

1 | General

- Pilgrims/Puritans have been depicted favorably as refugees vs people seeking profit
 - Contrast w/ Virginia
- Pilgrims and Puritans are actually different
 - Pilgrims are religious separatists who came on the *Mayflower* in 1620
 - Puritans arrived in 1630 and founded Boston
- Great Migration brought many more to England and outnumbered Plymouth
- Argument: American origins as mirroring religion - America as Promised Land.
 - Pilgrims and puritans became important foundational myth
- America thought of as a utopia
 - Eventually hopes of discovering a utopia replaced by idea of building one
 - America thought as 'relatively empty'
- Many other groups left for freedom but none as famous as Pilgrims and Puritans

2 | Puritans

- Puritans made an effort to document themselves (biased)
- Didn't recognize English religious authorities as valid
 - English authorities were therefore not a fan
- John Winthrop led the first group and established themes of religious coexistence
- General comparisons to Moses/Jesus
- America was to be Canaan
- Despite focus on coexistence individuals were banned for dissenting opinion (either liberalizing or their own sect)
- Characterized by *transitions*
 - England -> North America
 - Oppressed -> Oppressors
 - Faith -> Doubt (concerning Promised Land)
 - * Colonizing experienced turned the promised land into wilderness
- Liberalization over time
- Eventual admittance that America has not become the Promised Land, but could become it
 - Sort of "mission of the Puritans"
- King Philip's War with Native Americans (see Indigenous People's History) threatened colonies
 - English still did better overall though

- Witchcraft
 - Eventually forced to practice religious tolerance as a royal governor from England showed up
 - * Promised Land "severly shaken"
- Puritan elite did not want to concede
- Charter revoked
- Puritan legacy is of the Promised Land: a mix of myth and reality about America