

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 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
 - *Cromwell*
 - *Philosophers and Kings, Missionaries and Explorers*
 - *The Seeds of Revolutions*
 - *Proto-Revolutions*
 - *Wake-Up Calls (part 4)*



The Age of Enlightenment

- New ideas were popping up all over the place
1752 Benjamin Franklin invented the lightning rod



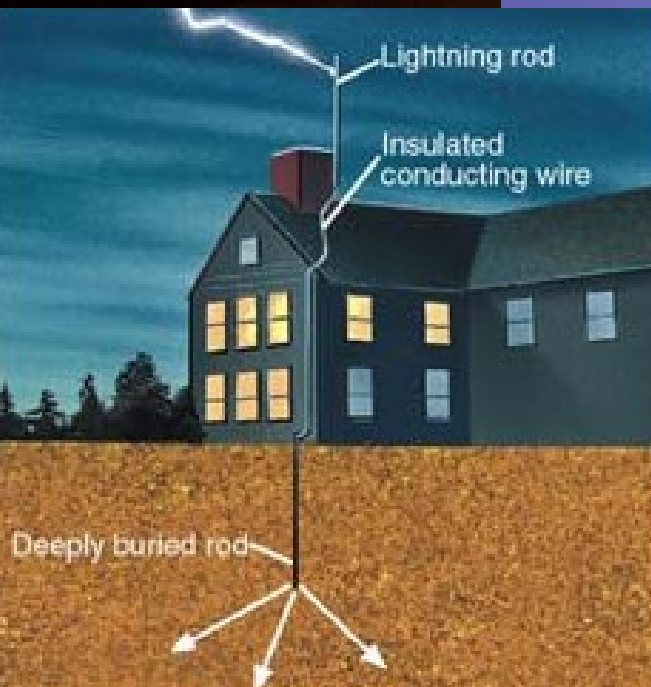
The Age of Enlightenment

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Before I go any further on that, let me stop right here and make sure that we understand things
 - 1) Ben Franklin did not *invent* electricity—*God* did
 - 2) Ben Franklin didn't even *discover* electricity
 - 3) Ben Franklin *may* have never even done the whole “flying a kite in the thunderstorm” experiment at all
 - 4) What Ben Franklin *did* do was to prove that lightning was an example of the “electrical fluid” that was naturally occurring all around us in the world
 - And we *know* that he did experiments with sinking iron rods into the ground and seeing that lightning strikes are naturally attracted to them, and then dissipate into the ground
 - Thus, he came up with the idea of putting lightning rods on homes and buildings to safely discharge lightning strikes



The Age of Enlightenment

- **Funky little teaching moment—**
 - Before I go any further on that, let me stop right here and make sure that we understand things
 - **See, lightning strikes anything tall and conductive**
 - And it's striking buildings all of the time
 - And lightning strikes still cause a large number of building fires each year, if the buildings are improperly grounded (or not grounded at all)
 - So this is kind of a big deal, even though most people thought he was nuts at the time to try to actually *attract* a lightning strike to a house in order to protect it from lightning strikes...



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 - So this is kind of a big deal, even though most people thought he was nuts at the time to try to actually *attract* a lightning strike to a house in order to protect it from lightning strikes...
 - **So remember that Ben Franklin wasn't afraid of doing things that other people thought were decidedly “out-of-the-box” ideas...**



The Age of Enlightenment

- New ideas were popping up all over the place
 - 1752 Benjamin Franklin invented the lightning rod
 - 1753 George Berkeley passed away
 - Born in Kilkenny, Berkeley had become a priest in the Church of Ireland in 1721
 - As a philosopher, he'd been influenced by the works of René Descartes
 - (who'd argued that all we *really know* are the thoughts and ideas that we have within our own minds—everything else is built off of what we *think*)



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 - (who'd argued that Descartes was in danger of throwing God out of the equation altogether in establishing his philosophy)



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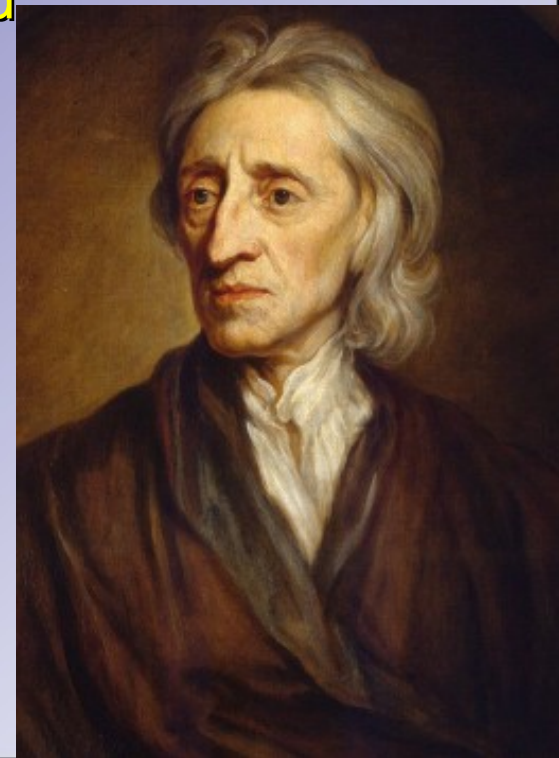
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- (who'd argued that *ideas* and *thoughts* aren't innate—by definition, they're just built off of our interpretations of the essential qualities of the material world that God created around us)



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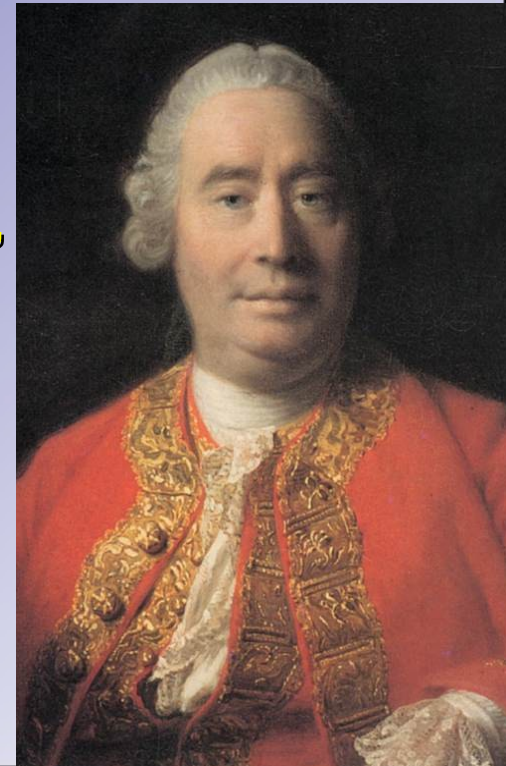
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- (who'd argued that, since everything is based off of our interpretation of the natural world, then the natural world is all that there is, and it would be irrational to assume a “god” outside of the natural, material world)



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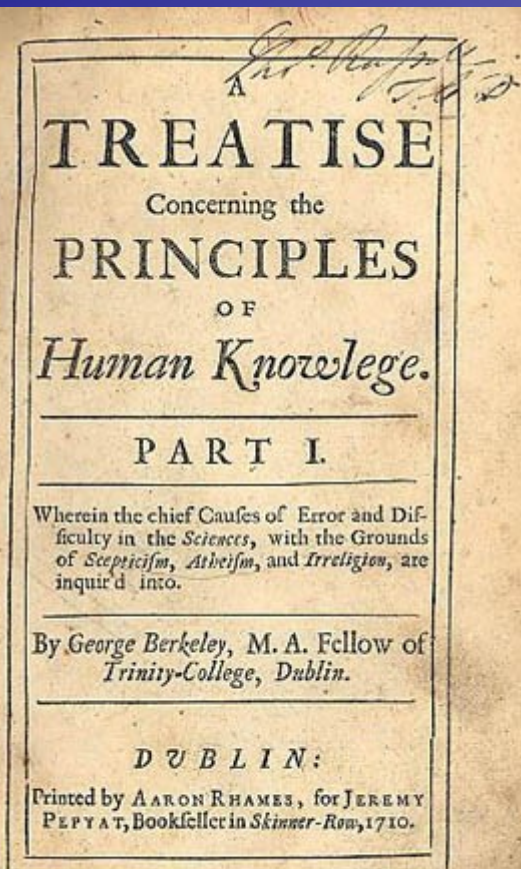
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- So, in 1710, Berkeley published *A Treatise Concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge*

- In it, he suggested a new way of thinking that inverted Locke, gave a religious basis for Descartes, and argued against the natural humanism of Hume

- He suggested that, since all we *know* is based on what we *already* know, or what we *interpret* about the world around us, then perhaps there *is* no “material world” outside of our perception of it

- Everything that exists around us only *appears* to exist because we *believe* that it exists



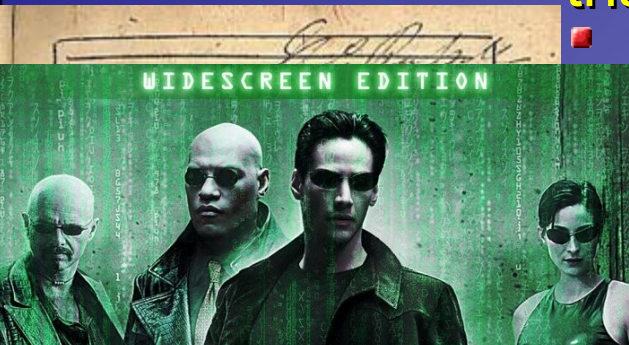
The Age of Enlightenment

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Actually, that's not an entirely fair was of expressing what he was getting at
 - Things do exist, but they exist on a cognitive level, which we only process as “physicality” because that's the only wording we have to explain it
 - We believe that there's a chair, so there's a chair, and we can thus sit our bottoms down on it
 - But even the concept of “we” is a perceived thing, and “our bottoms” are perceived things, so it's simply one cognition reacting to another
 - (think of it like in *The Matrix*—you wouldn't be able to tell that you're in a computer simulation simply by trying to interact with the other computer-generated objects, because *you yourself* are a similarly computer-generated object, subject to exactly the same “physical laws” / “programming code” that *everything else* is subject to)
 - (it's all *totally* real, so you process it as totally “physical”—i.e.; as “real” as *you* are)



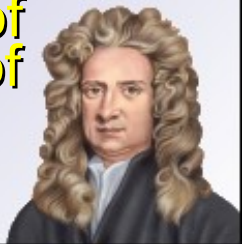
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 - This might sound like so much science fiction mumbo-jumbo, but interestingly enough, there's a whole chunk of quantum physics that suggests that the basic unit of reality isn't technically matter or energy, but *awareness*
 - (i.e.; that sub-atomic particles react the way that they do in large part because we are observing them, and they're reacting to our expectations in observation)



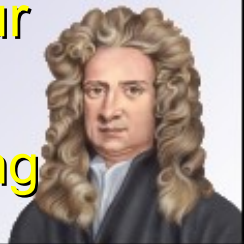
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 - What Berkeley then did was to argue that, if the universe—us, our stuff, everyone else's stuff, etc.—exists primarily on the basis of *awareness* or *perception* rather than on an intrinsic materialism then how did it all get *started*?
 - It *couldn't* have just popped into existence only at the moment the first sentient human being came into being, because then *they* wouldn't have ever come into being in the first place
 - And what about all of that “stuff” that no one is *currently* thinking about—why doesn't that just cease to exist at that moment?
 - (NOTE: This is what has stumped a lot of quantum physicists—if the foundation of reality is awareness, then *who's* been being *aware* of it all, all of this time?)



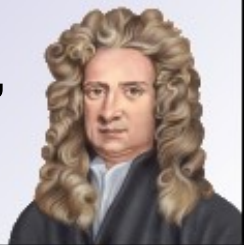
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 - There has to be a sentience that has *always* existed, a non-perceived Perceiver who holds all things in *His* mind, and thus *in* Whom all things have their very existence
 - So Berkeley addressed Descartes, Locke, Hume, quantum physics, and Colossians 1:17 with one bizarre theory—and one that argued that the only separation between us and our Lord is, quite literally, the one going on in our thinking
 - (so we need to let Him *redeem* our thinking to draw close to Him—see Romans 12:2)



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 - Samuel Johnson still thought it sounded screwy to him, and kicked a rock, shouting, “I refute it *thus!*”



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- David Hume had even lamented,
“The Elegance and Propriety of Stile have been very much neglected among us.”
(thus proving the need for some consensus on how to spell words like “style”)



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- So Johnson spent nine years compiling 42,773 entries and deciding on the most standardized spellings of every English word he was able to establish through his research

- By the end of the effort, he was nearly blind, and he had a small army of assistants helping him finish the research and organization

But one of the innovations of Johnson's *Dictionary* was that it didn't just define the words—it provided examples of each so that you could see it used in a sentence (usually from Shakespeare or some other famous author)

- (it thus became a dictionary of quotations as well as of words)



chasing a piece of land, and in building thereon an hospital for the reception of idiots and lunatics. *Swift.*

LUNA'TION. *n. f.* [*lunaison*, French; *luna*, Latin.] The revolution of the moon.

If the *lunations* be observed for a cycle of nineteen years, which is the cycle of the moon, the same observations will be verified for succeeding cycles for ever. *Holder on Time.*

LUNCH. } *n. f.* [*Minshawa* derives it from *louja*, Spanish;

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When hungry thou stood'st staring, like an oaf,
I slic'd the luncheon from the barley loaf;

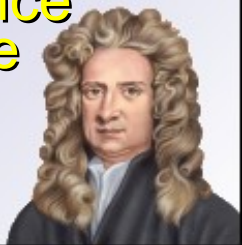
With crumbled bread I thicken'd well the mess. *Gay.*

LUNE. *n. f.* [*luna*, Latin.]

1. Any thing in the shape of an half moon.

2. Fits of lunacy or frenzy, mad freaks. The French say of a man who is but fantastical or whimsical, *Il a des lunes.*

Hammer.



The Age of Enlightenment

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Note the use of the “long s” or “ſ” here in words like “*thou ſtood’ſt ſtaring*”)
 - It used to be a lot more common for languages to change the way that a particular letter—usually the “s” sound—looks when used at the end of a word
 - (that’s what Greek does with *sigma*—which looks like “σ” or “ς” depending on where it lands in the word, like in the word, *σιμωνίας* [*“simonias”*])



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 - It used to be a lot more common for languages to change the way that a particular letter—usually the “s” sound—looks when used at the end of a word
 - So, in English (until recently), you would use the “long s” in the beginning and middle of a word, and the “short s” at the end of a word
 - But printers streamlined how many typesetting keys they really needed (in order to prevent both typos and needless expense)—so they eliminated the “ſ”
 - About the only language that still makes use of this “long s” idea is German, which contracts two “s” sounds in a row (“ſs”) into one printer’s key (“ß”)

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- **In pure Johnson, anti-Berkeley style, he once wrote about his accomplishment with our lexicon, "I am not so lost in lexicography as to forget that *words* are the daughters of *earth*, and that *things* are the sons of *heaven*..."**



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 - 1756 The Seven Years' War broke out
(AKA The French and Indian War, or The War of the Conquest, or The Third Carnatic War, or the Third Silesian War, or The Pomeranian War—or, as I personally like to think of it, The War of All Sorts of Strange Bedfellows)



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 - Long story short, a lot of it came down to petty squabbles and selfish grabs whose ripple effects exploded into full-scale war



The Age of Enlightenment

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Not to get too far off-topic, but this is why we've said for years that, in your personal relationships, it's always best to deal with issues healthily, carefully, and appropriately at the “molehill” level so that they never build up into “mountain” issues any ultimately blow up into “volcano” arguments, where everyone wonders how things got so bad



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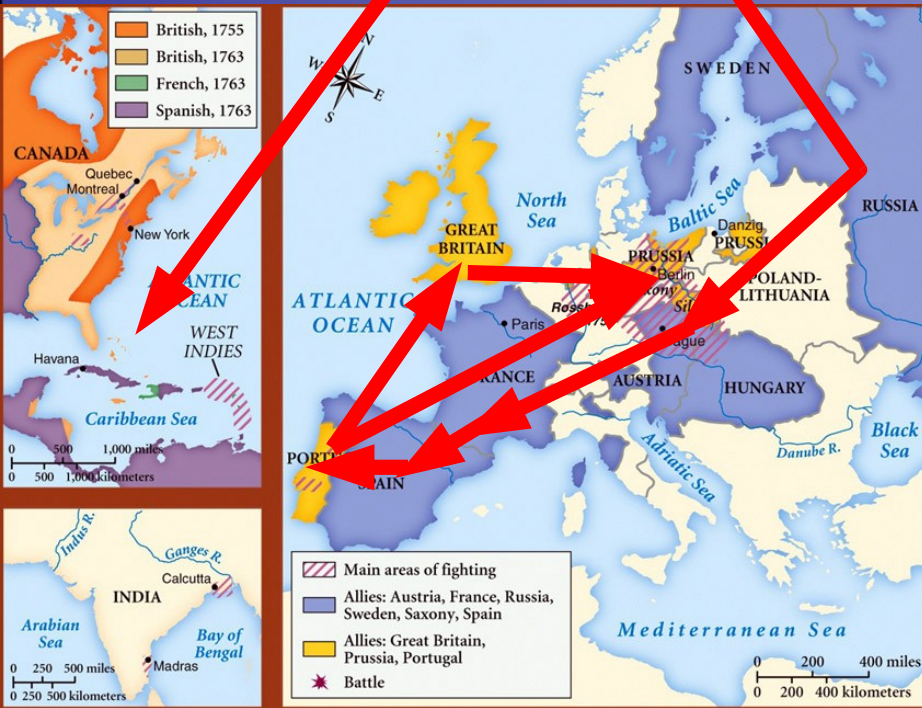
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So England and France/Spain continued fighting over land (and maritime rights) in the Americas while Friedrich II's Prussia took advantage of a weakened Austria and grabbed more land, making Russia feel threatened, so they sided with Austria

(who already had a pact with France who already had a pact with Spain who was already chafing with Portugal over land rights in the New World which tacitly made Portugal now allies with England, since their American territories bracketed Spain's lands which made England and Portugal tacitly allies with Prussia, who was fighting against *their* enemies of France and Spain)
The whole thing became a big, ugly mess...



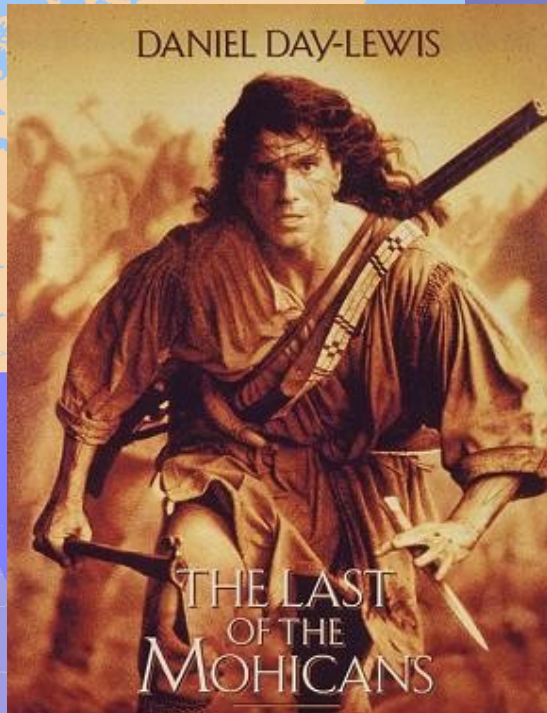
The Age of Enlightenment

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Over here in the Americas, the conflict was known at the French and Indian War
 - There were two million citizens in the British colonies, but only about half a million citizens in the Spanish and French colonies (even though they held a lot more land)
 - So the French forces made alliances with local Native American tribes against the English to bolster their numbers
 - To counteract that, the British did the same
 - Thus, for instance, the Iroquois and Cherokee tribes fought for the English while the Wabanaki, Ottawa, Lenape, Algonquin, etc., fought for the French
 - (NOTE: It was during this conflict that the French encouraged their allies to follow the Iroquois practice of scalping enemies, paying them for every British scalp that they brought in as a bounty leading the British to do the same—in fact, the governor of Massachusetts was paying £40 for a male Indian scalp, and £20 for scalps of women or of children under 12)
 - (£40 is \$4600 in today's money)



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 - (NOTE: For you literature buffs, this was the historical context for James Fenimore Cooper novels such as *Last of the Mohicans*)
(uniquely American novels where the British redcoats were basically the good guys...)



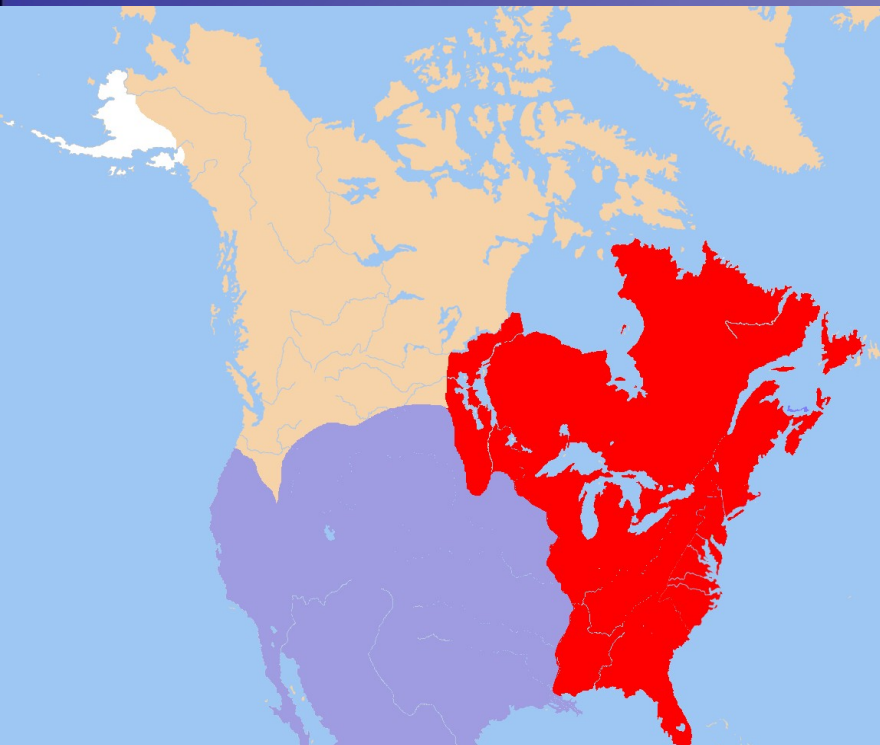
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- **Funky little teaching moment—**
 - Over here in the Americas, the conflict was known at the French and Indian War
 - The war had a profound effect on the colonies in America, and set a foundation for the future
 - First off, a new generation of Americans gained heavy combat experience as young officers, who were thus combat veterans once the Revolutionary War broke out 20 years later
 - (including Colonel George Washington, who gained distinction by leading and fighting heroically under his beloved friend, General Thomas Gage)



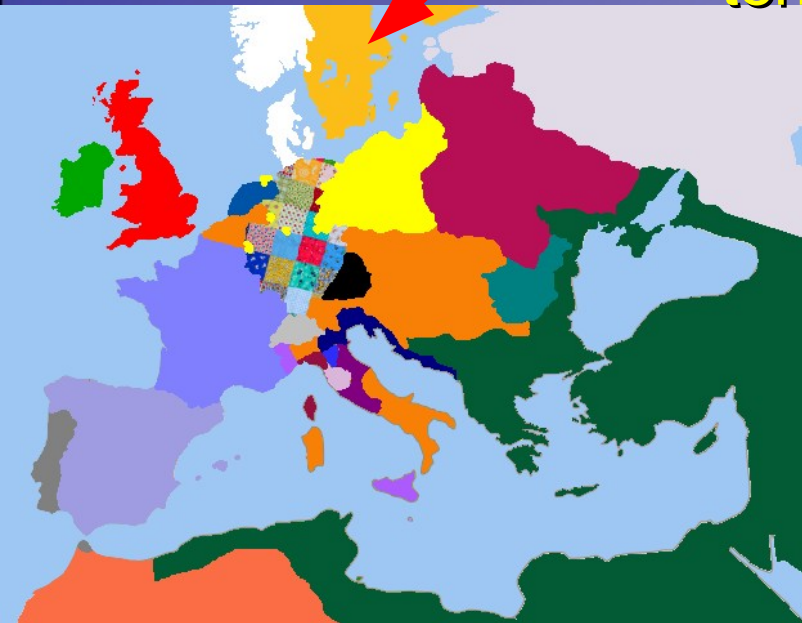
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 - **Secondly, it made huge changes the map, since France ended up losing so badly**
 - All of a sudden, a defeated France was out of the picture, and a weakened Spain was given half of their old lands while a strengthened England took over the rest, including all of the lands in Florida and explored Canada
 - (which is why, in Canada, this conflict is known as The War of the Conquest)



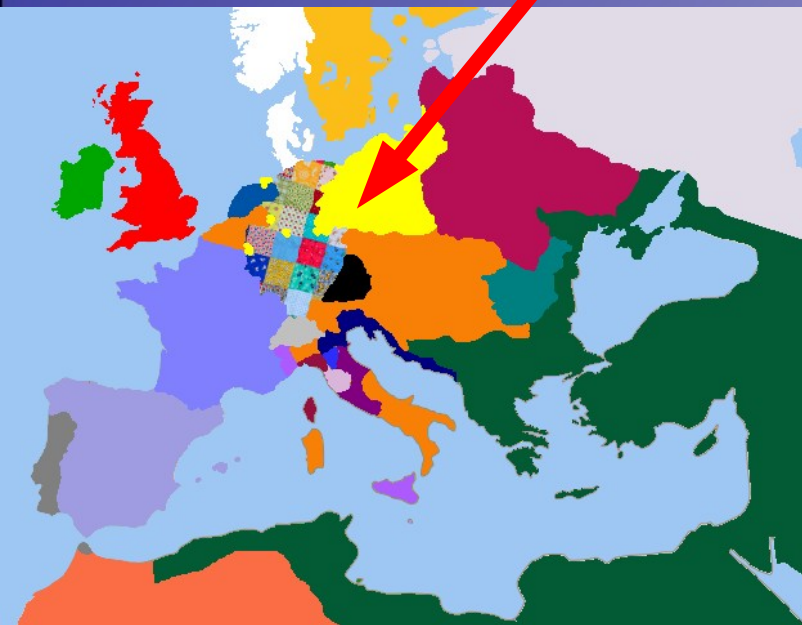
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 - The map of Europe changed significantly as well—at least in terms of politics
 - For instance, Sweden changed from being an ally of Russia at the beginning against Prussia to being *conquered* by Russia in the middle, to being their own, shell-shocked, kinda terrified kingdom after the final treaties



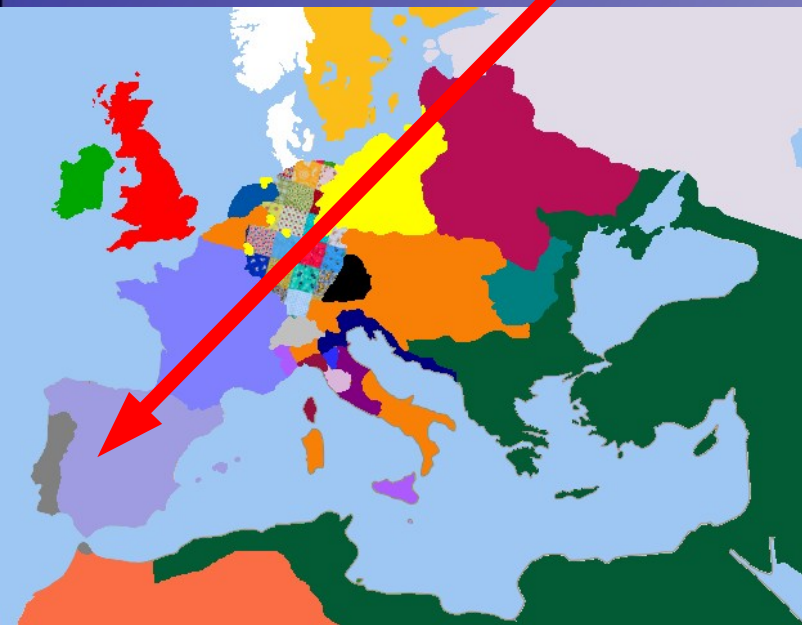
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 - Prussia emerged as a major world power, sidelining both Austria and the Holy Roman Empire as decaying, “old guard” empires
 - Instead of being a bloated confederation of Germanic kingdoms and duchies and city-states, central Europe was beginning to re-form itself into a lean, singular, German kingdom



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 - Prussia emerged as a major world power
 - Former major world power Spain lost badly enough that they never really did recover



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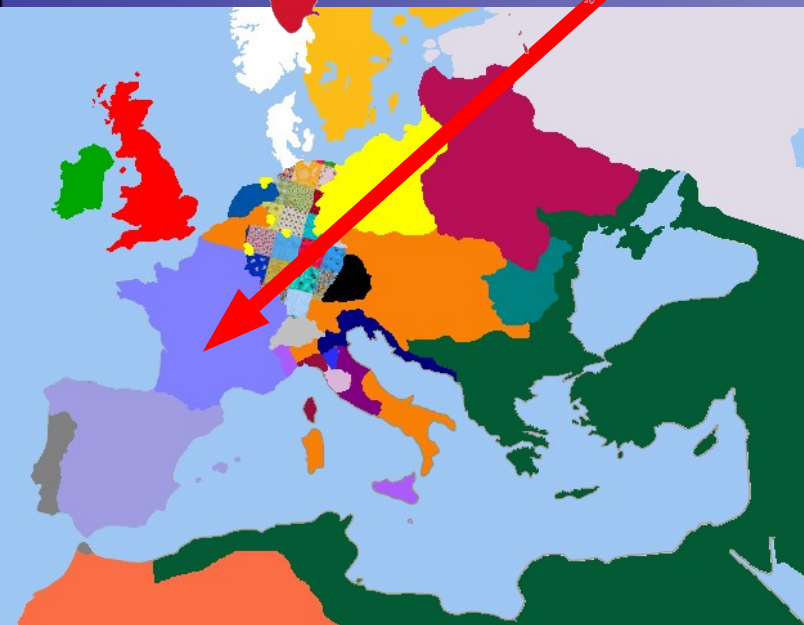
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- France's military and navy were decimated,

- So they retreated internally to rebuild and refocus their power, plotting their revenge on England

- But in the meantime, they had to retreat from India, giving England almost total control over the region—which England enjoyed for almost two full centuries until India's independence in 1947



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- For instance, Sweden changed

- Prussia emerged as a major world power

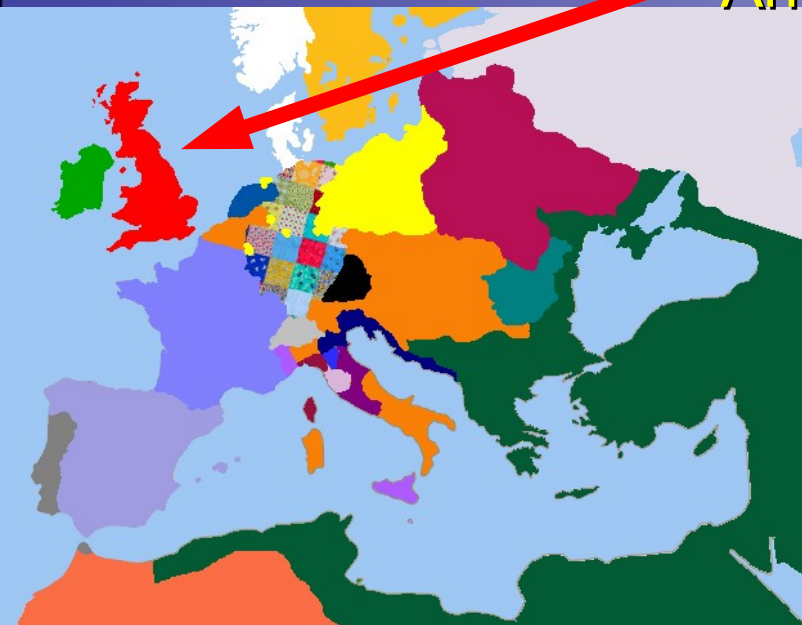
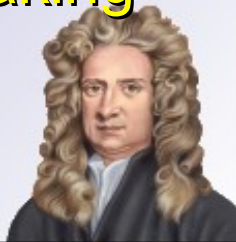
- Former major world power Spain lost badly

- France's military and navy were decimated

- **And so Britain rose to prominence**

- They now held colonies on multiple continents, and were extending a new *British Empire* around the globe—actually, they were *over-extending* themselves, because England had been nearly bankrupted by all of the fighting
- And the rest of Europe was now taking notice of them... uncomfortably...

- So it was both a really *good* time and a really *bad* time to become, say, the new King of England...



The Age of Enlightenment

- New ideas were popping up all over the place

1752 Benjamin Franklin invented the lightning rod

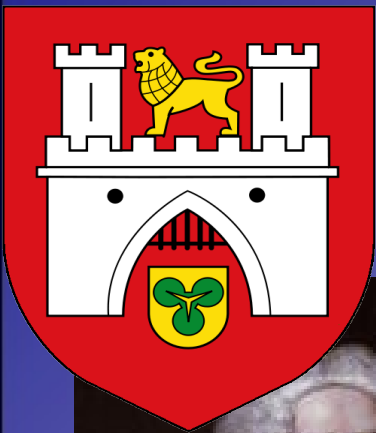
1753 George Berkeley passed away

1755 Samuel Johnson published his *Dictionary*

1756 The Seven Years' War broke out

1760 George William Frederick became king

- Georg Augustus (King George II) had stuck around for a long time, reigning for 33 years
 - He even outlived his own son, Friedrich



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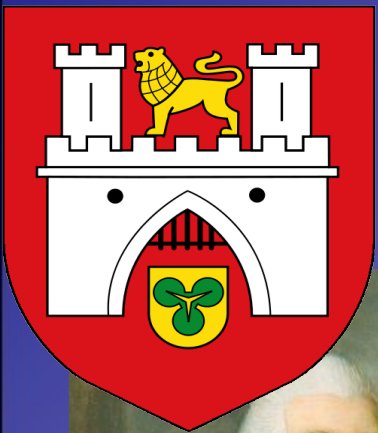
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- Georg Augustus (King George II) had stuck around for a long time, reigning for 33 years, so when he died, his crown went to his grandson, George William Frederick (i.e.; King George III)
 - The new King George made it clear what kind of a king he wanted to be at his coronation—he declared (with no German accent),
“Born and educated in this country, I glory in the name of Britain!”
 - (not in the name of Germanic *Hanover*, as his grandfather and *great-grandfather* had)
 - (and the crowd went wild...)



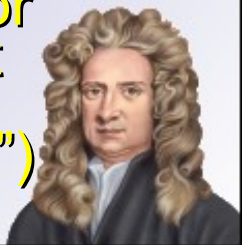
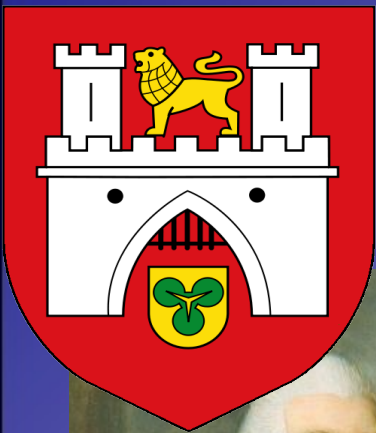
The Age of Enlightenment

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - Being a good, patriotic American who loves good, patriotic American history, I'm predisposed to not like King George III
 - I mean, this is the guy that we *rebelled* against, calling him a German and making fun of him for being such a horrible king
 - This is that fat, greedy, rouged guy who didn't fare well in the old *Schoolhouse Rock* cartoon about the causes of the Revolutionary War
 - I really, really don't want to like him but I kinda like him...



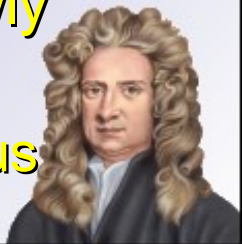
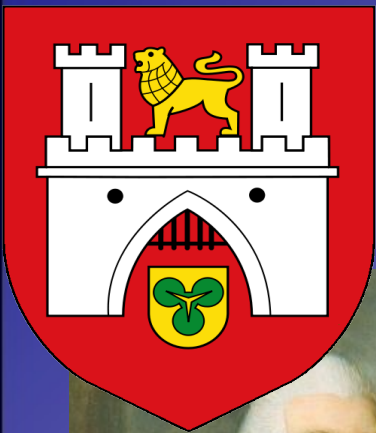
The Age of Enlightenment

- **Funky little teaching moment—**
 - Being a good, patriotic American who loves good, patriotic American history, I'm predisposed to not like King George III
 - **He genuinely seemed to love England, and stood against his predecessors' penchant for putting Hanover first in politics**
 - He was also a devout, praying Christian who tried his best to live out his faith—even including chiding his brothers for their mistresses and scandals
 - It was common—even *expected*—back then that heads of state would have official mistresses to dally with (basically, to keep them off the streets)
 - But even though he'd been in love with someone else and only met his “homely” bride, Charlotte on their wedding day
 - (As he wrote in his diary, “The interest of my country shall ever be my first care, my own inclination shall ever submit to it. I am born for the happiness or misery of a great nation, and consequently must often act contrary to my passion...”)



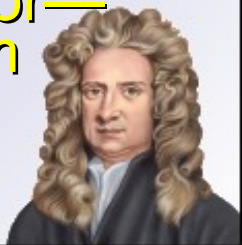
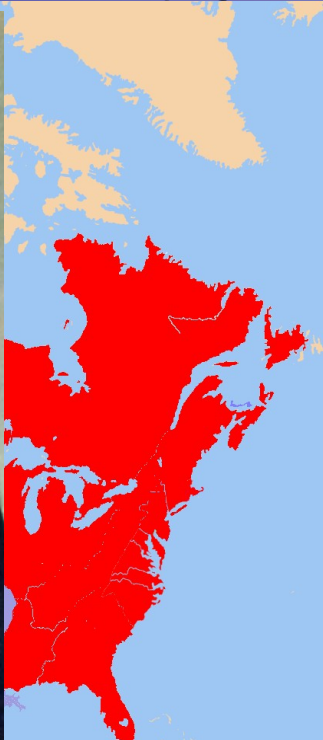
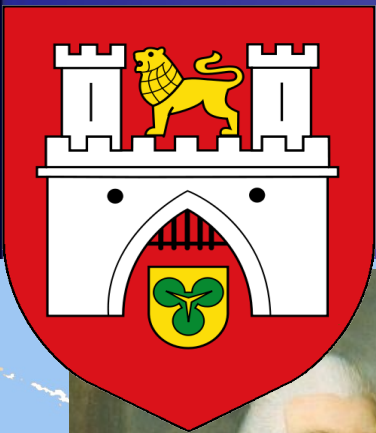
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 - But even though he'd been in love with someone else and only met his “homely” bride, Charlotte on their wedding day, they remained faithfully married and devoted to one another for 57 years
 - She bore him 15 children, and was his unwavering rock when George slowly began losing his mind to dementia as the years wore on
(possibly exacerbated by his copious use of arsenic as a hair product...)



The Age of Enlightenment

- Funky little teaching moment—
 - In 1763, George made the first of a series of unfortunate decisions about the British colonies in America
 - Remember the situation in America now...
 - 1) Britain now owned Canada and Florida
 - 2) They'd made peace with France and Spain, but there were still a lot of angry Native American tribes who weren't too happy with their British neighbors
 - So George proclaimed that no English settlers would move into the Indian lands west of the Mississippi, but that all British citizens should instead move north and south, to populate Canada and Florida
 - The growing American colonies felt shut down and stymied by their own king—a king that they'd just spent seven years fighting and dying for—who was now keeping them from the lush-but-sparsely-populated West of their own continent...



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1762 Pyotr III became Emperor of the Russias

Katharina became *Empress* of the Russias

