APUSH
1607-1775
ENGLISH COLONIAL SOCIETY REVIEWED!

American Pageant (Kennedy) Chapter 4-5
American History (Brinkley) Chapter 2-3
America’s History (Henretta) Chapter 3-4
Key Point: Regional differences existed between the British colonies:

**Reasons for Differences**

1. Who came
2. Why they came
3. Environmental & geographic variations (climate, natural resources, etc)
Chesapeake vs. New England Life
NEW ENGLAND COLONIES

- Puritan religious motives for colonization
- Close-knit homogeneous society (settlements centered around towns)
- Importance of religion, family, and education (schools required)
- Town Hall meetings (adult male church members)
- Received large number of immigrants & high birth rate
- Mixed economy: agriculture, trade, shipbuilding
Southern Plantation Colonies

- Male dominated society, warmer climate, harsh life, lower birth rate
  - Defined hierarchy of wealth & status (southern gentry)
- Cash crop plantation economy
- Few cities develop
- Labor system: indentured servants to slavery (Especially after Bacon’s Rebellion)
  - Reasons for transition to slavery: 1) abundance of land 2) shortage of indentured servants 3) no way to enslave native population 4) European demand for colonial goods
- Majority slave population in South Carolina
SLAVERY IN COLONIAL AMERICA

• **Triangular trade** (3 part trade route): Slaves and goods moving from Africa, the Caribbean, and the colonies

• The journey from Africa to the Western Hemisphere was known as the “Middle passage”

• **Slave culture**: Blend of African and American cultures
  - Variety of tribes from different parts of Africa

• **Stono Uprising, 1739 South Carolina**: one of the few slave revolts in colonial America
  - Tried to get to Spanish Florida where they were promised freedom
  - Rebellion was defeated and contributed to stricter laws regulating slaves

• Most **common resistance** to slavery: work slowdowns, running away, fake illness, etc.
Religion in the Colonies

- Religious passion was fading in the New England colonies
- Half Way Covenant (1662): individuals could become partial church members even if did not have a conversion
- Religious freedom?
- The Massachusetts Bay colony **DID NOT** allow freedom of religion
- Some religious toleration existed in a few British colonies
  - Pennsylvania: Quakers!
  - Rhode Island: Separation of church and state
  - Maryland: only to Christians

- Salem Witch Trials: Salem, Massachusetts 1692
  - 19 people hung and 1 pressed to death
  - Reflect growing tension over changing nature of the colony (religious to profit driven commercialism)
GREAT AWAKENING

- **Great Awakening** was a religious revival in the 1730-40s that spread throughout the colonies
  - Many people convert
- **Jonathan Edwards**: “Sinners in the Hands of Angry God”
- **George Whitefield**: Introduced a new energized style of evangelical preaching
- **New Lights** (supporters) vs. **Old Lights** (against)
- **IMPACTS**: New Universities formed (Dartmouth, Princeton, Brown, etc.)
- Greater religious independence & diversity (new churches formed)
  - Strengthened calls for separation of church & state
- 1st mass movement shared amongst colonists
**MERCANTILISM**

- Various *mercantile laws* were passed to regulate colonial trade and to benefit England (*Navigation Acts, Molasses Act*)
  - The goals and interests of European leaders at times diverged from those of colonial citizens
  - But *salutary neglect* (relative indifference to colonial governance)

**Good:** Colonial shipbuilding developed (especially in New England colonies),
- provided protection of the British military
- Provided Chesapeake tobacco a monopoly in England

**Bad:** Restricted development of colonial manufacturing
- Had to buy higher priced manufactured goods from England
- Farmers had to accept lower prices for their enumerated crops
MERCANTILISM

• England attempted to integrate the colonies into a coherent, hierarchical imperial structure: Dominion of New England (1686)
  – Glorious Revolution (1688) led to the overthrow of James II (William and Mary take the throne)
  – Limits power of the monarchy
  – Colonists rebel against the Dominion of New England

• Big Turning Point: 1763 End of the Seven Years War
Gradual development of democratic institutions in the colonies & colonial experiences with self-government

- Examples: Mayflower Compact, Town Hall Meetings, House of Burgesses, elected representative assemblies, etc.

Many people still excluded (property or religious qualifications) and England ultimately was still in charge

Zenger case (1733): advanced freedom of the press

- John Peter Zenger printed a newspaper critical of the royal governor in New York
- Charged with libel; jury ruled NOT GUILTY
- Could be critical of elected officials if the statements were true
Economic diversity of the colonies
Ethnic diversity of the colonies