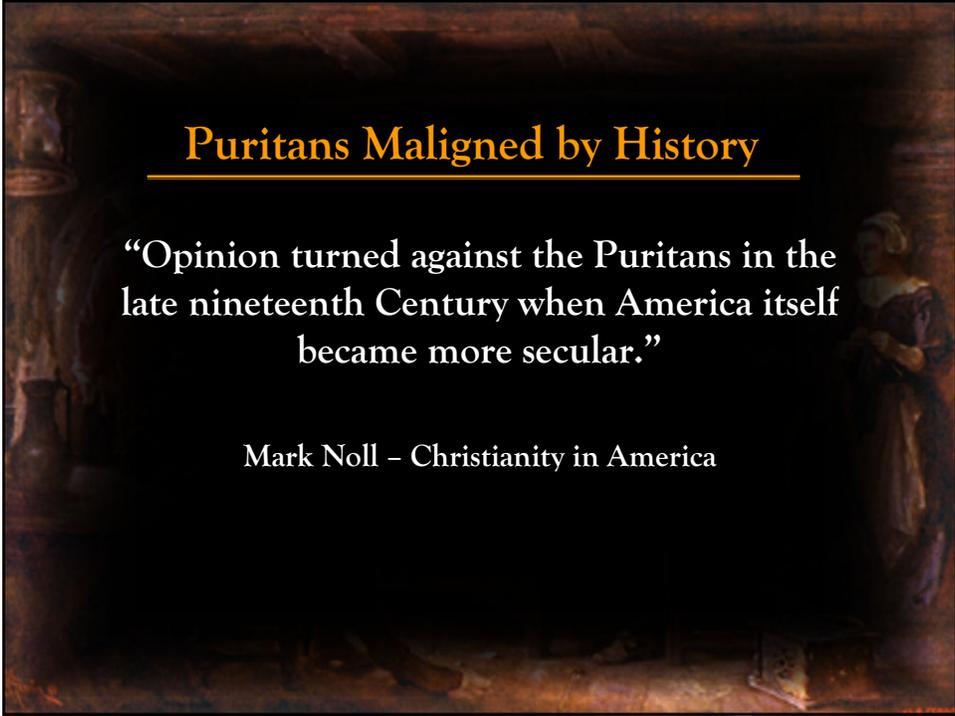


Who Were the Puritans?

Joyless?
Repressive?
Hypocritical Fanatics?

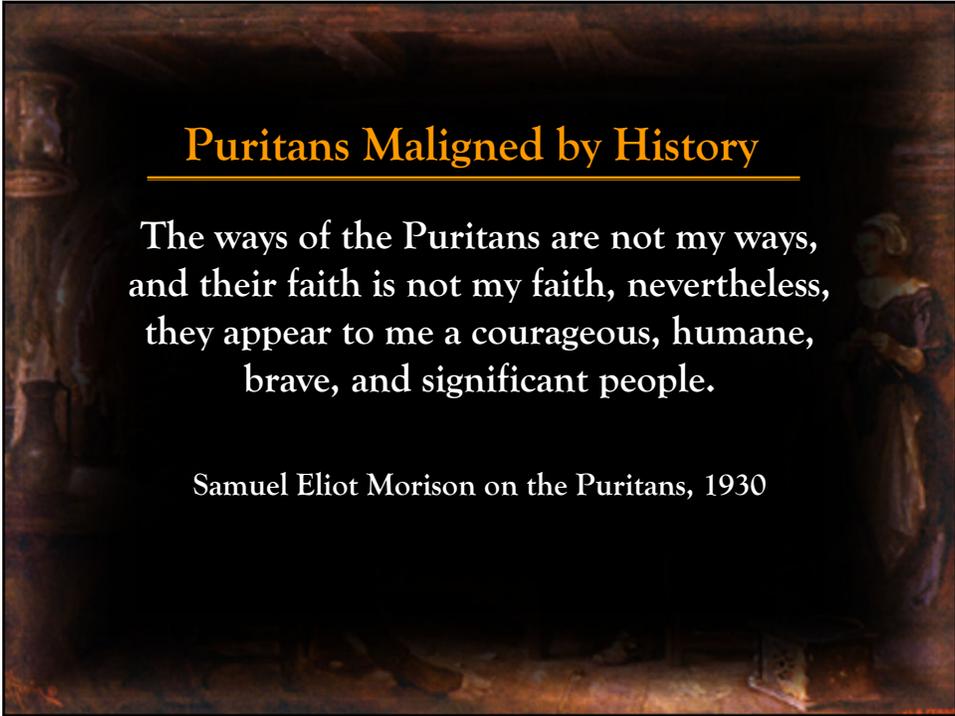
**A person in constant in constant dread that
 someone somewhere might be happy?**



Puritans Maligned by History

“Opinion turned against the Puritans in the late nineteenth Century when America itself became more secular.”

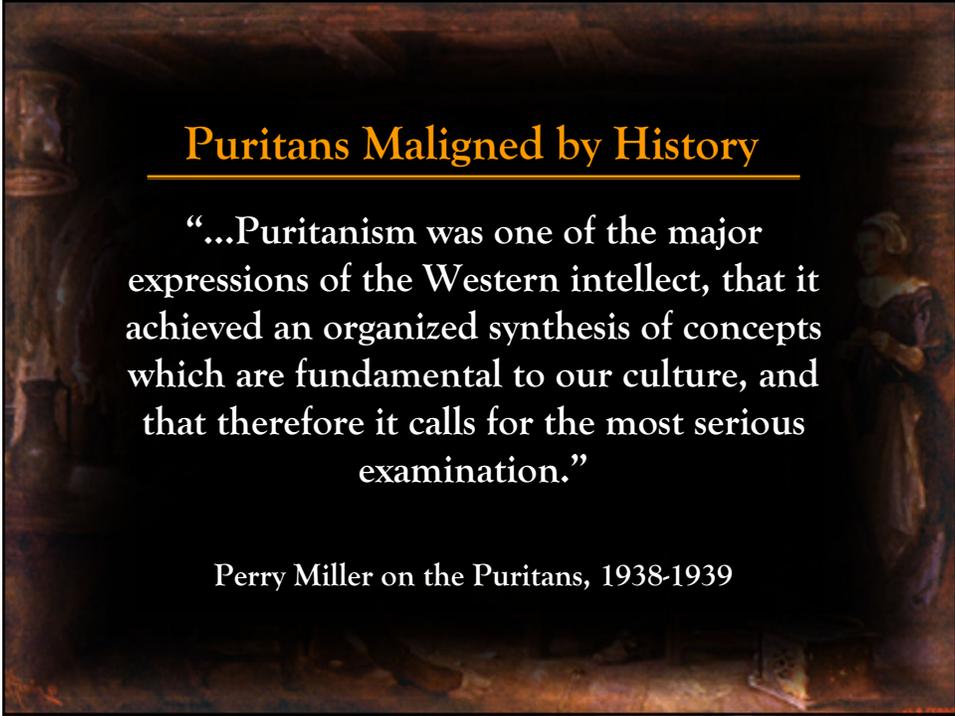
Mark Noll – Christianity in America



Puritans Maligned by History

The ways of the Puritans are not my ways,
and their faith is not my faith, nevertheless,
they appear to me a courageous, humane,
brave, and significant people.

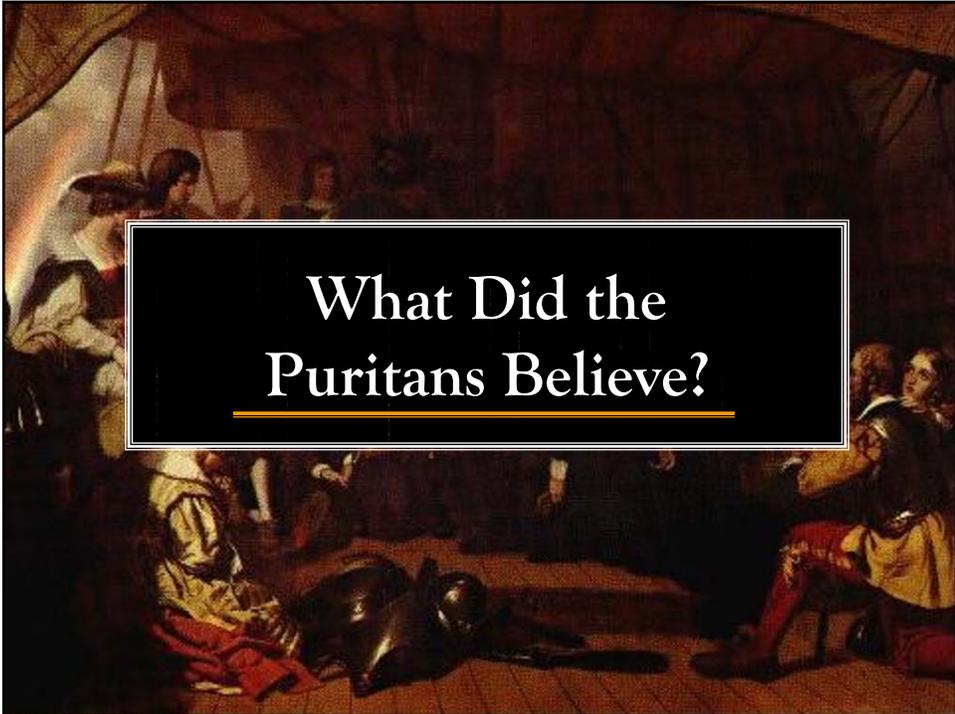
Samuel Eliot Morison on the Puritans, 1930



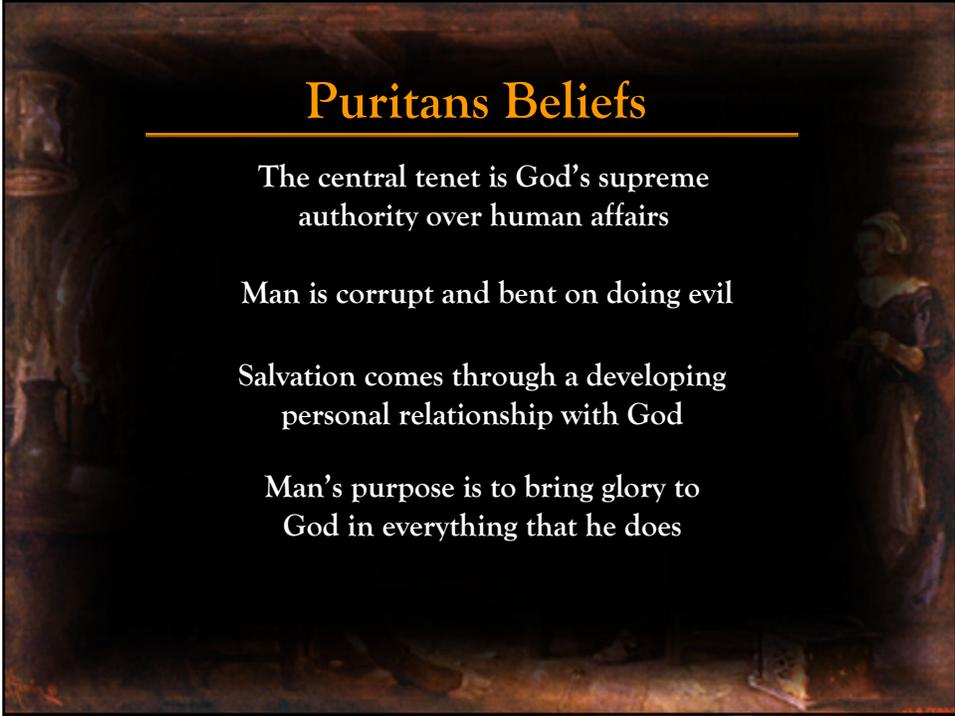
Puritans Maligned by History

“...Puritanism was one of the major expressions of the Western intellect, that it achieved an organized synthesis of concepts which are fundamental to our culture, and that therefore it calls for the most serious examination.”

Perry Miller on the Puritans, 1938-1939



What Did the Puritans Believe?



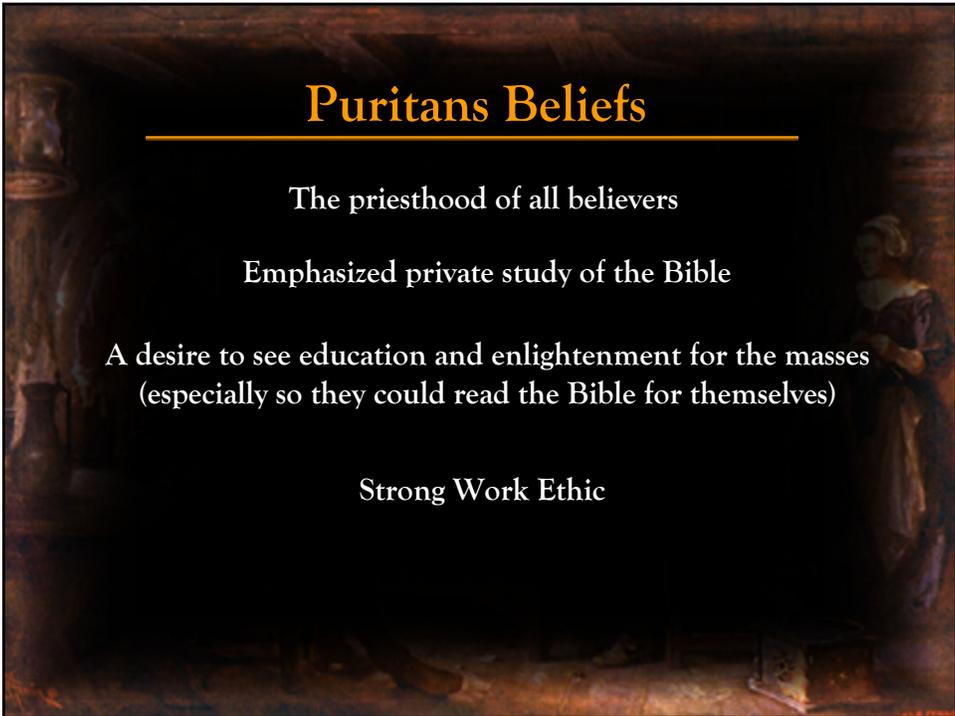
Puritans Beliefs

The central tenet is God's supreme authority over human affairs

Man is corrupt and bent on doing evil

Salvation comes through a developing personal relationship with God

Man's purpose is to bring glory to God in everything that he does



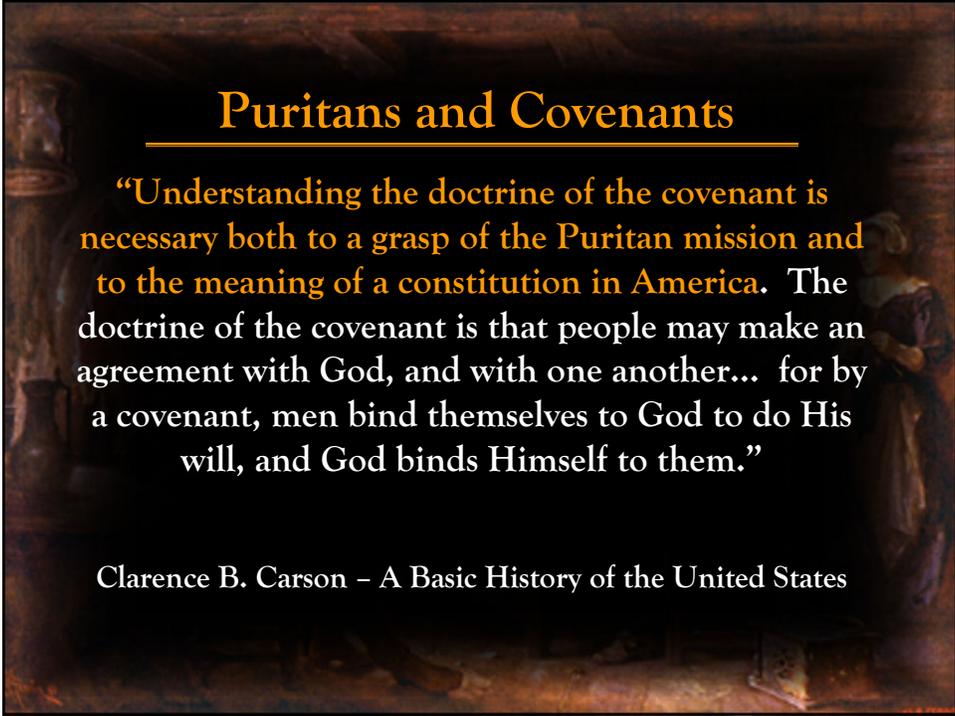
Puritans Beliefs

The priesthood of all believers

Emphasized private study of the Bible

A desire to see education and enlightenment for the masses (especially so they could read the Bible for themselves)

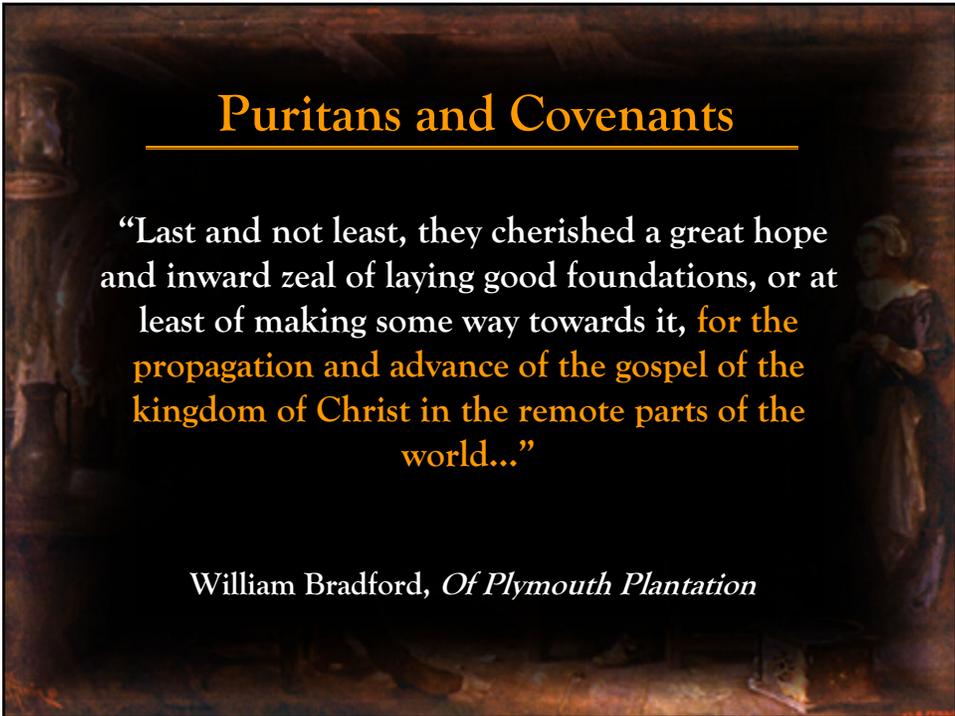
Strong Work Ethic



Puritans and Covenants

“Understanding the doctrine of the covenant is necessary both to a grasp of the Puritan mission and to the meaning of a constitution in America. The doctrine of the covenant is that people may make an agreement with God, and with one another... for by a covenant, men bind themselves to God to do His will, and God binds Himself to them.”

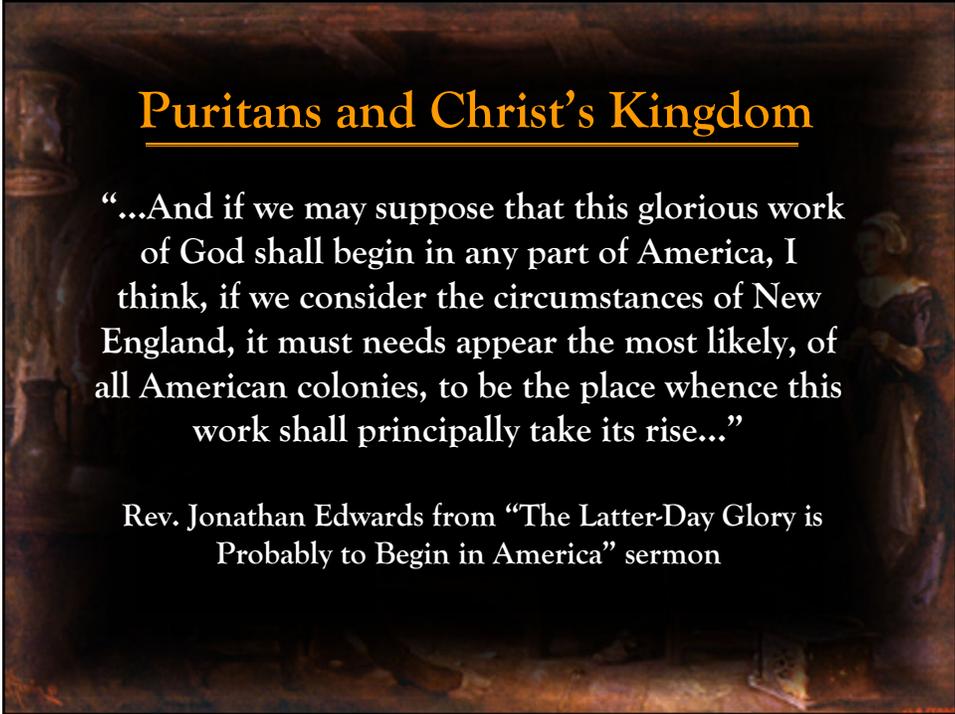
Clarence B. Carson – A Basic History of the United States



Puritans and Covenants

“Last and not least, they cherished a great hope and inward zeal of laying good foundations, or at least of making some way towards it, for the propagation and advance of the gospel of the kingdom of Christ in the remote parts of the world...”

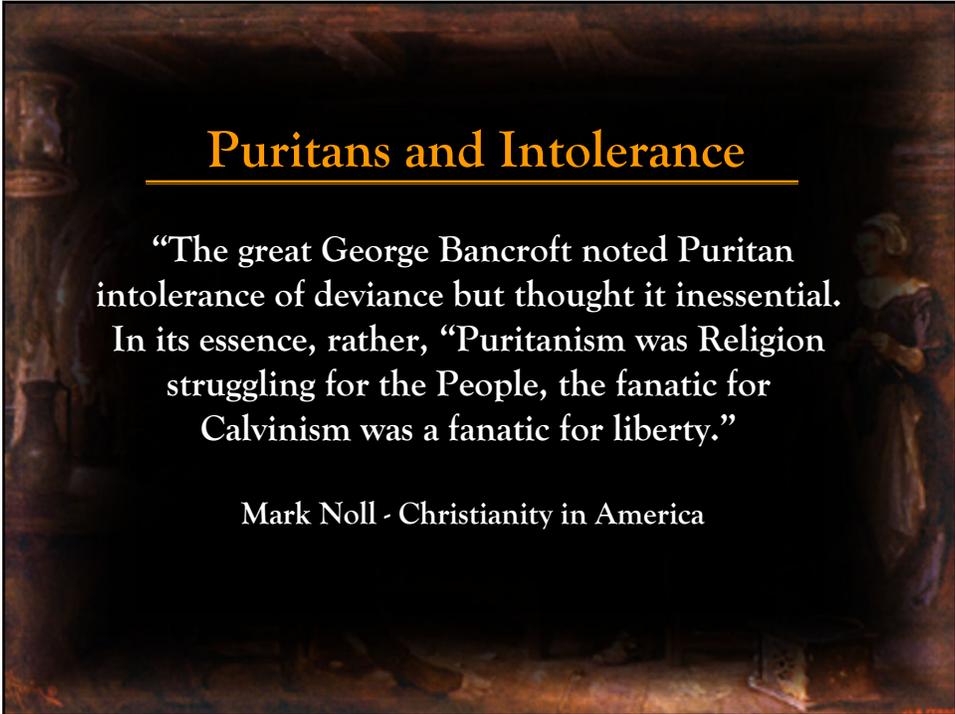
William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation*



Puritans and Christ's Kingdom

“...And if we may suppose that this glorious work of God shall begin in any part of America, I think, if we consider the circumstances of New England, it must needs appear the most likely, of all American colonies, to be the place whence this work shall principally take its rise..”

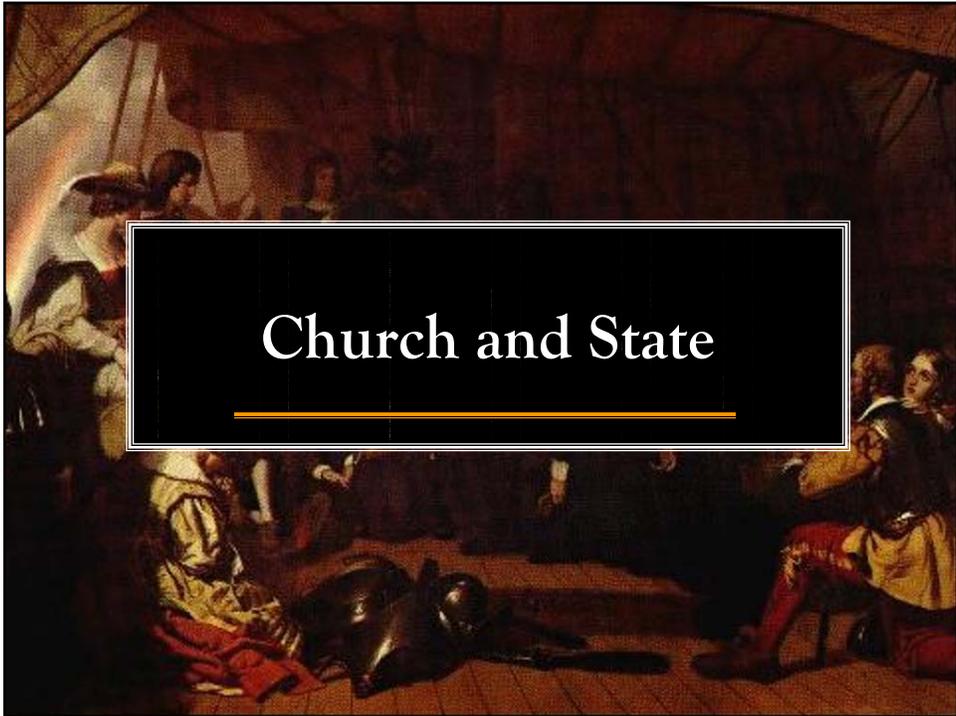
Rev. Jonathan Edwards from “The Latter-Day Glory is Probably to Begin in America” sermon



Puritans and Intolerance

“The great George Bancroft noted Puritan intolerance of deviance but thought it inessential. In its essence, rather, “Puritanism was Religion struggling for the People, the fanatic for Calvinism was a fanatic for liberty.”

Mark Noll - Christianity in America



Church and State



Puritan Sphere Sovereignty

The central tenet is God's supreme authority over human affairs

Church

State

God's Sovereignty Over the Church

And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be **head over everything for the church**, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 1:22,23 NIV



God's Design for the Church

Obey your leaders and **submit to their authority**. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Hebrews 13:17 NIV



God's Sovereignty Over the State

Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. **The authorities that exist have been established by God.**

Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

Romans 13:1,2 NIV



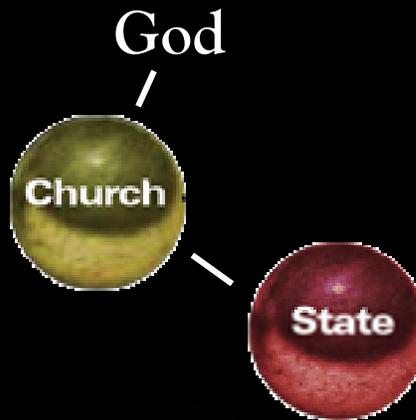
God's Design for the State

For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, **an agent of wrath** to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

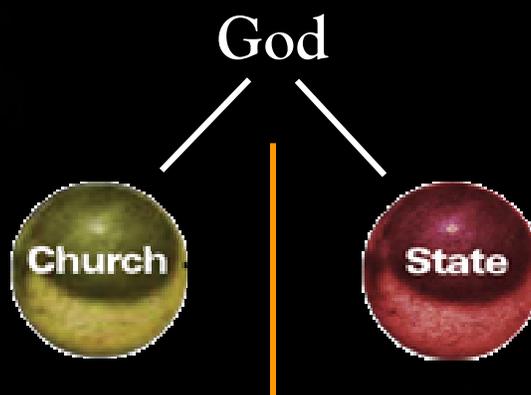
Romans 13:4 NIV



A Theocracy



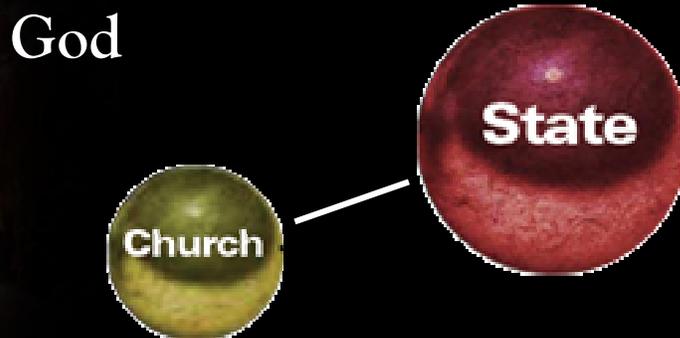
The Biblical Model



Modern Separation of Church and State



Rise of the State



Rise of the State

To whom is the State
accountable?

If the State punishes
wrongs, it must make
ethical decisions. **If
God is removed, what is
now going to be the
source of law?**



All Praise to the LORD!

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the
heavens; Praise Him in the heights
Kings of the earth and all peoples; Princes and all
judges of the earth;
Both young men and maidens; Old men and
children.

Let them praise the name of the LORD, For His
name alone is exalted; His glory *is* above the earth
and heaven.

Psalm 148

God and America

Next Week:
Liberty – What Is It?