

Church History



Church History

- *Introduction to Church History*
- *The Ancient Church* AD 1st-3rd centuries
- *The Rise of Christendom* AD 4th-5th centuries
- *The Early Middle Ages* AD 6th-10th centuries
- *The Age of Crusades* AD 11th-13th centuries
- *The Renaissance* AD 14th-15th centuries
- *Conquest and Reformation* AD 16th century
- *The Age of Enlightenment* AD 17th-18th centuries
- *The Age of Revolution* AD 19th century
- *The Modern Age* AD 20th century
- *The Postmodern Age* AD 21st century



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- *The Renaissance* AD 14th-15th centuries
- *Conquest and Reformation* AD 16th century
- *The Age of Enlightenment* AD 17th-18th centuries
 - *Cromwell*
 - *Philosophers and Kings, Missionaries and Explorers*
 - *The Seeds of Revolutions*
 - *Proto-Revolutions*
 - *Wake-Up Calls (part 2)*



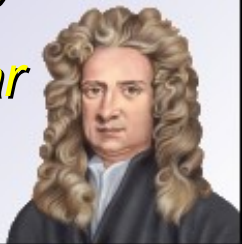
The Age of Enlightenment

- New ways of thinking changed everything
 - 1739 England fought the War of Jenkins' Ear
 - After the Treaty of Utrecht ended Queen Anne's War in 1713, the British had been given trading rights in the Caribbean
 - But that didn't mean that the Spanish actually *let* them trade in the Caribbean
 - Almost immediately, the Spanish navy began bullying and harassing British shipping, impounding their cargo, etc.
 - In response, Britain licensed privateers, and British smugglers began operating throughout the Atlantic



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 - Almost immediately, the Spanish navy began bullying and harassing British shipping, impounding their cargo, etc.
 - When the British smuggler ship *Rebecca* was boarded by the Spanish in 1731, the Spaniards tortured the crew, and cut off the ear of the captain, Richard Jenkins
 - In derision, the Spanish captain tossed the ear back to Jenkins, saying, "Take that to your King and tell him that if he were here, I would do the same to him..."
 - Jenkins sailed home and did *precisely* that... but nothing happened
(largely because Spain's navy was far superior at that time, and that's why they'd been bullies in the first place)



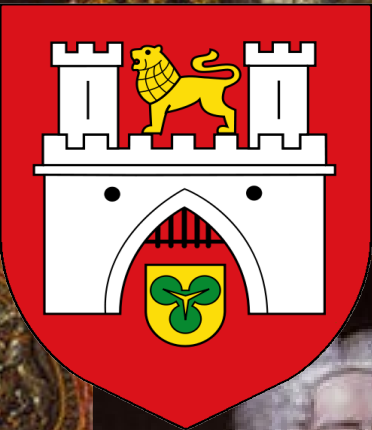
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- By 1738, England had built up her navy, and Jenkins was asked to testify before Prime Minister Robert Walpole
 - Jenkins produced the ear and told his story, but Walpole had spent his career trying to avoid a major war, and he tried to downplay things until Jenkins quoted the Spanish captain's insult to the king
 - Suddenly, George II was infuriated, and *demand*ed that Walpole declare war



The Age of Enlightenment

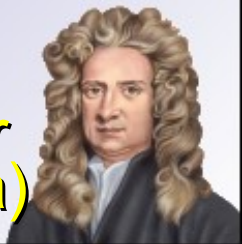
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- By 1738, England had built up her navy, and Jenkins was asked to testify before Prime Minister Robert Walpole
- When Spain threatened to prevent Britain from trading in slaves, the last domino fell, and for the next decade, Britain was at war with Spain—a war fought mainly in the Caribbean (much like Queen Anne's War had been fought mainly in North America)



The Age of Enlightenment

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1739 England fought the War of Jenkins' Ear

1740 Friedrich II became King of Prussia

- The Polish duchy of Prussia was no major power at the time, but it had been developing a strong military over the years
 - Young Friedrich hadn't really wanted to be part of that, so he and his friend (and lover?) Hans Hermann von Katte decided to go AWOL and run off to England together
 - That didn't go over well with Friedrich's father, Friedrich Wilhelm, and he had Katte executed as a deserter
 - Friedrich himself was thrown into prison and exiled from court



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- But he'd never gotten along with his father much anyway

- His father loved the military so Friedrich loved literature

- His father loved German so Friedrich despised it

- He adopted *French* as his personal language, and wrote about how much he *hated* German—the sound of it, the sentence structure, *everything*...



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 - He adopted *French* as his personal language
 - In large part to annoy his father, he started up a friendship with the snarky anti-monarchist, Voltaire



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 - But he'd never gotten along with his father much anyway
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 - He also started adopting a strong leaning toward Voltaire's Deism—again, largely because his father was such a strong Calvinist



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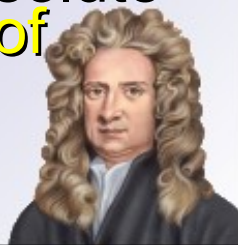
- The Polish duchy of Prussia was no major power at the time, but it had been developing a strong military over the years
- When Friedrich Wilhelm died in 1740, Friedrich II came to power, and began reforming Prussia much as Pyotr had recently reformed Russia
 - Seeing himself as the Platonic ideal of the cultured, philosopher-king
(NOTE: He even wrote a book—in French—about why Machiavelli had been wrong, and about how the best king isn't the *strongest*, but rather the most Enlightened and most devoted to the arts and Reason)
 - (NOTE²: He was also, however, a really big fan of the Bourbons in France, and emulated Louis XIV's reign as an "absolute monarch" —in total, absolute control of every bit of Prussian life)



ANTI MACHIAVEL
OU
ESSAI DE CRITIQUE
SUR LE
P R I N C E
D E
MACHIAVEL,
PUBLIÉ PAR
M. DE VOLTAIRE



A LA HAYE,
Chez PIERRE PAUPIL,
M DCCXL



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 - To help pay for all of that, he invaded Silesia, and began an aggressive expansion of Prussian territory
 - Due to all of this growth, expansion, and reform throughout the kingdom, even his *nickname* echoed Pyotr's—his people called him "Friedrich der Große" (AKA "Frederick the Great")



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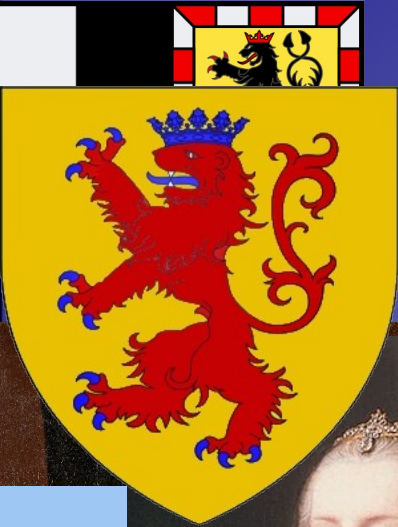
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 - Strangely enough, none of his neighboring kingdoms really liked that—but Friedrich didn't care about all of those pesky rules and treaties
 - And with Maria Theresa suddenly in charge of Austria, he decided that now was the time to take as much land as possible



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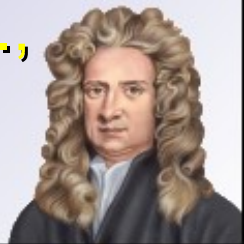
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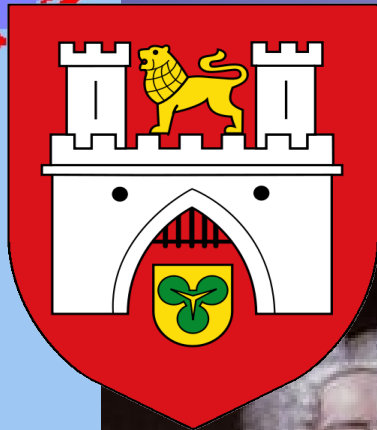
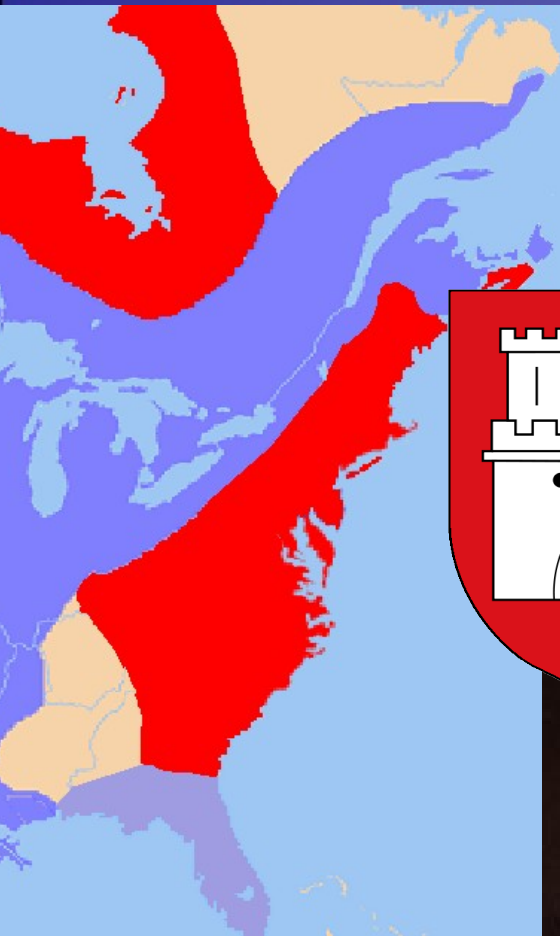
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 - **Soon, Prussia, France, Spain, etc., found themselves in all-out war against Austria, England, Russia, etc.**



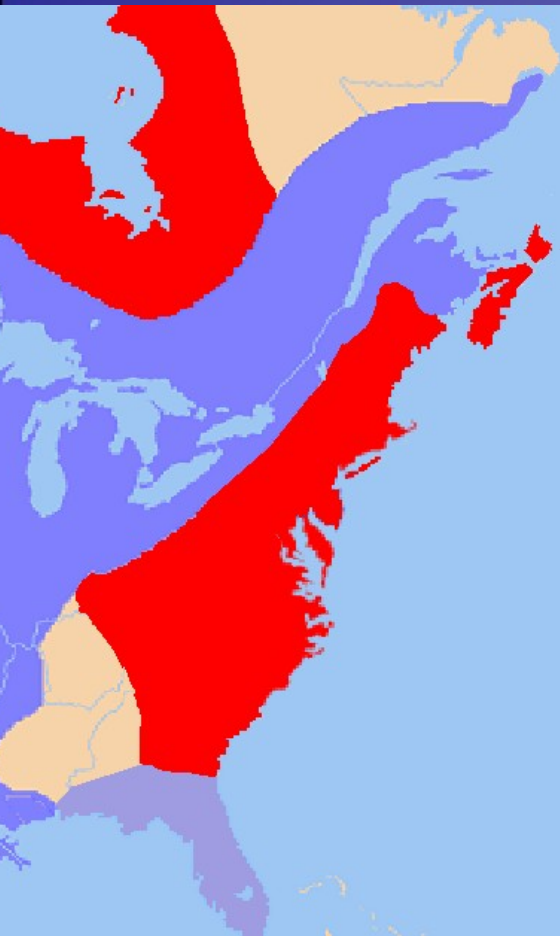
The Age of Enlightenment

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - If you'll remember, half of those countries were already fighting one another in *unrelated* wars
 - For instance, Britain was *already* at war with Spain over Richard Jenkins' ear
 - So again, much of the fighting in this “War of Austrian Succession” spilled over into the Americas where it became known as “King George's War” (because nobody in America *cared* about who was in charge of Prussia, or whether or not he liked France this week—all *they* knew was that George wanted them to fight everyone again) (and they were beginning to *resent* getting thrust into European politics—which they increasingly saw as being fairly irrelevant to American life)



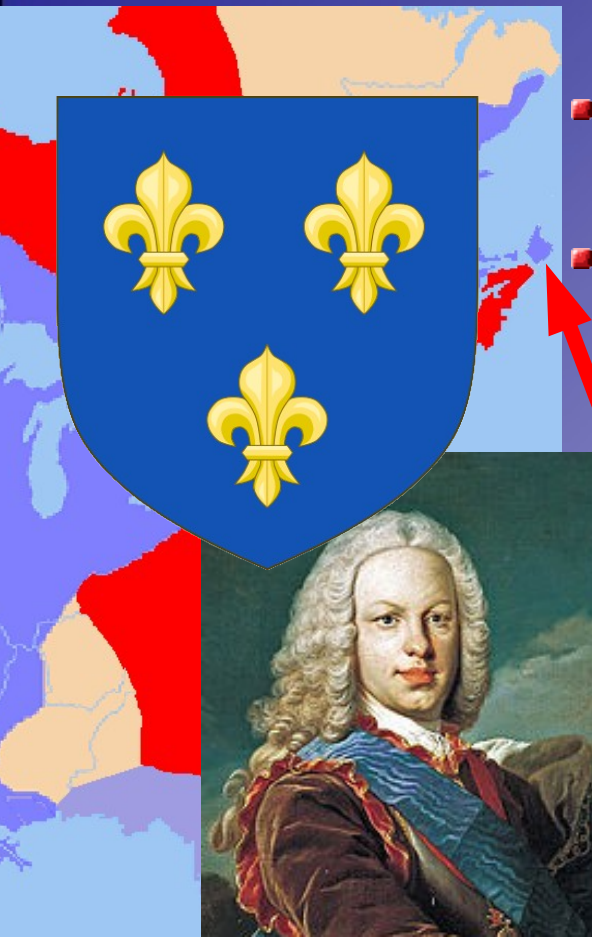
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 - For instance, nearly 8% of the population of Massachusetts died fighting in King George's War—about 1 out of every 13 citizens
 - The bloodiest battle was when the militiamen spent six weeks taking Cape Breton Island from the French, at the loss of nearly 1,000 New Englanders



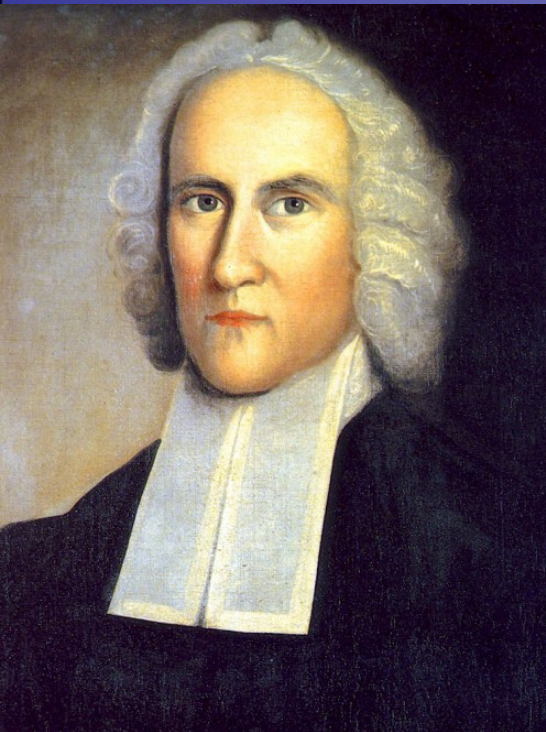
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 - For instance, nearly 8% of the population of Massachusetts died fighting in King George's War—about 1 out of every 13 citizens
 - But luckily, in 1746, the hypochondriac Bourbon Spanish King Felipe V of Spain finally passed away and his weak son, Fernando VI, had no stomach for continuing a war
 - So in 1748, the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle ended all of the various wars, and everyone stopped fighting one another (more or less)
 - But to get Madras back from France in India, Britain agreed to give them back Cape Breton Island in the Americas
 - The American colonists were furious that so many had died over something that Britain obviously just saw as a chess piece on a map somewhere...



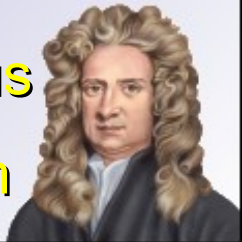
The Age of Enlightenment

- **New ways of thinking changed everything**
 - 1739 England fought the War of Jenkins' Ear
 - 1740 Friedrich II became King of Prussia
 - 1741 **"Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God"**
 - In 1741, Jonathan Edwards preached the quintessential "Great Awakening" sermon, calling sinners within the church to repentance



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- Old Side / New Side Controversy
 - The "Great Awakening" wasn't seen as so "great" by everyone in the colonies
 - In particular, the Presbyterian Church was of two minds on the subject of revivals
 - The "New Side" encouraged itinerant missionaries to ride throughout the colonies, opening up revivals in churches wherever they went and calling everyone to a repentant conversion to an authentic faith
 - The "Old Side" felt that this sort of revival was unnecessarily chaotic, and that it confused people about the nature of faith
 - They preached *conversion*, whereas classic Presbyterianism preached obedience within the faith you'd received at baptism
 - Putting the decision on a *believer* thus undermined God's sovereignty, the church's authority, and infant baptism



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 - Adding to the fire, they were even preaching that even *pastors* needed to be converted in order for them to be Christian
 - Gilbert Tennant even preached a sermon entitled, "The Dangers of an Unconverted Ministry"

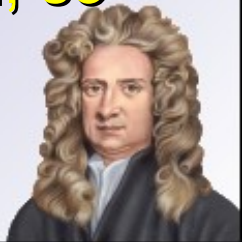


PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
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 - The "Old Side" felt that this sort of revival was unnecessarily chaotic, and that it confused people about the nature of faith
 - "New Side" preachers often had no formal education, and no pulpits of their own, so the Presbyterian leadership decided no one would be allowed to preach without a valid college degree in ministry and an official church calling



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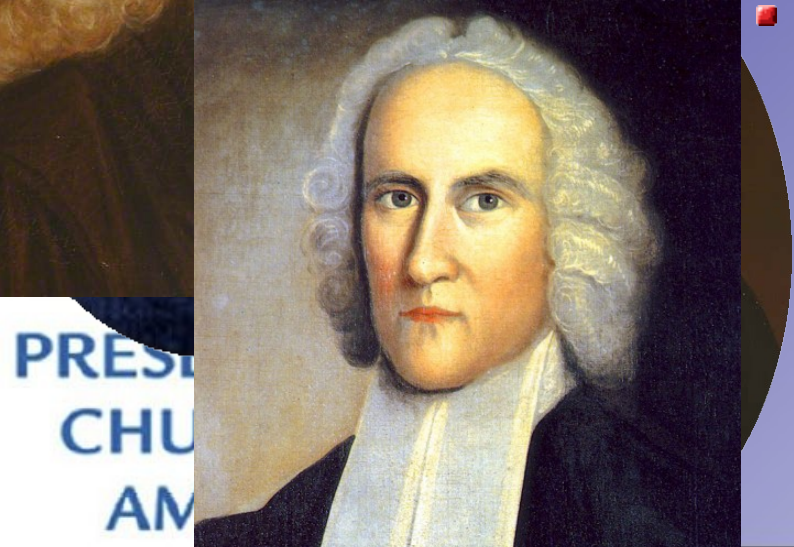
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- In 1741, the "New Side" Presbyterians—led by preachers like Gilbert Tennant and Samuel Davies—officially broke away from the "Old Side" Presbyterians, forming their own synod

- Taking a page from Whitefield, they actively encouraged and trained itinerant preachers and taking a page from Edwards, they emotively preached the "terrors of the law" (i.e.; the contrast between what Scripture shows as God's righteous expectations of His people and the paltry "good" that we actually do on a daily basis)



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- Ironically, by emphasizing the importance of personal action and decision-making—and by breaking away from the "Old Side" ecclesiology—the "New Side" began drifting decidedly Arminian (away from Whitefield and Edwards)



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Old Side / New Side Controversy

Russia discovered the Aleutian Islands

- **And nobody really cared**

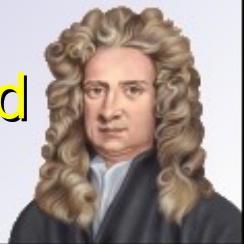
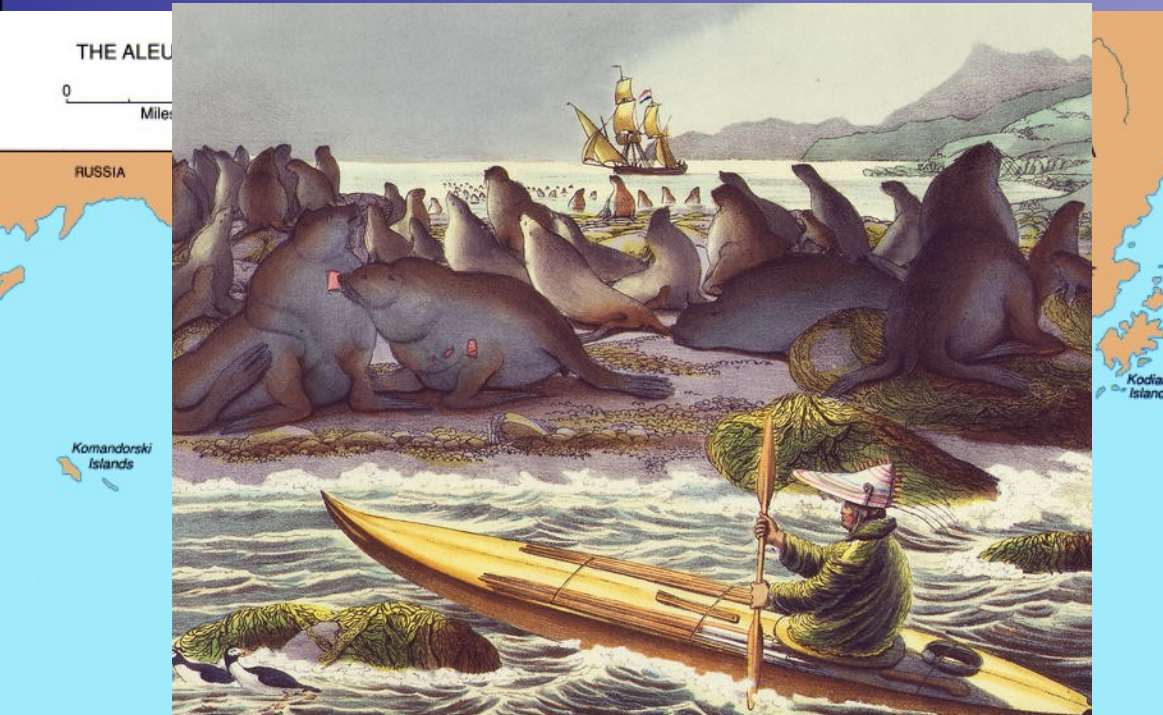
- Europeans, Americans, and Russians pretty much all thought they were too remote and too cold to ever mean anything to anyone

(poor Danish captain Vitus Bering lost his life mapping the area for the Russians for nothing...)



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Russia discovered the Aleutian Islands
 - And nobody really cared
 - Europeans, Americans, and Russians pretty much all thought they were too remote and too cold to ever mean anything to anyone
 - But very soon, the Russians realized that the Aleutians were a rich source of furs—and that owning the islands gave them an important foothold in the Americas (so again, Russia was a *backwards* European power, setting up colonies on the *West Coast* instead of in the *East*)



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- But very soon, the Russians realized that the Aleutians were a rich source of furs
- **The first Russian Orthodox missionaries (really, just ten monks who wanted to start a remote monastery) landed at Kodiak Island in 1793**
 - The only monk to survive the first two years was named Herman—now considered the patron saint of Alaska



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Benedict XIV issued *Immensa Pastorum*

- In it, he called for an end to the enslavement of native Brazilians by Europeans

- Of course, the context of that was not a heart for a more humane treatment of natives, but rather a desire to undermine the role of the Jesuits, whose independence from Rome he despised

- The (mostly Spanish) Jesuits had set up missions in Brazil that provided shelter for the natives from the (mostly Portuguese) slavers
- This bull called for a closure of all such missions and a demand that the Brazilians be "allowed" to go back to their villages
- This also coincided with Rome's agreement to turn a blind eye toward Portugal's continued slave trade in the Americas
- So, ironically, the papal bull decrying slavery actually supported slavery



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(NOTE: The Rome-Portugal coalition against the Jesuits in Brazil was the historical setting for the classic 1984 movie, *The Mission*—even though the movie itself was loosely based on the mission work of Jesuit Roque González de Santa Cruz, from a century earlier)



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- Remember, this is also the same Pope who the next year, issued the bull, *Ex Quo Singulari*, which censured the Jesuits in the Far East, forced them to stop wearing orange to reach the Buddhists, to stop using Chinese words to describe God to the Chinese, and to forever cease from discussing the matter—they had to swear never to bring any of it up again and never to question Rome again in order to remain missionaries
- And *speaking* of enslavement...



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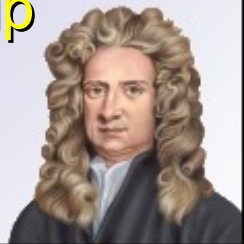
The Age of Enlightenment

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Impressment was the legal right for the British Navy to forcibly drag any able seamen that they found into the service to the King
 - “Press gangs” would roam from town to town along the shoreline, looking for young men whom they could press into service
 - Supposedly, they weren't supposed to take anyone who didn't *want* to go, and they were *never* supposed to take any *landsmen*
 - But when you're an aggressive seaman who gets paid to violently compel men to join the Navy, and you've got a quota to fill...



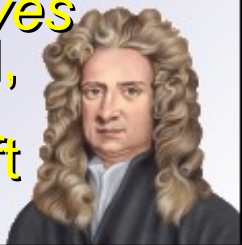
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 - A victim of impressment, Newton was forced to serve aboard the *H.M.S. Harwich*, a man-of-war
 - He hated it there, and attempted to desert at the first opportunity—which got him stripped to the waist and flogged until his flesh was in ribbons
 - Hardening after that, he requested to be transferred to the merchant slave ship, *Pegasus* where he quickly became known as surly, foul-mouthed, hateful, and hated
 - Even the *slavers* thought that he treated the slaves poorly, and that's saying something given conditions aboard a slaving ship
 - (NOTE: 30-40,000 slaves were being transported across the Atlantic every year)



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 - A victim of impressment, Newton was forced to serve aboard the *H.M.S. Harwich*, a man-of-war
 - He hated it there, and attempted to desert at the first opportunity—which got him stripped to the waist and flogged until his flesh was in ribbons
 - Hardening after that, he requested to be transferred to the merchant slave ship, *Pegasus* where he quickly became known as surly, foul-mouthed, hateful, and hated
 - He was so roundly despised by his shipmates that, when he fell ill in Africa in 1745, they just left him there to become the slave of slaves
 - He was routinely beaten and tortured, and he began beating and raping his fellow slaves and practicing witchcraft out of animosity and self-loathing



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 - In 1747, he was finally rescued by the ivory trading ship *Greyhound*, and joined her crew
 - But again, he quickly ran afoul of the crew, who found him to be a blasphemous, foul-mouthed drunk who was consumed by hatred
 - The captain wrote that he would've left him at the next port, but he'd promised Newton's father he'd bring him home



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 - In 1748, the ship was overcome by a storm at sea, and Newton nearly drowned in the hold
 - In desperation, he cried out to God, and the cargo immediately broke free from its lashings and plugged the hole in the side of the ship
 - He became a Christian, ending his drinking, swearing, and bad attitude—but he still sailed on slaving ships (since most people didn't see slavery as evil at the time)



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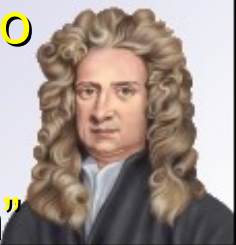
- A victim of impressment, Newton was forced to serve aboard the *H.M.S. Harwich*, a man-of-war

- In the 1750s, after years as even the *captain* of slaving ships, Newton finally left the sea to become a priest in the Church of England

- He was ordained in 1764, and dedicated himself not only to studying the Bible, but also to helping those whom everyone else had given up on

- He pioneered ministries serving the poor in his church and throughout his urban parish but he openly confessed that he looked back on his earlier life in horror—preaching that no *true* Christian can ever treat their fellow human beings like slaves

- In 1779, he published a book of hymns, including "Faith's Review & Expectation"



The Age of Enlightenment

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - You probably know the hymn better by the first words of its first stanza—

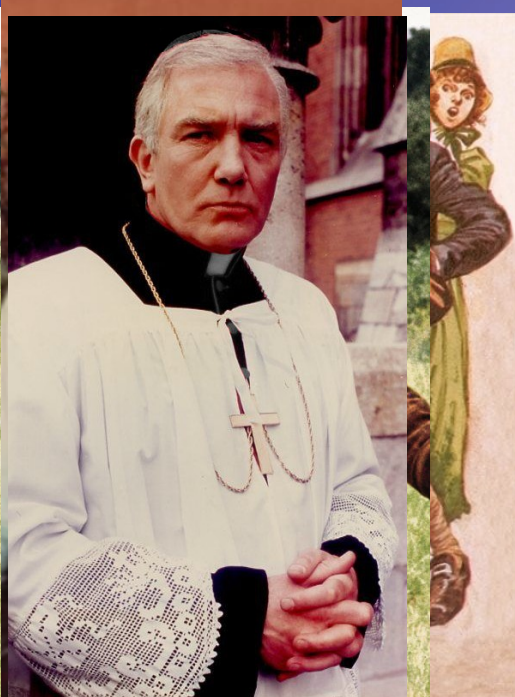
Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word, my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.



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- **In 1787, a young hedonist-turned-devout-Christian politician named William Wilberforce found himself in a moral quandary**
 - He felt like he should give his life completely to the Lord, but he also felt called to be a politician so he turned to an elderly and penitent John Newton for advice about what to do
 - Newton *begged* him to remain in politics, and to use that "pulpit" as the means to end slavery once and for all...



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 - He felt like he should give his life completely to the Lord, but he also felt called to be a politician so he turned to an elderly and penitent John Newton for advice about what to do
 - **Thanks to Newton's encouragement, Wilberforce did *precisely* that—but that's a story for another week...**

