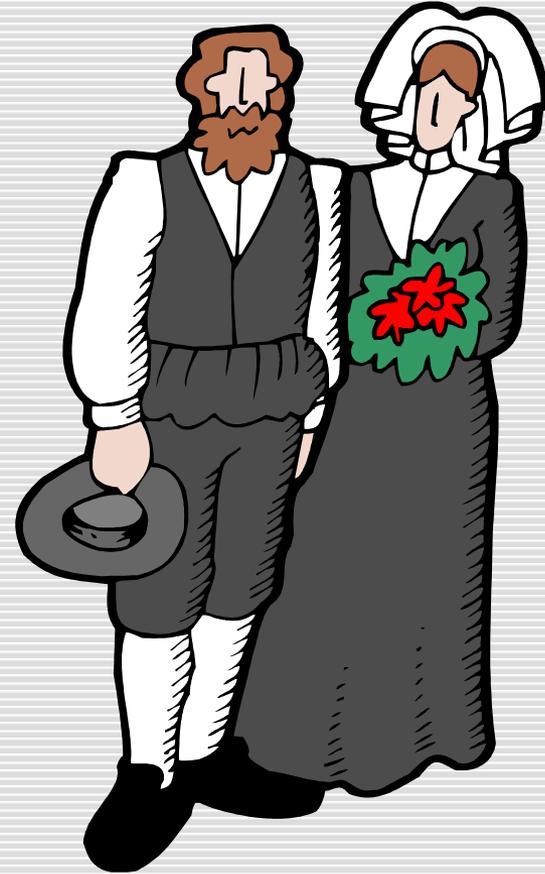


The Puritans

Essential Questions: Who were the Puritans, and what were their beliefs about human nature?

Who Were the Puritans?

- ❑ Puritan groups lived in both North America and Europe
- ❑ Left England because of religious persecution and dissatisfaction with the Church of England
- ❑ They settled in America around the time of the Pilgrims (1600s)



Puritan Beliefs



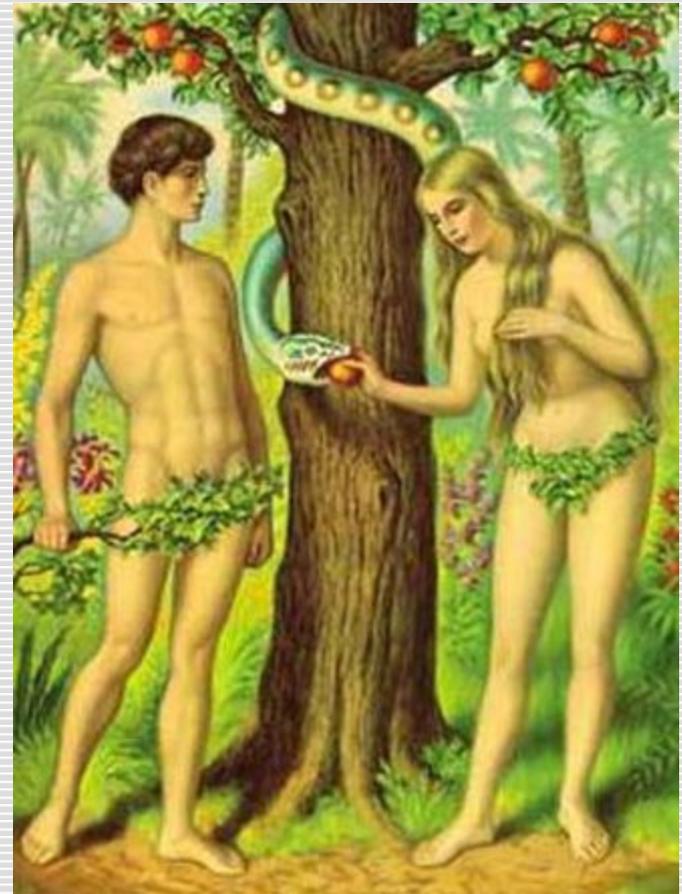
- The Puritan name refers to “purification”; therefore:
 - The government should limit sins, especially:
 - Drinking
 - Gambling
 - Showy Dress
 - Swearing
 - Sabbath Breaking
-



Puritan Beliefs—T.U.L.I.P.

□ Total Depravity

- Because Adam & Eve sinned against God, every single person is born sinful.
- Puritans considered even themselves to be sinful creatures.



T.U.L.I.P.

- Unconditional Election—
 - God saves who he wants to
 - Only a few are selected for salvation
 - Predestination: God decides for you at your birth whether you're saved or damned



T.U.L.I.P.

□ Limited Atonement

- Jesus only died for those "chosen" or "elect," not for *everyone*



T.U.L.I.P.



□ Irresistible Grace—

- Grace=the saving and transforming power of God
 - God's grace is freely given; you can't earn it or deny it.
-

T.U.L.I.P.

□ Perseverance of the “Elect”

- The “chosen” or “elect” have the right and ability to interpret the will of God and to live a moral life.
- Anyone who feels God’s grace in his or her life and rejects it is going against the will of God, which is impossible in Puritanism.



So Who Are These “Elect,” Anyway?

- Puritans debated fiercely how to recognize the “elect.”
- In order to be considered “elect,” one must:
 - Know and believe in the Puritan faith
 - Lead an upright & moral life
 - Prove one’s status as “elect”
 - Proof was a conversion experience



Puritan Lifestyle—Church

- They had very long, complicated sermons
- No musical instruments were featured in church services
- Men and women sat on separate sides
- It was against the law not to attend church
- Since the Puritans broke away from Roman Catholics, they created very simple churches



Puritan Lifestyle



□ The Bible

- Puritans lived their whole life based on the Bible and the idea that God was supreme
-

Puritan Lifestyle

□ The Family

- The father was the head of the household, instructing wife, children, and servants in religious and educational studies
- The mother was expected to help run the household and assist in instructing the children
- Children were expected to be quiet, miniature adults who helped in the fields and did chores, as well as attended school
- The family was expected to be a little church, little school, and little government within the Puritan society



Puritan Lifestyle

- Recreation
 - Puritans spent their time working hard in the fields and in their homes
 - Puritans were expected to repress their emotions
 - They disliked and disapproved of plays, games of chance, maypoles, and musical instruments
 - If you were a Puritan, you would have spent what little free time you had composing religious poetry or studying the Bible



And the Biggest Question:

Why Do We Care about The Puritans Today?

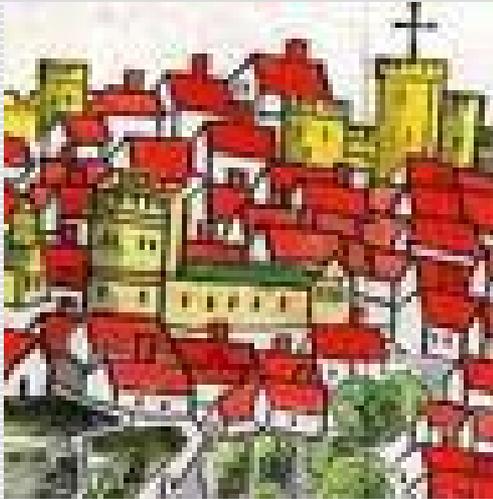
- ❑ The effects of Puritanism are felt throughout America because they were some of the first settlers here
 - ❑ They spread their ideas and values throughout the country
 - ❑ Their culture lasted only about a century, but many of their ideals remain.
-

Effect #1: The Puritan Work Ethic



- ❑ Puritans believed in hard work
 - ❑ This work ethic founded The American Dream
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Effect #2: “The City Upon a Hill”

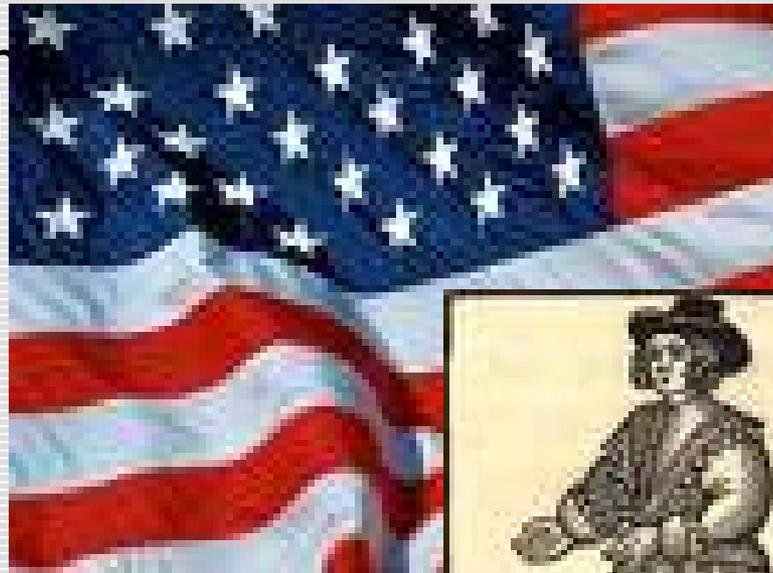


- Puritans believed they were a “special” group with a duty to spread their beliefs to others
- Today Americans believe we are a special nation with the responsibility of getting involved in other countries’ affairs.



Other Puritan Effects

- Puritans felt the need for a moral justification for private, public, and governmental actions; so do Americans.
- Puritans thirsted for freedom—personal, political, economic, and social. Today's Americans demand it.
- We are a *relatively* Protestant nation with a conservative leaning.



Puritan Literature

- *plain style*: a way of writing that places importance on clarity and simplicity
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