

CHAPTER 4 - RELIGION and the GREAT AWAKENING

England - Henry VIII breaks w/ Rome over marriage
 son Edward VI → drastic reforms (away from Rome)

ca. 1550

"Bloody Mary" (Queen)

1553-58

- pushed to restore Catholicism
- burned 300 Protestants at the stake

Queen Elizabeth

1558-1603

- Anglican Church → thoroughly Protestant doctrine
- retained Catholic-style hierarchy, ritual, trappings

thus:

<i>Separatists</i>	<i>Puritans</i>	<i>Low-church Anglicans</i>	<i>High-church Anglicans</i>
true Christians must separate from the corrupt Church of England	Anglican doctrine was correct but practices were corrupt, must purify the church	agreed doctrinally with Puritans but thought ceremony and structure of church was OK	Bishops and tradition were divinely ordained

Puritans - "Covenant Theology" (Covenant churches of today?)

therefore, Bay Colony was:

- a social covenant with God
- a model society

CHURCH POLITY - chart, p. 65

Declining Puritan membership led to *Halfway Covenant* -- unregenerate members given (limited?) church membership & most privileges

SALEM WITCH TRIALS -- *read box, note that clergy helped stop the trials*

Other Separatist Groups -

- Baptists -- Roger Williams started first Baptist church in America
"the Little Baptist State of Rhode Island" (Washington)

- Quakers -- originally no ministers --
 "inner light"
 overwhelmingly pacifist

- Presbyterians
- Others - Reformed, Lutheran, etc.

Missions to "Indians"

- David Brainerd -- son-in-law of Edwards
- John Eliot -- Algonquin Bible
- confusion of Christianity with Eurocentric "civilization"

The Great Awakening (ca. 1720's-1760's)

"...a powerful social, political, and religious force that permanently altered the face of American history."

"...a surprising work of God" (Edwards)

background: lukewarmness/backsliding; lack of religion in frontier

beginnings:

Gilbert Tenant (Presbyterian) graduated from father's "Log College"

- physically crude, spiritually well-appointed
- humble beginnings, proud legacy (50 colleges)
- a *"school of the prophets"* - Whitefield

Presbyterians divided

- "New Lights" - supported the revival
- "Old Lights" - opposed extreme emotionalism

Jonathan Edwards - greatest theologian of the Awakening

- preached series of sermons on justification by faith
- sparked a work in his church
- "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" (1741)
- President of Princeton

George Whitefield (from England) - the "voice" of the Great Awakening

- 7 trips to US
- united the colonial revivalists

Results of Great Awakening:

- church growth, revival, and unity
- colleges started: Princeton, Brown, Rutgers, Yale
- politically
 - united colonies
 - established equality of men
 - laid groundwork for democracy, free speech & assembly