A photograph of the Mount Rushmore National Memorial in South Dakota, showing the four large granite faces of George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln. The sky is clear blue, and the text is overlaid in the center.

FOUNDING OF THE CHURCHES IN AMERICA

CAUSE OF THE MIGRATION TO AMERICA



John Wycliffe

- The **first hand-written English language Bible manuscripts** were produced in the **1380's AD**
- Oposed to the teaching of the organized Church, which he believed to be contrary to the Bible.
- Wycliffe produced dozens of English language manuscript copies of the scriptures. They were translated out of the Latin Vulgate, which was the only source text available to Wycliffe.
- The Pope was so infuriated by his teachings and his translation of the Bible into English, that 44 years after Wycliffe had died, he ordered the bones to be dug-up, crushed, and scattered in the river!



One of Wycliffe's followers, **John Hus**, actively promoted Wycliffe's ideas: that people should be permitted to read the Bible in their own language, and they should oppose the tyranny of the Roman church that threatened anyone possessing a non-Latin Bible with execution.

Hus was burned at the stake in **1415**, with Wycliffe's manuscript Bibles used as kindling for the fire.

The last words of John Hus were that, *"in 100 years, God will raise up a man whose calls for reform cannot be suppressed."*

Almost exactly 100 years later, in **1517**, Martin Luther nailed his famous 95 Theses of Contention (a list of 95 issues) to the Catholic church door at Wittenberg.

The prophecy of Hus had come true!



Johann Gutenberg

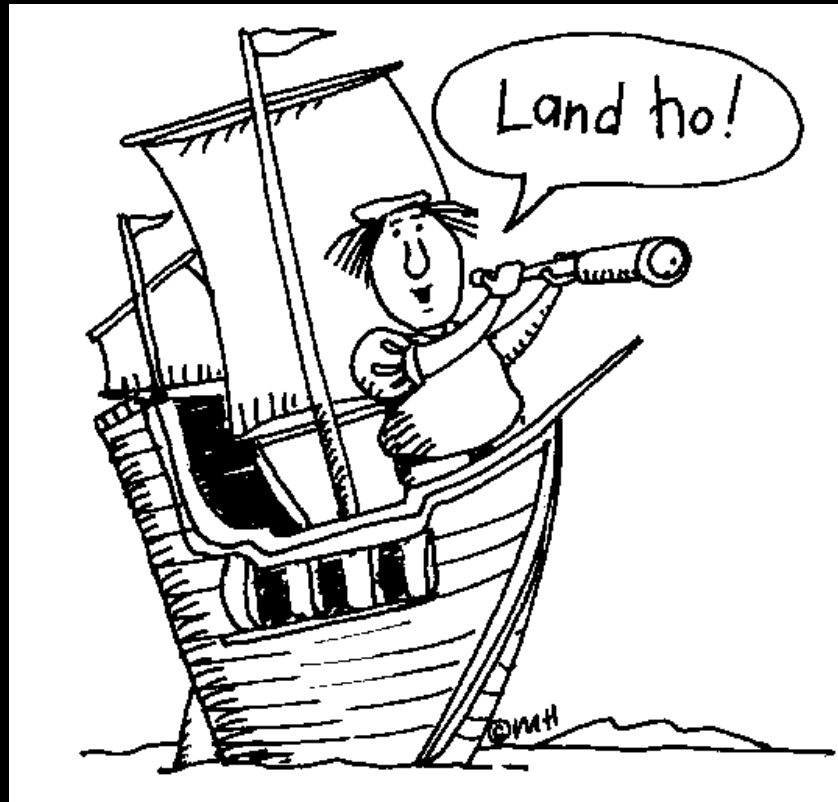
invented the printing press in the **1450's**, and the first book to ever be printed was a Latin language Bible, printed in Mainz, Germany.

Ironically, though he had created what many believe to be the most important invention in history, Gutenberg was a victim of unscrupulous business associates who took control of his business and left him in poverty.

Nevertheless, the invention of the movable-type printing press meant that Bibles and books could finally be effectively produced in large quantities in a short period of time.

Columbus

Sailed on August 3, 1492





In 1496, John Colet, started reading the New Testament into English for the public at Saint Paul's Cathedral in London.

The people were so hungry to hear the Word of God in their language, that within six months there were 20,000 people packed in the church and at least that many outside trying to get in!



William Tyndale translate and print the New Testament in English for the first time in history.

Tyndale showed up on Luther's doorstep in Germany in 1525, and by year's end had translated the New Testament into English.

Tyndale had been forced to flee England, inquisitors were constantly on his trail to arrest him and stop his project.

God foiled their plans, and in **1525-1526 the Tyndale New Testament became the first printed edition of the scripture in the English language.**

11 years after the death of Columbus,
On October 31, 1517 Martin Luther
nailed 95 theses On the door
of the church in Wittenberg.

This began the Protestant Reformation



Martin Luther

September of **1522**. Luther also published a [German Pentateuch in 1523](#), and another edition of the [German New Testament in 1529](#). In the 1530's he would go on to publish the entire Bible in German.

Luther declared his intolerance for the Roman Church's corruption on Halloween in **1517**, by nailing his 95 Theses of Contention to the Wittenberg Church door.

Luther, who would be exiled in the months following the Diet of Worms Council in **1521** that was designed to martyr him.

English Bibles were burned as soon as the Bishop could confiscate them.

but copies trickled through and actually ended up in the bedroom of King Henry VIII.

The more the King and Bishop resisted its distribution, the more fascinated the public at large became.

Having God's Word available to the public in the language of the common man, English, would have meant disaster to the church.

No longer would they control access to the scriptures.

They could not possibly continue to get away with selling indulgences (the forgiveness of sins)

After King Henry VIII, King Edward VI took the throne, and after his death, the reign of Queen "Bloody" Mary was the next obstacle to the printing of the Bible in English. She was possessed in her quest to return England to the Roman Church.

In **1555**, John "Thomas Matthew" Rogers and Thomas Cranmer were both burned at the stake. Mary went on to burn reformers at the stake by the hundreds for the "crime" of being a Protestant.

This era was known as the Marian Exile, and the refugees fled from England with little hope of ever seeing their home or friends again.



Tyndale was caught: betrayed by an Englishman that he had befriended. Tyndale was incarcerated for 500 days before he was strangled and burned at the stake in **1536**. Tyndale's last words were, *"Oh Lord, open the King of England's eyes"*.

This prayer would be answered just three years later in **1539**, when King Henry VIII finally allowed, and even funded, the printing of an English Bible known as the "Great Bible".

It was not that King Henry VIII had a change of conscience regarding publishing the Bible in English.



This was the result of the Pope not granting the King a divorce from his first wife.

Henry VIII created the Church of England -- no longer answering to the Catholic Church.

Religious Prosecution had Started

- Henry VIII started the Church of England.
- Bloody Mary burned 300 Protestants at the Stake.
- Also Mary Queen of Scots was persecuted many reformed churches. Driven from her throne by John Knox.
- Queen Elizabeth and James VI allowed religious freedom.
- Charles I demanded the Presbyterians join the Church of England. Oliver Cromwell put Charles I in prison. There was a Puritan majority.
- Presbyterians in Scotland tortured by Catholic Church.
- James II was driven from his throne and Presbyterian church became the national church of Scotland.
- Huguenots were massacred by the French.
- Spanish troops massacred many Dutch in Holland.

- Johnthán Edwards saw the colonies as a forerunner of the Millieumium.
- William Blake wrote,
*“ I will not cease from the mental flight
Nor will my sword sleep in my hand
Till we have built the new Jerusalem . . . ”*

George Canning stated,

“It is as though God is saying to the oppressed of the old world to come to the new and properous land flowing with milk and honey”

Pilgrims



Pilgrims

- 1608 they fled England and went to Holland.
- 1620 in late summer they left for America
- 102 colonist – half died by the first spring
- 4 married woman, 14 teenagers, 13 children, 22 men
- Summer drought of 1621
- Fasted and prayed for rain
- In October 1621 they had the first Thanksgiving

- The Puritans considered themselves the "chosen people" those who had made a mutual "covenant" with their creator to establish the Kingdom of God on Earth.

- New England Puritans about restoring Zion, and came to regard themselves as the true children of Israel.

Puritans

- Did not celebrate Christmas

The Puritan by Augustus Saint-Gaudens, 1883-1886

Christmas celebrations in Puritan New England (1620-1850?) were culturally and legally suppressed and virtually non-existent. The Puritan community found no Scriptural justification for celebrating Christmas, and associated such celebrations with paganism and idolatry.

European Protestant Reformation. Most Anabaptists, Quakers, Congregational and Presbyterian Puritans regarded the day as an abomination .



The Colonies were originally thirteen churches

European Migrations

- Influx of churches came from Germany
- Lutherans, Mennonites, Moravians, Dunkers from Germany settled in Pennyslvania.
- Lutherans settled in Delaware
- Quakers settled in New Jersey
- Catholics who were prosecuted in England settled in Maryland.

European Migrations (cont)

- South and Appalachia Mts.
Scot / Irish Settlement
- North Carolina
The Huguenots out of France
- South Carolina and Georgia
Mainly Episcopal and Anglican congregations.

Thomas Hooker (July 5, 1586 – July 7, 1647) was a prominent Puritan religious and colonial leader, who founded the Colony of Connecticut after dissenting with Puritan leaders in Massachusetts

Tom Hooker,

Here under a great oak Davenport expounded the Scriptures, saying that the people, like the Son of Man, were led forth into the wilderness to be tempted; and here they set up their government with the Mosaic law as their code adapted to the conditions, and with the closest union of Church and State

Founding of Rhode Island

- Roger Williams founded the first permanent colonial settlement in Rhode Island at Providence in 1636.
- Was at odds with the structured Puritans, when he was about to be deported back to England, Roger fled southwest out of the Massachusetts Bay Colony to Rhode Island.
- Quakers and other religious dissenters soon made the colony their home.
- In 1639 Roger Williams joined the Baptist faith and founded the first Baptist church in America.
- Stephen Mumford founded Newport Rhode Island.

John Wesley

Anglican clergyman, evangelist, and cofounder of Methodism.

Became a priest in the Church of England in 1728.