

Great Awakening and Enlightenment

Social Studies Survey

Essential Question

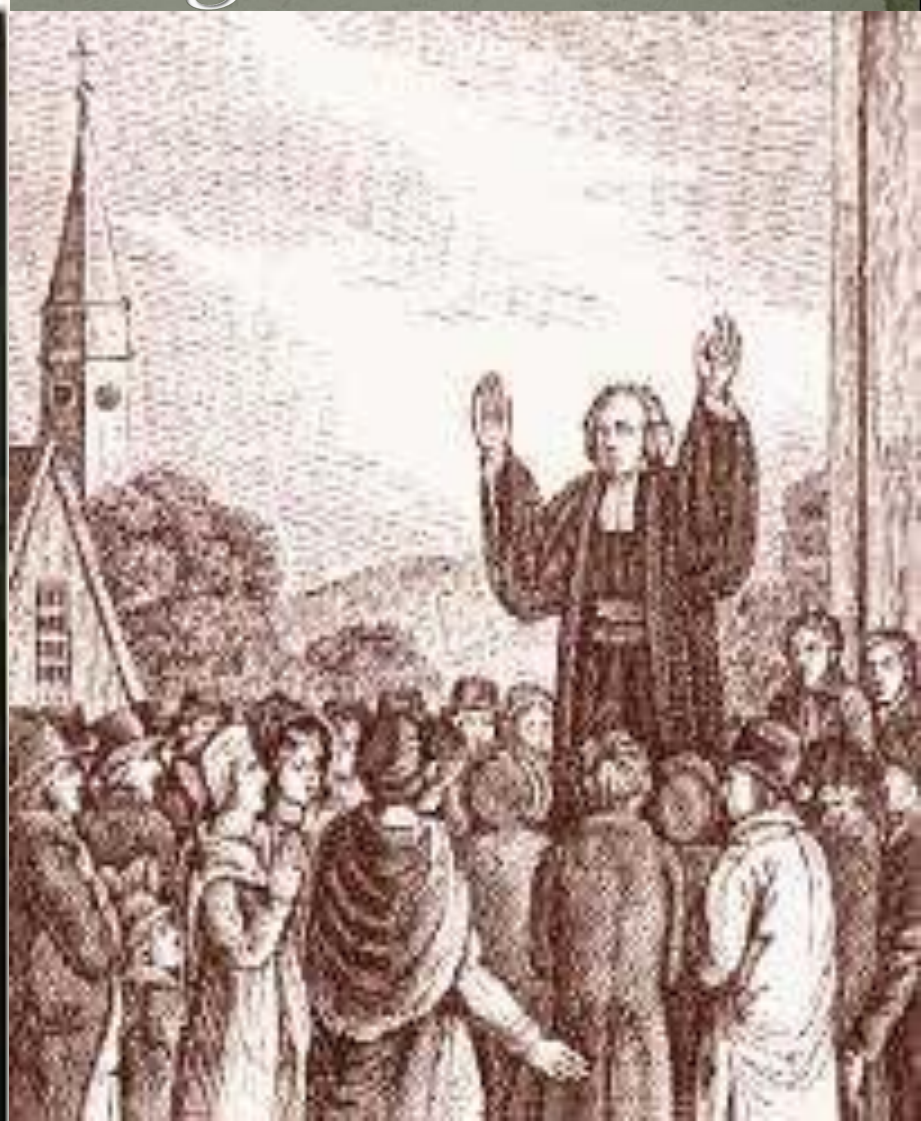
- How did the ideas and concepts spread during the Great Awakening and Enlightenment Periods help bring the colonists closer to a state of rebellion?



I CAN:

1. Explain the significance of the Great Awakening in American history
2. Identify key people that helped lead and spur the Great Awakening
3. Explain the significance of the Enlightenment in American history
4. Identify key people that helped to bring about new ideas during the Enlightenment
5. Juxtapose the importance of the Great Awakening and Enlightenment on American history

The Enlightenment Vs. The Great Awakening



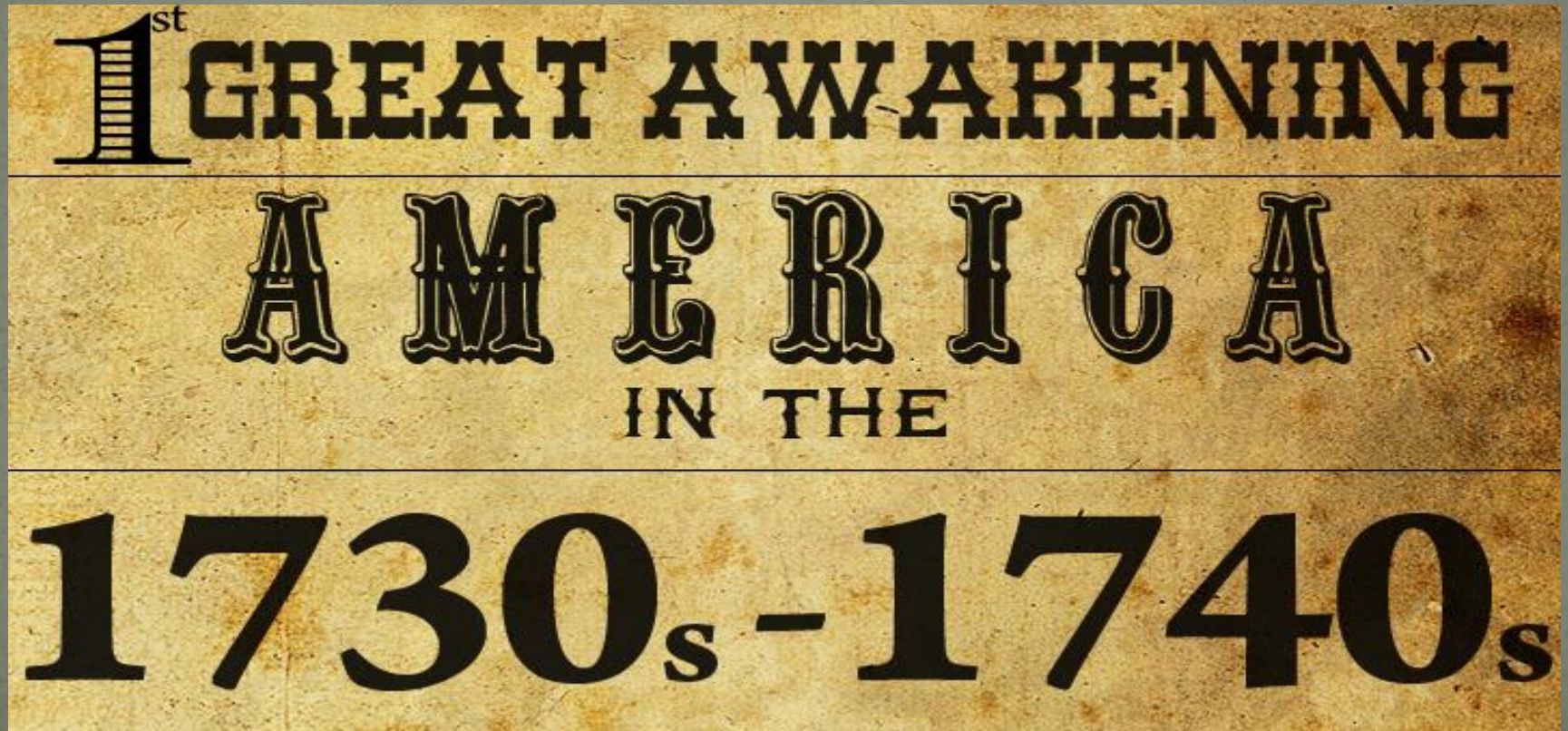
What is the Great Awakening?

- The Great Awakening was a movement rooted in **spiritual growth** which brought a **national identity** to Colonial America
- Certain Christians began to disassociate themselves with the **established/institutional** approach to worship
- People began to go to large gatherings for up to days at a time and worship and pray



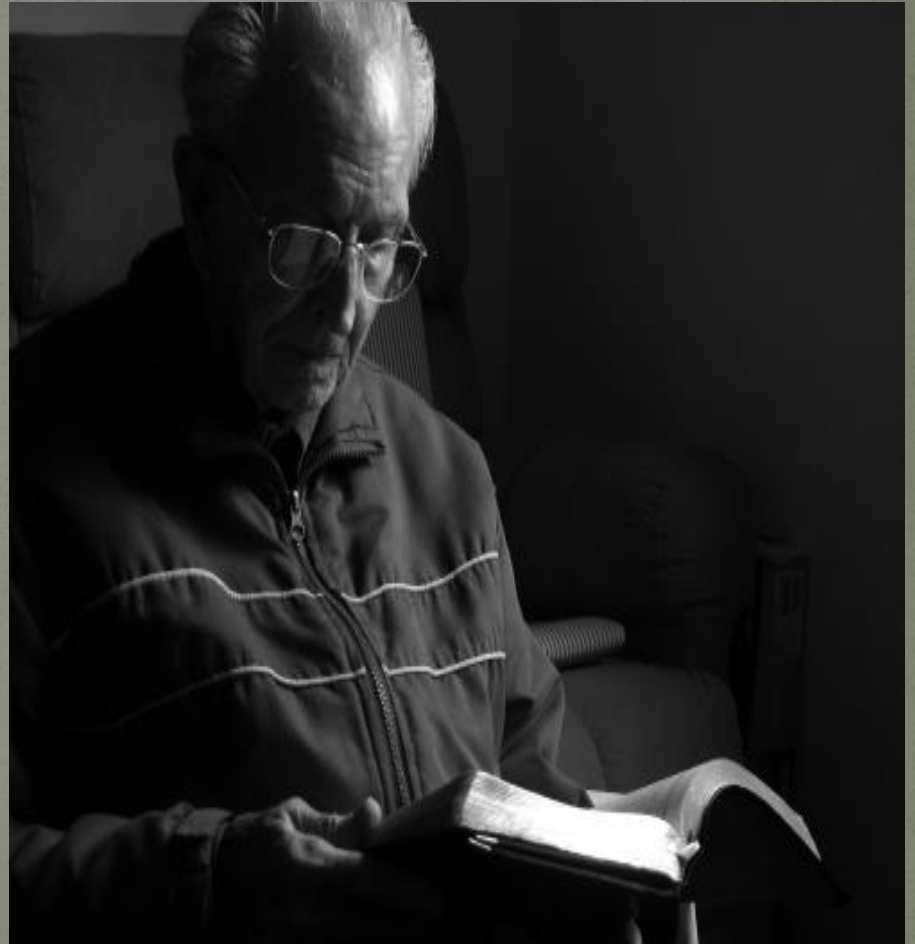
When was the Great Awakening?

- First Great Awakening took place during the 1730's-1740's in colonial America



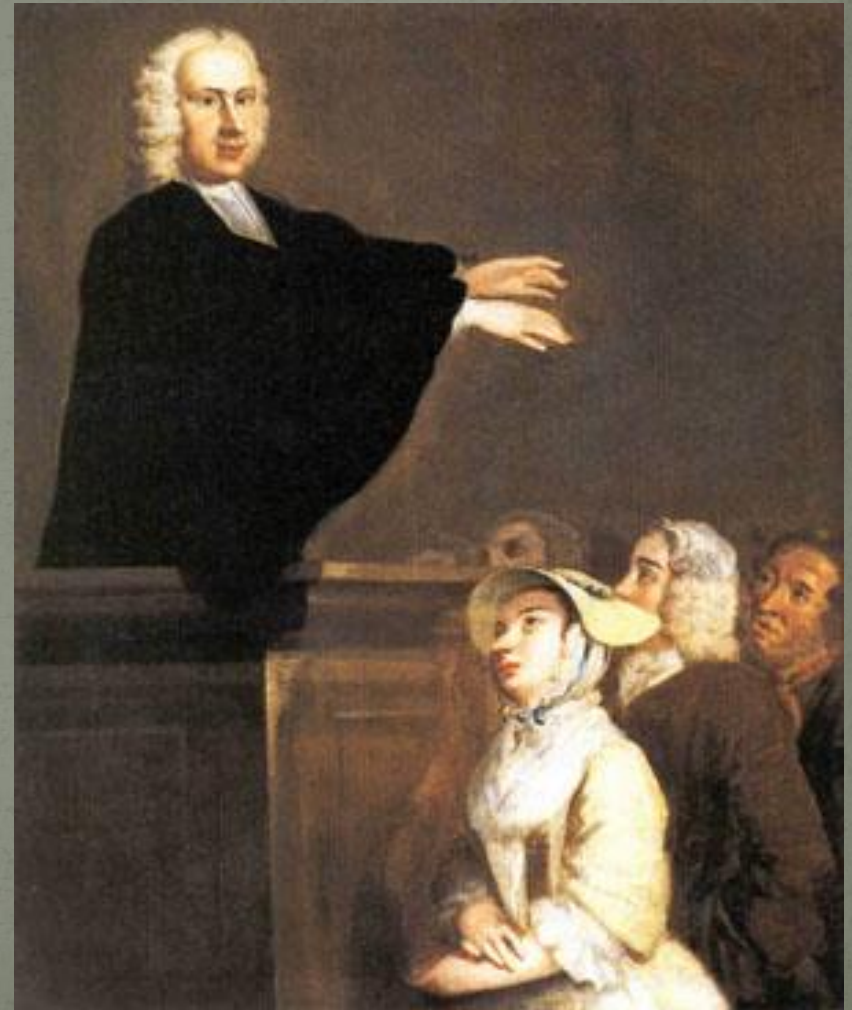
Reasons for The Great Awakening

- People felt that religion was **dry, dull** and **distant**
- Preachers felt that people needed to be concerned with inner **emotions** as opposed to outward **religious behavior**
- People in the New England area could now **read** and **interpret** the Bible for **themselves** (individualism rather than institutionalism)



Key People From the Great Awakening

- **George Whitfield**: Big name preacher in London who made many trips to America to preach
- Was called a “giant” in the pulpit because of his booming voice and authority shown in the pulpit
- He became an **itinerant** evangelist
- Given credit for beginning the Great Awakening



Key People From the Great Awakening

- **Jonathan Edwards**: Famous for his sermon “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”
- When Edwards preached his focus was more Hell based and intended to scare **sinners** to **salvation**
- Quote from his famous sermon: “The god that holds you over the pit of Hell, much as one holds a spider or other loathsome insect over the fire abhors you...his wrath toward you burns like a fire; he looks upon you as worthy of nothing else but to be cast into the fire”

The Great Awakening

- Who-

Jonathan Edwards-

preacher that is thought to start the revivals in Massachusetts and set the stage for other preachers to follow in the other colonies

George Whitefield-

a traveling preacher from London that spurred the causes of the Great Awakening in the southern colonies

Outcomes of the Great Awakening

- Birth of deep religious **convictions** in the colonies
- Colonists could be **bold** when confronting religious authority, and **break** away if they were not meeting expectations
- Just as with religion, **political power** did not reside with English Monarchs, but with colonists **self-governance**



Enlightenment

- Where the Great Awakening dealt with a spiritual revival, the Enlightenment dealt with scientific and intellectual reason
- The Enlightenment is often referred to as the age of reason
- Began with intellectuals in Europe and moved over to America



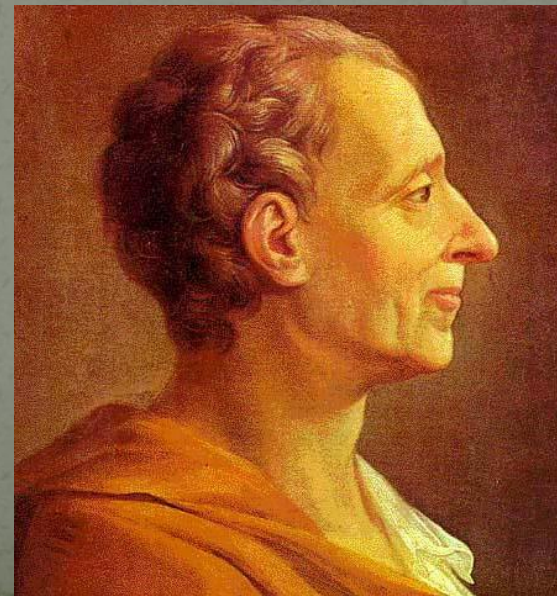
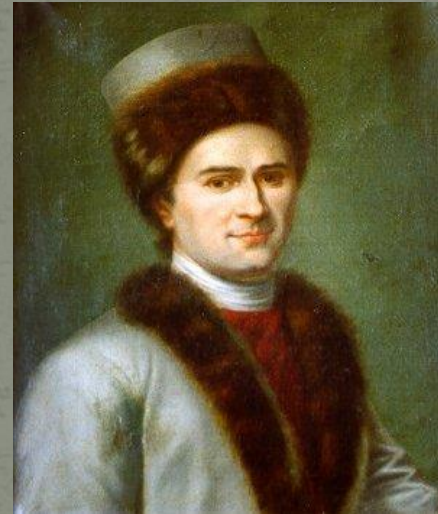
Enlightenment

- Begins in the late 17th-early 18th century
- Benjamin Franklin was considered the father of the enlightenment in America
- Thoughts and ideas were often spread in salons



Major Enlightenment Ideas

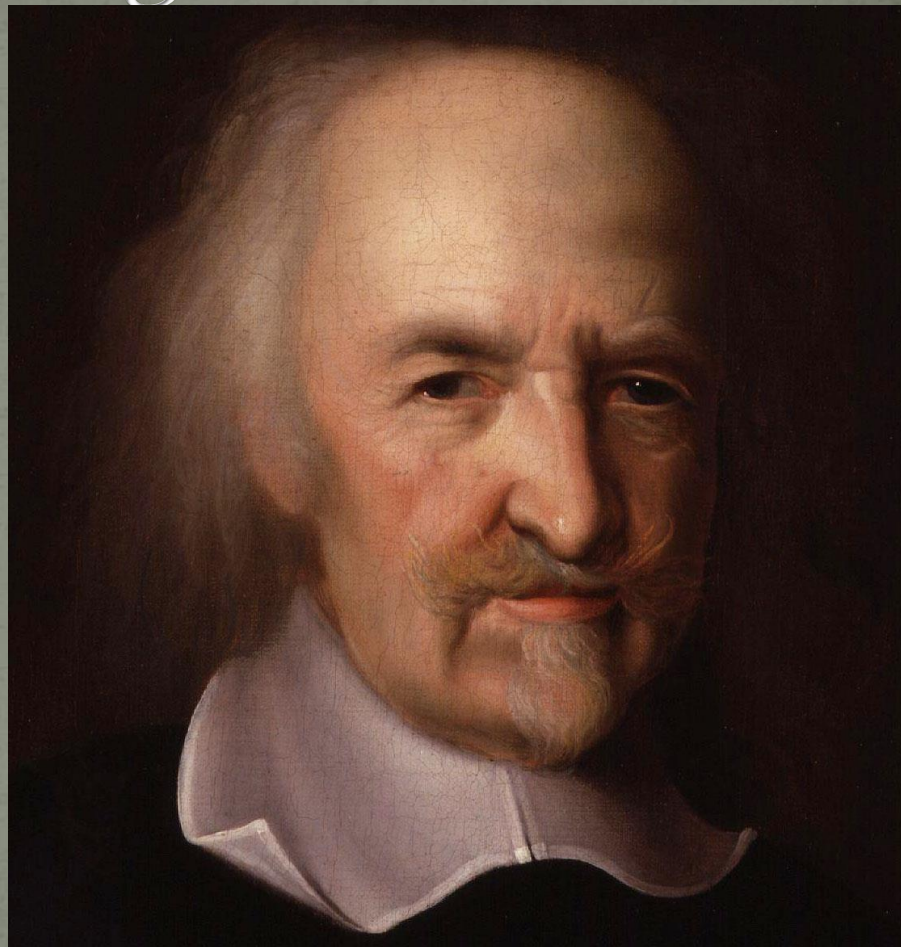
- Every social, political and economic problem could be solved through the use of reason and scientific method
- Governments are created to secure an orderly society and promote individual welfare (Hobbes, Rousseau, and Locke)
- Separation of powers is the best way to protect human liberties (Montesquieu in *Spirit of Laws*)



Quotes from the Enlightenment

- “war . . . of every man against every man,” and life would be “solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short.”

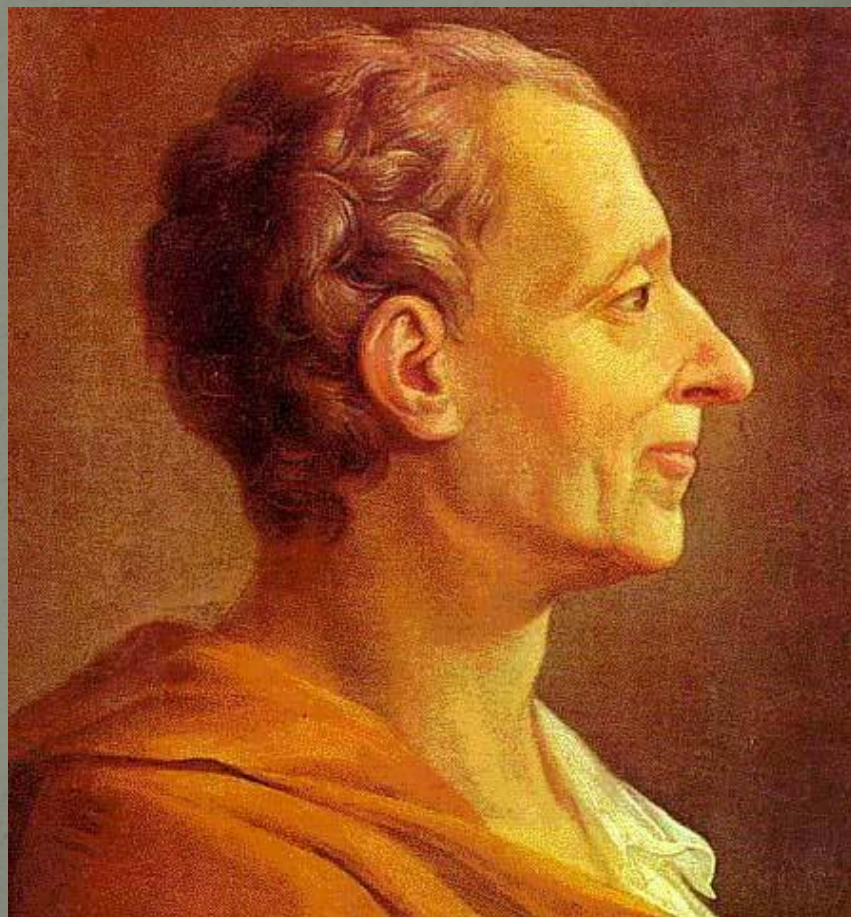
Thomas Hobbes



Quotes from the Enlightenment

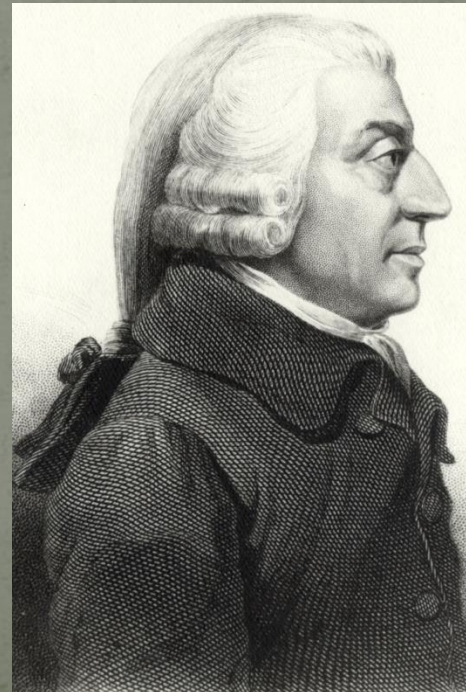
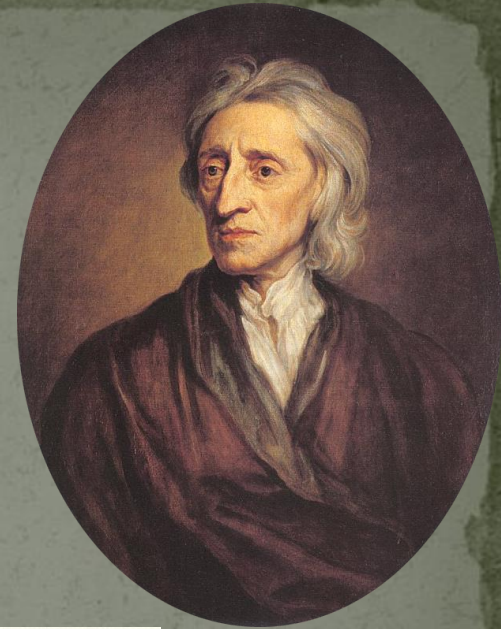
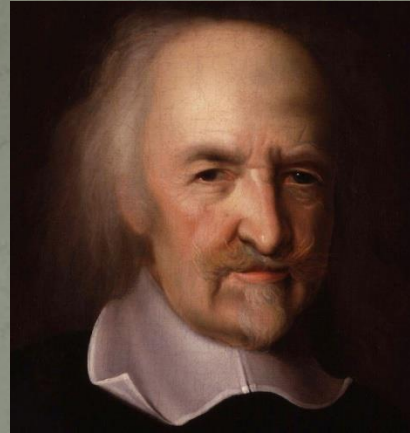
- “Power should be a check to power.”

Montesquieu



Ideas Cont.

- All men are created “free and equal” (comes from Thomas Hobbes *Leviathan*)
- Life, Liberty, and pursuit of happiness (John Locke life, liberty and estate)
- A free market should be allowed to regulate trade (Adam Smith *Wealth of Nations*)



Key People in the Enlightenment

- **John Locke**: father of enlightenment philosophy
- Played a major role in the development of our government through his ideas
- Believed governmental power was not derived through god to monarchs but rather was derived from the need to preserve “life, liberty, and property” of the governed
- Helped to develop key ideas (such as three branches of government) within a **democratic** system

Key People in the Enlightenment

- Baron de Montesquieu: Famous for developing **separation of powers**
- Rule by the people (democracy) is best as long as have a balance of power.
- Three main forms of government, each supported by social “principle”:
 1. Monarchies: rely on Honor (king or queen)
 2. Republics: rely on Virtue (rule by elected leader)
 3. Despotisms: rely on Fear (dictator)

Major Ideas of Enlightenment Thinkers

Idea	Thinker	Impact
Natural rights—life, liberty, property	Locke	Fundamental to U.S. Declaration of Independence
Separation of powers	Montesquieu	France, United States, and Latin American nations use separation of powers in new constitutions
Freedom of thought and expression	Voltaire	Guaranteed in U.S. Bill of Rights and French Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen; European monarchs reduce or eliminate censorship
Religious freedom	Voltaire	Guaranteed in U.S. Bill of Rights and French Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen; European monarchs reduce persecution

Quotes from the Enlightenment

- “I do not agree with a word you say but will defend to the death your right to say it.”

Voltaire

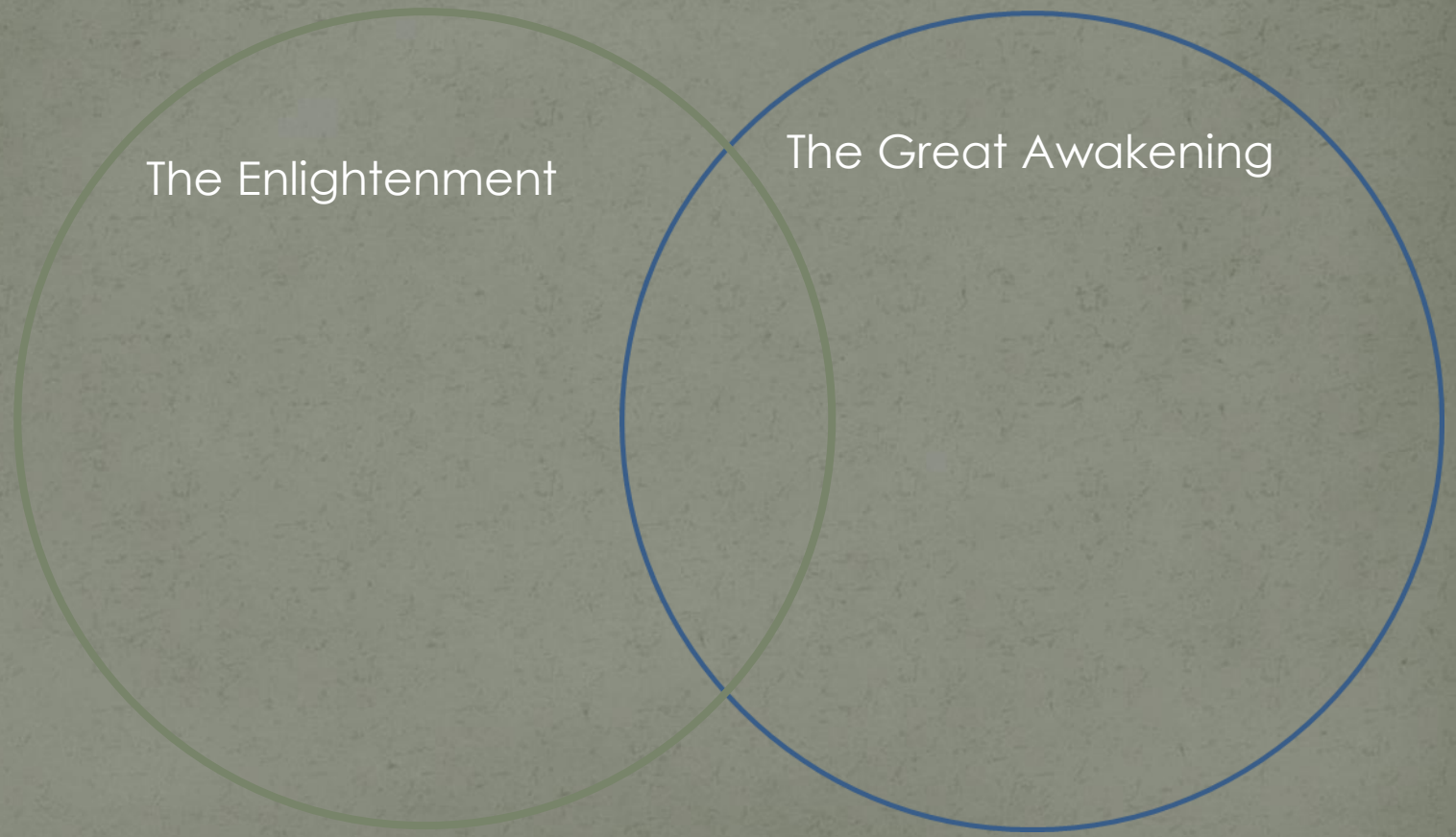


Enlightenment/Great Awakening

Compare and Contrast

- Enlightenment focuses more on **thought** and **scientific ideas** as opposed to **religious** ideas
- Enlightenment plays major impact on **government** and **society** whereas Great Awakening focuses more on **religious prosperity**
- Both play a major role in developing **individualism** where people can think on their own and determine what is best for them, not what is passed down from religious or governmental authorities.

Compare the Two



The Enlightenment spread where the Great awakening remained isolated

What you need to know

Where did the Enlightenment Occur?

-England

What were central ideas of the enlightenment?

-Science and reason

Where did the Great awakening occur?

-Early American colonies

What ideas did The Great awakening support?

-Enthusiastic religious waves

Which are true of both the Great awakening and the Enlightenment?

-Both brought about new ideas

Who is thought of as the first preacher of the Great Awakening?

- Jonathan Edwards

Who is one philosopher of the Enlightenment?

-John Locke

When is it thought that the Enlightenment period began?

- late 17th and Early 18th century

What was the perceived need that led to the Great Awakening?

- A change in Americans views on God

When did the Great Awakening Take place?

- Mid 1700's