III. Commerce, Culture, and Identity

A. Transportation and the Print Revolution
   1. Improved transportation networks
      - More and faster shipping
      - roads inland
      - increase in people, goods, info and…..

   2. Print revolution
      - Newspapers, pamphlets, novels, handbills,
      - American Colonies begins its own print revolution
      - What is in Europe is now in colonies...quickly
III. Commerce, Culture, and Identity

B. The Enlightenment in America

1. The European Enlightenment
   - Power of Human Reason; upper class
   - Empirical research and scientific reasoning
     1) Law Like order of natural World
     2) Power of Human reasoning
     3) natural rights of individuals (self Gov)
     4) improvement through progress
2. John Locke- English Philosopher

1) Environment and Experience trump bible and religious teaching

2) Change is possible through education, thought, and action

3) Two Treatise on Government (1690)- political authority comes not from divinity, but from SOCIAL COMPACTS (people have power to change their government?)
III. Commerce, Culture, and Identity

C. American Pietism and the Great Awakening

1. Pietism = Personal Relationship with God
   1. Believers hearts rather than their minds.
   2. A response away from GA

2. New England Revivalism
   1. Jonathan Edwards = Sinners in the Hands of an angry god!
   2. Revivals - Forrest of NE

3. Whitefield’s Great Awakening
   1. Memory - Great speaker = Seek salvation
   2. Followers are “New Lights”
Religion and Awakening

- Anglican vs Congregationalists/Presbyterians = rebellion
- 1730’s-40’s = Great Awakening spreads through Colonies
- Jonathon Edwards = Northhampton, MA
  - Excellent theological mind = God’s Grace
  - “Sinners in the hand of an Angry God"
- George Whitefield = Electric Preacher = revivals
  - Competitive Religion
  - Mass movement of American People = United
The Great Awakening

• Began in Mass. with Jonathan Edwards (regarded as greatest American theologian)
  – Rejected salvation by works, affirmed need for complete dependence on grace of God (“Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”)

• Orator George Whitefield followed, touring colonies, led revivals, countless conversions, inspired imitators
Through the Awakening, the Colonists realized that religious power resided in their own hands, rather than in the hands of the Church of England, or any other religious authority.

After a generation or two passed with this kind of mindset, the Colonists came to realize that political power did not reside in the hands of the English monarch, but in their own will for self-governance.
Edwards and Whitefield
Ben Franklin

3. Franklin’s Contributions

1) Boston 1706- Brother was a printer

2) Moves to Philadelphia= Example of Enlightenment in America

3) Diest= a Supreme Being (or Grand Architect) had created the world and then allowed it to operate by natural laws but did not intervene in people’s lives

4) Natural reason or innate moral sense defined right and wrong
III. Commerce, Culture, and Identity

D. Religious Upheaval in the North

1. Old Lights and New Lights

   Old Lights = Conservative, old school religion
   New Lights = New, no taxes, REVIVAL meetings
   New Minister schools = Princeton, Brown, Columbia, Rutges

2. Challenges to authority

   - GA challenges all ministers - gave source of power and authority to more than just ministry
FIGURE 4.3 Church Growth by Denomination, 1700–1780
Chapter 4, America's History, Eighth Edition and America: A Concise History, Sixth Edition
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