

God and America



How Do You See It?

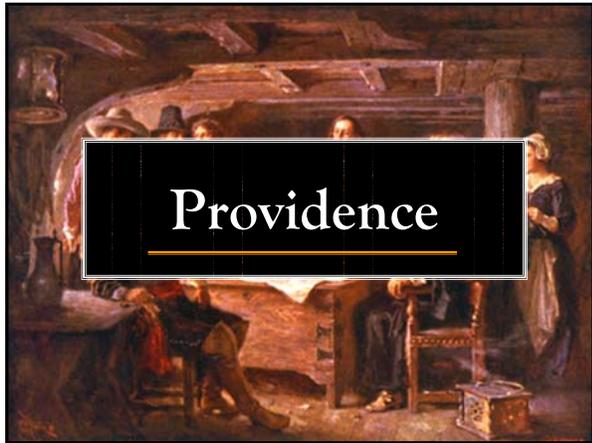
“The revolutionary generation won the first successful war for colonial independence in the modern era, against all odds, defeating the most powerful army and navy in the world. Washington liked to call the American victory “a standing miracle.” A phrase that suggests some kind of supernatural intervention on America’s side. As we shall see, the French were more important than the gods, and the strategic decisions that made victory possible also made miracles unnecessary.”

Joseph J. Ellis, *American Creation*

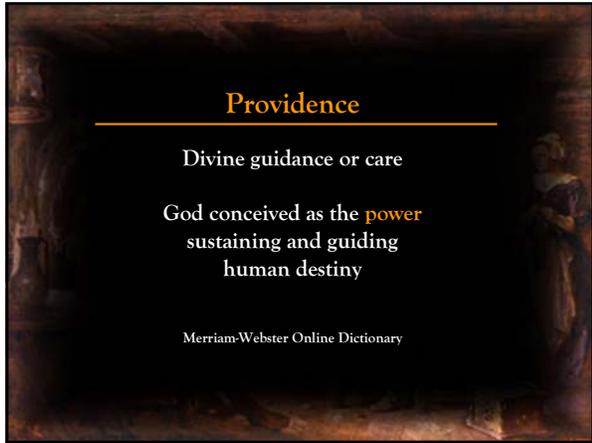
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Providence



Providence
Divine guidance or care
God conceived as the power
sustaining and guiding
human destiny
Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary



Who Created America?

Chance?
The Founders?
Or God?



The God of History

“For the kingdom is the LORD’s,
And He rules over the nations.”

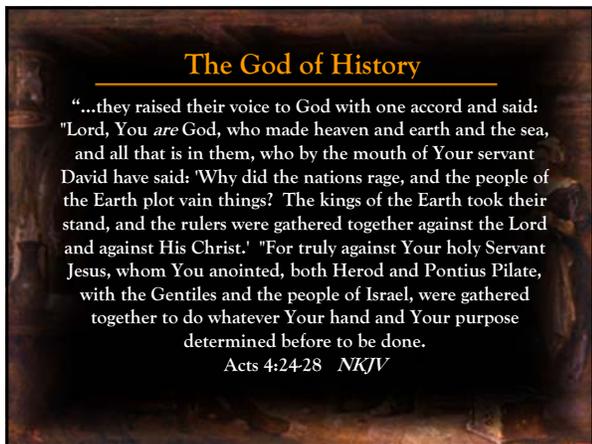
Psalm 22:28 *NKJV*



The God of History

“God reigns over the nations; God
sits on His holy throne”

Psalm 47:8 *NKJV*



The God of History

“...they raised their voice to God with one accord and said:
“Lord, You *are* God, who made heaven and earth and the sea,
and all that is in them, who by the mouth of Your servant
David have said: ‘Why did the nations rage, and the people of
the Earth plot vain things? The kings of the Earth took their
stand, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord
and against His Christ.’ “For truly against Your holy Servant
Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate,
with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered
together to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose
determined before to be done.
Acts 4:24-28 *NKJV*”

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The God of History

Does God work in the course of human history?

Does He direct the paths of nations?

What Events Lead to the Creation of the United States of America?

Significant Events

1492 – Voyage to the New World



Christopher Columbus

“He had long been convinced that God had given him a special, almost mystical mission: to carry the Light of Christ into the darkness of undiscovered heathen lands, and to bring the inhabitants of those lands to the holy faith of Christianity. His own name, Christopher, which literally meant *Christ-bearer*, was to him a clear indication that God had called him to do this.”

Peter Marshall, David Manuel *The Light and the Glory*



Significant Events

1439 - The Printing Press



Johannes Gutenberg

"Yes, it is a press, certainly, but a press from which shall flow in inexhaustible streams, the most abundant and most marvelous liquor that has ever flowed to relieve the thirst of men! Through it, God will spread His Word. A spring of truth shall flow from it: like a new star it shall scatter the darkness of ignorance, and cause a light heretofore unknown to shine amongst men."

Significant Events

1517 - The Protestant Reformation



Martin Luther

"Unless I am convinced by proofs from Scriptures or by plain and clear reasons and arguments, I can and will not retract, for it is neither safe nor wise to do anything against conscience. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen."

Martin Luther, April 18th 1521

Significant Events

1509 - 1564 – John Calvin



John Calvin

“It is much more endurable to have leaders who are chosen and elected... and who acknowledge themselves subject to the laws, than to have a prince who gives utterance without reason. Let those to whom God has given liberty and freedom use it... as singular benefit that cannot be prized enough.”

John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*

Least Commanding Causes

“Who will venture to measure the consequences of actions by the apparent humility or the remoteness of their origin? The mysterious influence of that Power which enchains the destinies of states, overruling the decisions of sovereigns and the forethought of statesmen, often deduces the greatest events from the least commanding causes.”

George Bancroft, *History of the United States*

The God of History

God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being

Acts 17:24-28 NKJV

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