

**FEAST OF TABERNACLES 2022, DAY 4** 

## The Rise and Fall of Puritan Ideals

Grover B. Proctor, Jr.

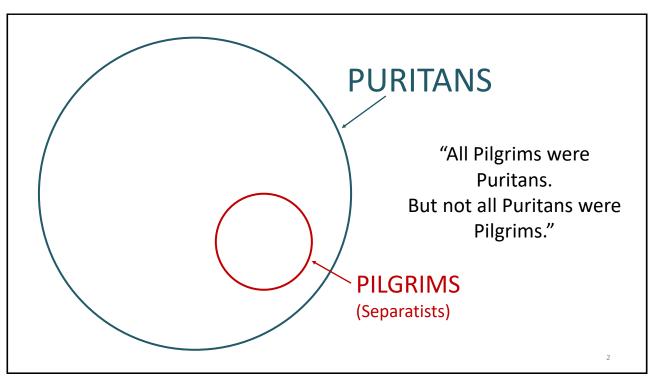
October 13, 2022

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# The Puritans of Plymouth Colony and Massachusetts Bay Colony

- 1. Things started out with the best of intentions.
- 2. A good example of a group trying to follow the truth and God's ways, and then "a falling away."
  - How did those seeking freedom for their own worship become so intolerant of this freedom for others?
  - Where did things go wrong with their relationship with the Native Americans?
  - How did the Salem Witch Trials and executions come to be?

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# "For the Glory of God and the Advancement of the Christian Faith"

1. Puritan Theology

- 1. Puritan Theology
- 2. Pilgrims: The Mayflower Compact

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## "For the Glory of God and the Advancement of the Christian Faith"

- 1. Puritan Theology
- 2. Pilgrims: The Mayflower Compact
- 3. Pilgrims: Thanksgiving to God

## **Thanksgiving: 1789**

"Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor ... acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness....

"Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be – that we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks.

"Given under my hand at the City of New York, the third day of October, in the year of our Lord 1789."

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## **Thanksgiving: 1863**

"In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity ... peace has been preserved with all nations and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict....

"The Most High God, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People.

"I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens.

"Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three."

A. Lincoln

1. Puritan Theology

2. Pilgrims: The Mayflower Compact

3. Pilgrims: Thanksgiving to God

4. Puritans: "A City on a Hill"

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#### Micah 6:6,8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> What should I bring before the LORD when I come to bow before God on high?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Mankind, He has told you what is good and what it is the **LORD** requires of you: to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God.

1. Puritan Theology

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#### Matthew 5:14-16

<sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city situated on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> No one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket, but rather on a lampstand, and it gives light for all who are in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before men, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

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# "For the Glory of God and the Advancement of the Christian Faith"

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"Now the only way ... to provide for our posterity, is to follow the counsel of Micah, to 'do justly, to love mercy, to walk humbly with our God' [Micah 6:8] ... For we must consider that we shall be as "a city upon a hill". [Matthew 5:14] The eyes of all people are upon us."

Gov. John Winthrop
 A Model of Christian Charity (1630)

1. Puritan Theology

2. Pilgrims: The Mayflower Compact

3. Pilgrims: Thanksgiving to God

4. Puritans: "A City on a Hill"

5. Puritans: Public Education

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- 3. Pilgrims: Thanksgiving to God
- 4. Puritans: "A City on a Hill"
- 5. Puritans: Public Education



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1. Puritan Theology

2. Pilgrims: The Mayflower Compact

3. Pilgrims: Thanksgiving to God

4. Puritans: "A City on a Hill"

5. Puritans: Public Education

6. Pilgrims: Private, not Communal, Property

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RELIGIGOUS INTOLERANCE, NATIVE AMERICANS AND WITCH TRIALS: So Where, How, and Why Did It All Go Wrong?

...and how does
Scripture help us
in order that we may
learn from it all?

### **Religious Anti-Freedom**

The Quakers
Roger Williams
Anne Hutchinson

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## So Where, How, and Why Did It All Go Wrong?

### **The Original Native Americans**

Peace and Coexistence
The Second Generation Forgets
Wars (Not Rumors) and Massacres

### Salem Bewitched, or So It Was Thought

**Did They Really Believe in Witches?** 

What Happened in 1692?
Alternative Explanations (Too Late)
Contrition

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## So Where, How, and Why Did It All Go Wrong?

#### Exodus 22:18

<sup>18</sup> You must not allow a sorceress to live.

#### Leviticus 20:6, 27

- <sup>6</sup> Whoever turns to **mediums** or **spiritists** and prostitutes himself with them, I will turn against that person and cut him off from his people.
- <sup>27</sup> A man or a woman who is a **medium** or a **spiritist** must be put to death. They are to be stoned; their blood is on their own hands.

#### Revelation 21:8

<sup>8</sup> But the cowards, unbelievers, vile, murderers, sexually immoral, **sorcerers**, idolaters, and all liars — their share will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.

### Salem Bewitched, or So It Was Thought

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## So Where, How, and Why Did It All Go Wrong?

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## So Where, How, and Why Did It All Go Wrong?

### **Possible Spiritual Explanations**

Deceit from Satan Letter of the Law Absence of Mercy

## "... seeking whom he may devour."

- 1 Peter 5:8-9 (NKJV)
- <sup>8</sup> Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in the faith....
- 1 John 3:8
- <sup>8</sup> The one who commits sin is of the Devil, for the Devil has sinned from the beginning.
- 2 Corinthians 11:3
- <sup>3</sup> But I fear that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your minds may be seduced from a complete and pure devotion to Christ.

James 4:7

<sup>7</sup> Therefore, submit to God. But resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.

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# But 1 Tell You...

Matthew 5:27-28

- <sup>27</sup> "You have heard that it was said, Do not commit adultery. <sup>28</sup> But I tell you, everyone who looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."
- 1 Corinthians 9:9-10
- <sup>9</sup> For it is written in the law of Moses, *Do not muzzle an ox while it treads out grain*. Is God really concerned with oxen? <sup>10</sup> Or isn't He really saying it for us? Yes, this is written for us, because he who plows ought to plow in hope, and he who threshes should do so in hope of sharing the crop.
- 1 Timothy 5:17-18
- <sup>17</sup> The elders who are good leaders should be considered worthy of an ample honorarium, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching. <sup>18</sup> For the Scripture says: *Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain*, and, *the worker is worthy of his wages*.

## Mercy: A Most Godly Virtue

#### Hebrews 4:16

<sup>16</sup> Therefore let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us at the proper time.

#### Ephesians 2:4-5

<sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love that He had for us, 5 made us alive with the Messiah even though we were dead in trespasses. You are saved by grace!

#### Psalm 51:1 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions.

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## Mercy: What God Wants From Us

#### Matthew 9:13

<sup>13</sup> [Christ:] "Go and learn what this means: I desire mercy and not sacrifice."

#### Matthew 18:21-22

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how many times could my brother sin against me and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup> "I tell you, not as many as seven," Jesus said to him, "but 70 times seven."

#### Proverbs 3:3; 11:17; 14:21 (NKJV)

3:3 Let not mercy and truth forsake you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart.

<sup>11:17</sup> The merciful man does good for his own soul, But he who is cruel troubles his own flesh.

<sup>14:21</sup> He who despises his neighbor sins; But he who has mercy on the poor, happy is he.

### **The Learned Spiritual Lessons**

Deceit from Resist Satan's Influence

Abide by both the Letter and Spirit of the Law

Absence of Show an Abundance of Mercy

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