

New England

Key Terms:

Congregationalists	Pilgrims (Separatists)	Non-Separatists
Plymouth	Massachusetts Bay Colony	John Winthrop
City Upon a Hill	The Town	The Church (Physical Structure)
The Elect	Covenant of Works	Covenant of Grace
Roger Williams	Anne Hutchinson	½ Covenant

I. English Settlement in New England

- A. Physical and Demographic Characteristics.
- B. The Pilgrims at Plymouth Colony.
- C. The Puritans at Massachusetts Bay Colony.

II. New England Society

- A. Town.
- B. Church.
- C. Puritan Theology.

III. Dissension in Massachusetts Bay Colony

- A. Roger Williams.
- B. Anne Hutchinson.

IV. The Halfway Covenant (1662)

- As we've already discussed, New England's climate is colder and more harsh than Virginia.
- Life expectancy in New England 60 plus years, where by the time of Bacon's Rebellion it was 40-45 in Jamestown. Colder weather less mosquitoes equals less malaria, which weakened immunity to other disease in Virginia.

I. English Settlement in New England

- A. Physical and Demographic Characteristics

1. Land different from Virginia as well: thin and poor top soil on top of rocks, had to take rocks out of soil to use, but still not well sorted for agriculture, not very fertile
2. Plus shorter growing season, because cold weather
3. Plus longer time to wait to plant because mud season in spring. Therefore no plantations/cash crop agriculture, but wheat and grains, and on small scale.
4. Aimed at subsistence, if commercial geared to local and regional agriculture

B. Different type of people in England Pilgrims

1. Pilgrims first to leave England beginning 1608
2. Migrate to Holland, which was religiously tolerant, but didn't like tolerance of other religions.
3. Wanted children to speak English and children were speaking Dutch
4. Thought Dutch corrupting Pilgrim youth, because extremely liberal
5. William Bradford said children were being drawn away by evil enticements and not obeying parents.
6. Pilgrims leave Holland and settle in Plymouth 1620
7. Many died in the first few years, but by 1630 pilgrims doing quite well
8. Plymouth believe church should have limited influence in what happens over state

C. Puritans

1. Largest group Puritans (1620-1640)
2. The Great Migration, about 50,000 Puritans left England, 20, 000 to 30,000 came to New England.
3. Puritans exerted more influence in development of New England than Pilgrims
4. Left England later than Pilgrims not: until 1629 begin to organize expedition
5. Land in Boston 1630
6. John Winthrop chosen leader
 - a. He is upper-class
 - b. Successful attorney in England

- c. Owned lots of land
- d. To leave England and settle in wilderness took courage and huge sacrifice
- e. Winthrop left because persecution of Puritans
- f. But moreover saw the state of decay in England, homeless orphans rummaging through trash saw people cared more for animals than children
- g. Thought God's wrath would bear down on England
- h. Left 1630 with 900 people and 11 boats
- i. Lead ship named Arabella, delivered most famous sermon in American History
- j. Sermon: "City Upon a Hill," we are entering a covenant with God,
- k. We have to establish a model colony
- l. Set an example for the rest of the world
- m. "We Shall Be as a City Upon a Hill for All the World to See
- n. In order to achieve model community with unity and order there is no room for disagreement
- o. "the eyes of the people are upon us."
- p. If break covenant, God will bear down upon us
- q. If believe God going to bear down on you, how do you live life?
- r. Very rigid, must follow laws because if don't, put the entire community's souls in danger.
- s. If 1 breaks the law, all will be punished.
- t. Always had to do what is right
- u. Almost tyrannical
- v. Constantly watch out and looking for evidence of Gods' displeasure or unhappiness (epidemics, torrential rain, signs of God's unhappiness)
- w. Believed Natives Americans dying because God not happy with them and want to open land for us (Puritans).

II. New England Society

A. Towns

1. Towns founded, close
2. Town proprietors set out town site and distribute land to selves and any new comers to the area
3. Within town, house plots roughly same size
4. Outside of town farms within walking distance
5. More wealthy = more farm land
6. Wealthiest get 1000 acres
7. Average holdings 50-150 acres, sufficient to feed family
8. Puritans are a people who believe wealthy rewarded by God
9. Therefore towns should also reward with land

B. Churches

1. Austere, wooden buildings
2. No stain glass or organ
3. Simple wooden benches, no source of heat
4. No music or art to distract people from sermon of God
5. Wanted people to concentrate
6. Sermons 5 to 6 hours long
7. Sermon center piece of puritan service
8. If fidget or show restlessness children punished
9. Don't try to keep war, etc. Focus.

C. Puritan Theology

1. Believe people born naturally depraved (spiritually and reason left to own people will choose bad path.)

2. Influenced by John Calvin (French Theologian), who taught predestination, certain people chosen before born to be saved by God
3. Everybody else suffer everlasting torture after death
4. People went through years of wondering if they would be saved
5. Those who were saved were called elect/saved
6. Spend lives reading Bible/praying hoping they'd be saved. waiting for a sign.
7. When felt visited by God, they called this a conversion.
8. Being saved by predestination is covenant of grace, only by God's grace saved, nothing you do (good works) can save you
9. Everyone firmly believed this, once conversion experience then go before full church members (saints, already know saved) and there would question and make publically confess all sins
10. Want to ensure experience authentic not delusion of devil
11. The elect either let you in as a full member or say no you're diluted
12. Why need to validate proof of predestination? Once done become Full Church Member
13. Full membership has benefits, especially for men (more power in running church and community.) Even if not full member/conversion had to go to church and pay taxes (used to help church. No separation of Church and state)
14. Full church members got more earthly benefits too.
15. Why not fake conversion/ because it would be a sin, one of the gravest sins (incomprehensible).
16. Competing belief between covenant of works, which said no predestination, you have a role in your salvation by doing good works.
17. Why did Puritans reject works? Flew in face of covenant of grace.
18. Plus threatened ascendancy of full church members (Roman and Anglican churches emphasize good works , indulgences)
19. Puritan passion for unity in community, disunity meant failure and failure meant punishment of God

20. To question church authority really serious offense

III. Dissension in Massachusetts Bay Colony

A. Roger Williams

1. Educated in England
2. Came to Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1634
3. Talented and gifted preacher
4. Arrives in Boston but goes to Salem
5. Begin to preach things that appalled the puritans
6. Says no church should be supported by general taxes
7. Everyone shouldn't be required to attend church
8. Advocated separation of church and state
9. Began to attract attention of people in Boston
10. But because talented Williams is still invited to preach at church in Boston that mandated attendance
11. Williams refused to speak because mandate of attendance
12. Criticized puritan seizure of Indian land
13. Williams established Providence, Rhode Island Narragansett Bay
14. Other preachers liked him, so took Williams to the side and they said "hey watch it or you'll get kicked out."
15. Governor John Winthrop asked him to clam down
16. In 1635 Roger Williams banished after many chances
17. He and his followers established city of Providence, RI
18. Instituted total separation of church and state and bought land from Indians in Rhode Island, much different than Massachusetts Bay Colony (MBC)
19. MBC Looked down on Providence
20. **Roger Williams example of intolerance within Puritan community

B. Anne Hutchinson

1. 43 years old in 1634
2. Banished 1638
3. Hutchinson threatened power of elite and preachers
4. Defied women's role
5. Unity/disunity, mission fails, punishment of God
6. Anne claims direct communication with God, diminished role of minister in determining full membership
7. Also preached to men, a big no no.
8. She said Grace alone, not obedience to law, saved people (antinomianism)
9. If have direct communication with God, no need for minister
10. Ministers would lose church and community power

IV. Half-way Covenant

- A. Puritans, in addition to being concerned with dissenters, worried about own kids population increasing more church membership
- B. Kids have to go to church, but % of church members as not as high as attendees,
- C. Many coming to practice horse-shed Christianity
- D. Went to church because had to but loitered around outside
- E. Came in late and came back from lunch late
- F. Not totally committed to puritan way, especially the men
- G. By 1660s women majority of full church members
- H. In some towns only 25% of men full members
- I. By 1660s clear population lacks religious fervor
- J. As early settlers less conversion experiences less became members of church
- K. Puritan members become alarmed about children
- L. If prominent in church then their kids should be having conversion experiences

- M. Church membership decreased. Leaders become afraid Puritanism will disappear?
- N. 1662 leaders proposed solution, too hard to get in to church, so lower the bar
- O. $\frac{1}{2}$ way covenant, children of elect, then children could be present for baptism and become half members, way to bring children into the church and preserve the church even if just limping along
- P. By 1700 original founders languishing or dead
- Q. Zeal died too
- R. World wasn't really watching