

## Protestant Developments In The Mid-17<sup>th</sup> Century

- 1624 Dutch West Indies Company began establishing the **NEW NETHERLANDS** (eventually they would become **NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY**), where the Reformed Christian faith would become established early on
- 1625-1649 The Reign of Charles, King of England, Scotland & Ireland
- He automatically became the Head of the Church of England
  - He married a French-Catholic princess on 13 June 1625, arousing concerns within Parliament
  - During 1629-1640 he reigned without Parliament because, among other things, they had tried to push through resolutions condemning Catholicism & Armenianism
  - He aroused Scottish opposition to his reign when he tried to force Anglican (Church of England) practices upon the Presbyterians of Scotland (Church of Scotland adherents) beginning in 1633
  - 1634 – King Charles granted Lord Baltimore permission to establish a safe-haven for Catholics within a new colony to be named **MARYLAND**, after Charles' Catholic queen
  - 1635 - **CONNECTICUT** was established as a refuge for Puritans & Separatists (Congregationalists) under the leadership of Rev. Thomas Hooker, after they ran into problems with the governing authorities of Massachusetts
  - 1636 – **RHODE ISLAND** was established by Roger Williams (who founded the “First Baptist Church in America”) & by Anne Hutchinson (promoter of in-home Bible studies), both of whom were exiled from Massachusetts
  - 1636 – The College of Newe Towne (**Harvard**) was established as a Separatist educational institution within Massachusetts
  - 1638 – **DELAWARE** was part of **NEW SWEDEN**, where the Reformed Christian faith governed religious matters
  - The Bishops' Wars of Scotland – the First in 1639 & the Second in 1640 – were the ultimate result of his actions
  - The Irish Rebellion of 1641 – native & long-time immigrant Catholic majority vs. recent English & Scottish Protestant immigrants - also occurred
  - The First English Civil War (1641-1649) was also kicked off by his actions. The “Roundheads,” so-called because of the Puritan tendency to wear their hair quite short, were the pro-Parliamentarians. They opposed the “Cavaliers” (“horsemen”) who were supporters of divine right of kings to reign.
  - The Puritans within Parliament managed to pretty much outlaw Christmas throughout the 1640s & 1650s, because they objected to the excessive celebrations associated with it
  - Charles came into Parliamentary custody in January of 1647
  - He was put on trial for treason & executed in January of 1649, partly because of his belief in the divine right of kings but also because of he never strongly supported Puritan Calvinism within the Church of England

- 1649-1653 After the execution of Charles, Parliament established the Commonwealth of England (and Wales), which was to be governed by the English Council of State.
- 1650 – George Fox was charged with religious blasphemy for teaching that clergy were completely unnecessary; When he told the court they needed to “tremble at the Word of the Lord,” first the magistrate and then others began referring to his group of dissenters - Society of Friends - as “Quakers”
- 1653-1660 Parliament made Oliver Cromwell the Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England & Wales (later of Scotland & Ireland)
- 1653 – **(NORTH) CAROLINA** became an overflow colony for England’s Virginia colony, with the Church of England being its official church
  - The anti-Christmas Puritan attitude continued
  - 1655 – **DELAWARE** came became part of the **NEW NETHERLANDS**
  - When Cromwell died in 1658, his son Richard became Lord Protector for a brief period of time, being removed in 1659
  - 1660 - The English Governor of Scotland came to England in order to help restore the monarchy
- 1660-1685 The Reign of Charles II, King of England, Scotland and Ireland
- 1660 – Parliament granted pardons to all but 50 of the persons involved in the execution of King Charles I; The supposed body of Cromwell was exhumed and decapitated in condemnation of his actions; Christmas celebrations came back into favor
  - 1662 – A new Act of Conformity required that all clergy be ordained via the Church of England & that British office holders had to be members of the Church of England. Ministers & practitioners of “Non-conformist” sects continued to be subject to fines & imprisonment wherever the Church of England ruled
  - 1663 – **SOUTH CAROLINA** was deeded to eight English aristocrats as rewards for their service to the crown. The Church of England ruled here.
  - 1664 – **NEW JERSEY & NEW YORK & DELAWARE** came under English control. They all had a broad mixture of Protestant churches, including those who adhered to the Reformed faith.
  - 1684 – **PENNSYLVANIA** was started by a Quaker, William Penn, who was granted the land in repayment of debt King Charles II owed his late father; He established it as a refuge for those of his own faith, as well as for other “non-conformists” sects typically persecuted by the Church of England (**DELAWARE** was part of the land grant given to Penn)