesses" were elected representatives, voted on by white men with property.

Following their lead, each new English colony demanded their own legislature.



JAMESTOWN IN 1620



In 1620, Plymouth Colony was established in New England.

- Adult males signed the **Mayflower Compact**, a framework for self-government.
- Early settlers were devout Puritans who hoped to create model moral communities.

The Mayflower Compact created a “social contract” in which the people agree to give up certain rights in exchange for governmental protection.

Also found is the concept of “consent of the governed,” the idea that the government gets its power from the permission of the people.



The New England Colonies

THE PILGRIMS



Strict religious separatists first left England for Holland



Secured funding in 1620 for a voyage to America, leaving from Southampton, England.

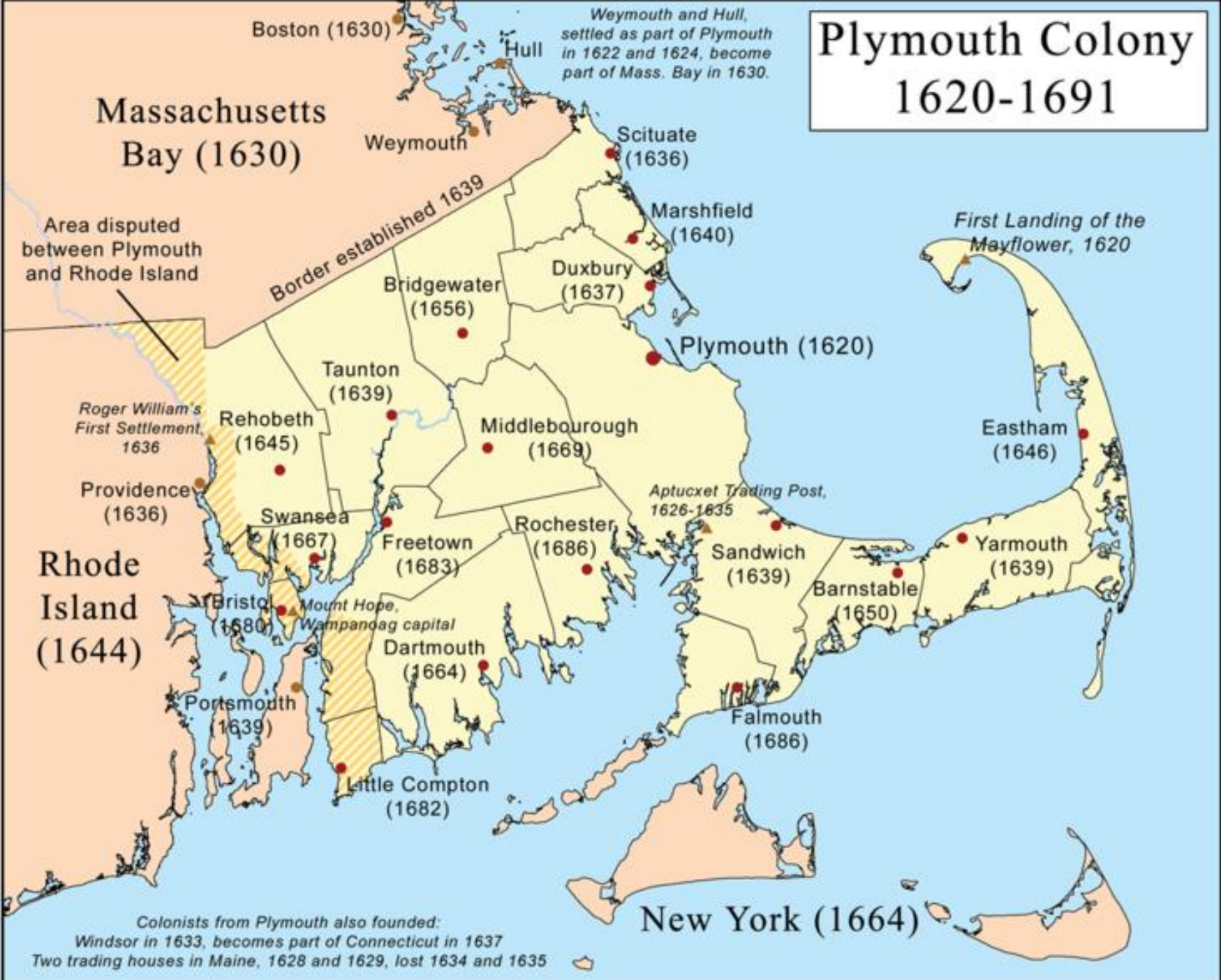


ARRIVAL IN THE NEW WORLD



- 🎃 **66 Day voyage to America**
- 🎃 **Landed in Plymouth, blown north of expected destination.**
- 🎃 **Signed the Mayflower Compact**
- 🎃 **Helped establish America's ideas on self-government and majority rule**

Plymouth Colony 1620-1691





Mayflower Compact: American Colonies - 1620



English settlers, including the Pilgrims, established democratic and political ideals based on English institutions.

Signed by passengers aboard the Mayflower, right before landing, this document organized them into a “body politic.” They agreed to obey “equal laws,” and submit to an elected authority.

THE NEW ENGLAND COLONIES

Struggles Endured: 

Storm blew Pilgrims off course, landing far north

Received help from Natives first winter – Thanksgiving meal.

Created a “covenant community”



Practiced Athenian-style direct democracy in town meetings



Laid the foundation of majority rule in America



The colonists brought democratic ideals from England.

- In 1215 the **Magna Carta** protected an English citizen's right to a trial by jury.
- In 1688 the **English Bill of Rights** listed freedoms that the government promised to protect.



Rights & Limited Government – the Magna Carta



Protecting people's rights and civil liberties is a concept that existed in England dating back to 1215 when King John signed the Magna Carta. This document included:

- Limited Government – the idea that governmental power should be checked
- Rule of Law – the notion that the government was not above the law
- Trial by Jury – and other rights

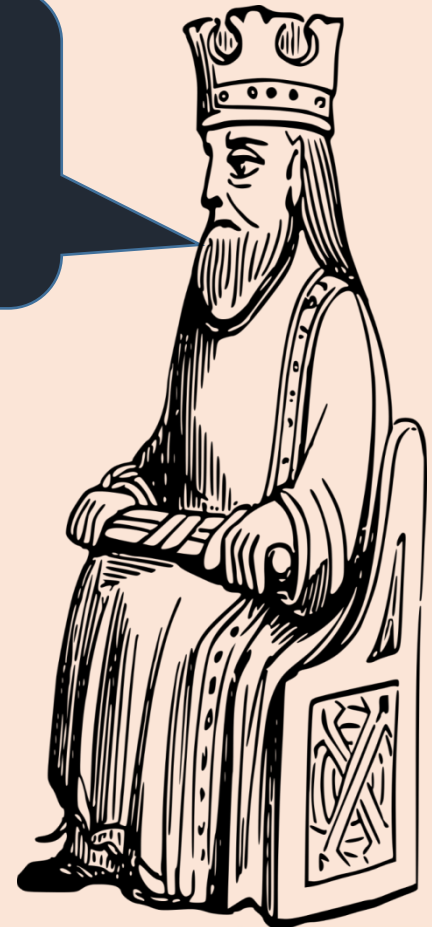


The English Bill of Rights

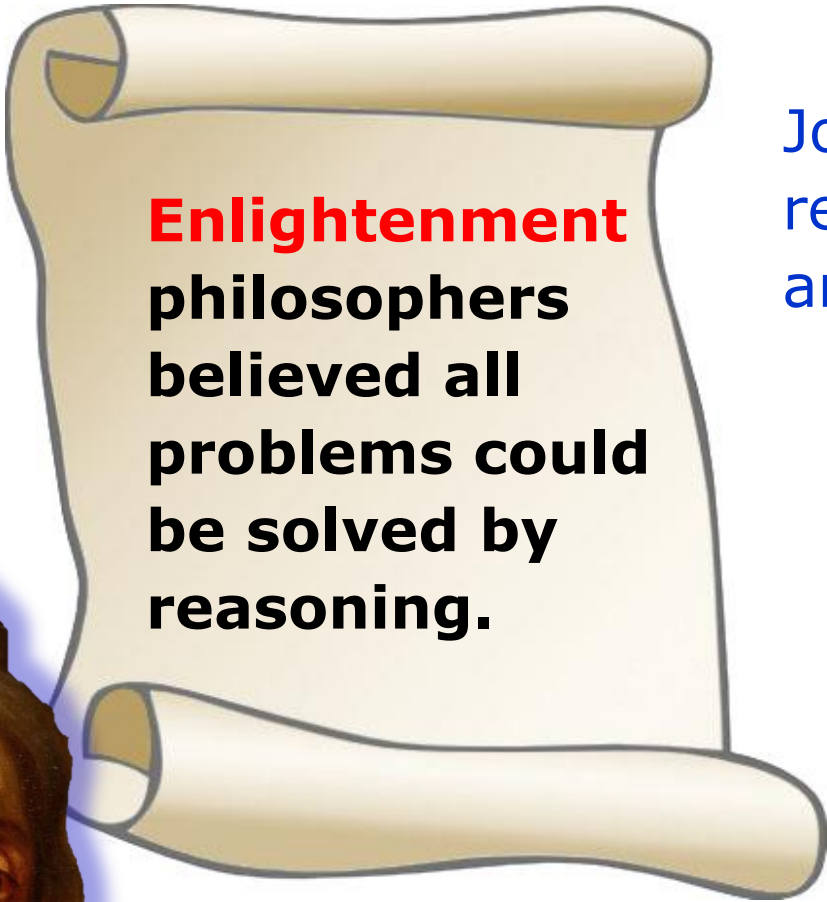
Signed in 1689, the English Bill of Rights further limited governmental power and protected rights. Included in the document:

- No laws could be suspended unless Parliament approved
- No taxes without Parliament's approval
- Trial by Jury, Freedom of Speech, No Cruel Punishments
- Free Elections

Ugh, my power is totally limited!!



Whosoever shall and doeth shall not again
 be in danger of being subjected Upon which
 Letters Patents having been accordingly
 made and interpreted the said Lord Spiritual
 and Temporal and Common Councils to their
 respective Letters and Petitions being now
 assembled in a full and free Representation of
 the Nation taking into their most serious
 consideration the best means for obtaining
 the said Petitions did in the first place and
 first Consideration in the first place
 for the maintaining and asserting their ancient
 Rights and Liberties Declare that the pretended
 Power of suspending Laws or the Execution of
 Laws by Royal Authority without Consent of
 Parliament is illegal that the pretended Power
 of dispensing with Laws or the Execution of
 Laws by Royal Authority as it hath been
 assumed and exercised of late is illegal that
 the Commission for erecting the late Court of
 Commissioners for Ecclesiastical Causes and all
 other Commissions and Courts of like Nature
 are illegal and voidable that levying Money
 for or to the Use of the Crown by pretence of
 the Statute in that behalf made for
 levying Money or in other Manner than the same
 is or shall be granted is illegal that if it
 shall come to the Knowledge of the King
 and all Commissions and Proclamations for such
 Purposes are illegal that the raising or
 levying of Money within the Kingdom
 in any Manner without Consent of
 Parliament is against Law that the Subjects
 which are Protestants may have Petitions
 presented to the Lords Spiritual and all
 allowed by Law that Election of Members of
 Parliament ought to be free that the Freedom



Enlightenment
philosophers
believed all
problems could
be solved by
reasoning.

John Locke applied
reason to government
and politics.

During the 1700s
the philosophy of
the Enlightenment
circulated in
the colonies.



The Enlightenment

The Enlightenment was an intellectual revolution from the late 1700s to early 1800s in Europe & America



Locke



Montesquieu



Rousseau



Voltaire



Beccaria

Why was the Enlightenment an “Intellectual Revolution”?



Age of Reason

- It challenged traditional authority
- Encouraged individualism & the ability to think for yourself
- It proved man's ability to reason & thus discover for himself truths
- Peoples liberties should be protected by law



The Enlightenment - Late 1600s - 1700s



This was an intellectual movement that spread across Europe, when people began to question the king's divine right to rule.

Enlightenment philosophers like John Locke, Montesquieu, and Rousseau, wrote about how governments could be better with ideas on:

- Rights
- Separation of Governmental Powers
- Social Contract



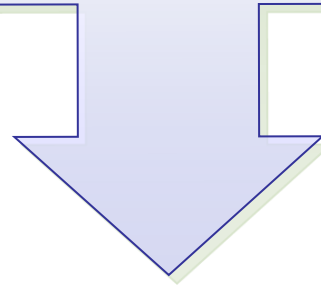
13 Colonies: Putting these ideas into practice

Settling the colonies
allowed for the
opportunity to create
governments from
scratch..

Eventually!



In the 1740s, the **Great Awakening**, an evangelical movement, began a religious revival in the colonies.



This led to greater tolerance of religious differences.

“Come one, come all!!!”





THE GREAT AWAKENING

“Come one, come all!”

Which ideas do this quote call attention to?

Acceptance and tolerance. These ideas will lead to increased colonist unity.



- ▶ Time in the **1730-1740's** of widespread religious passion in the colonies and a time of increased **religious toleration** and a feeling of **community**.

WHAT IS THE GREAT AWAKENING?



Whitefield

WHAT HAPPENED? BIG IDEAS

- ▶ Period of intense religious emotions in the colonies from 1730-1740 (a few decades prior to the American Revolution).
- ▶ Meetings held wherever a group could be gathered, all were welcome showing tolerance and equality.
- ▶ Created a sense of unification (coming together/community)
- ▶ Old ideas were challenged and discussed regarding moral choices, and absolute right or absolute wrong. This was an increase in individuality and thinking for oneself.

This section's Big Takeaway



The Enlightenment and the Great Awakening shaped American culture by opening the minds to the idea of independence which helped lead to Revolutionary ideas against England.