

“American  
Revolution”

# **Reasons English Came to New World**

- 1. Escape Religious Persecution**
- 2. Land**
- 3. Economic Opportunity**
- 4. Self-Government**

## **Spread of Enlightenment Ideas**

- Increased focus on Rights,  
Freedoms, Equality**
  - John Locke**

# **EARLY BRITISH RELATIONS WITH COLONIES**

**1607 Jamestown**

**1660 “Navigation Acts”**

- **England concerned with TRADE, not governing**
  - **“Salutary Neglect” ...loose controls for trade relationship**
    - **sowed seeds of “self-government”**

# 1754

## **FRENCH and INDIAN WAR**

- **England and France**
- **England won**
- **Treaty of Paris (1763)**
- ❖ **ENGLAND DEVELOPED HUGE DEBT**

## **ALBANY PLAN**

- **Proposed by Ben Franklin**
- **Attempt to “unite” colonies**
- **Called for “Council of Delegates” from each colony, but with a leader appointed by British king**
- **REJECTED...wanted to control taxes / decisions**

# PROCLAMATION OF 1763



- **King George III // George Grenville**
- **Expected Colonists to pay a portion for British protection of the Colonies**
- **Use of “Writs of Assistance” to reduce smuggling**
  - **Infringed on rights of colonists**

*“And now will these Americans, children planted by our care, nourished up by our Indulgence until they are grown to a degree of strength and opulence, and protected by our arms, will they grudge to contribute their mite to relieve us from heavy weight of the burden which we lie under?”*

- Charles Townshend, British Politician

## SUGAR ACT 1764

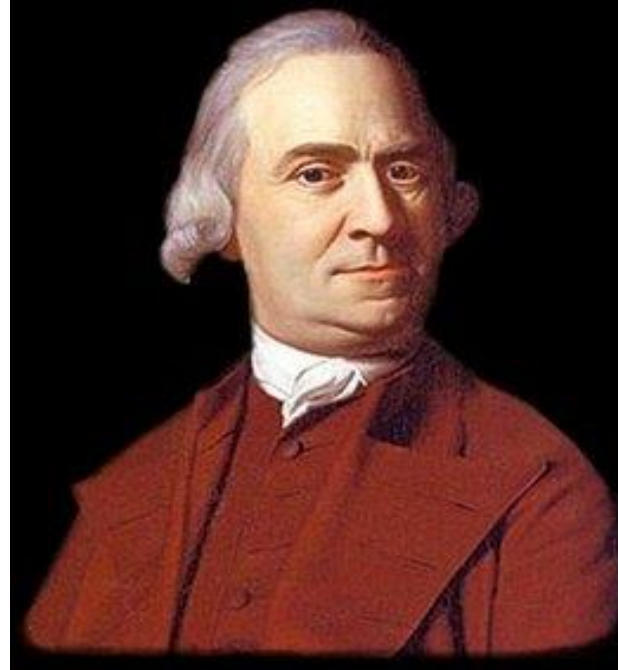
- **1<sup>st</sup> tax on colonists**
  - **protests**

# STAMP ACT 1765



- Tax on all printed materials
- required a “royal” stamp
  - Increased

## “SONS OF LIBERTY”



- Samuel Adams
- Resistance groups

# STAMP ACT CONGRESS 1765

- denied colonies could be taxed because they were not represented
  - the ability to tax is the ability to take away wealth
    - encouraged “boycott” of English goods
- 1766...Stamp Act was repealed by Parliament
  - Boycott was effective

# DECLARATORY ACT 1766

Parliament has...

*“full power and authority to make laws and statutes of sufficient force and validity to bind the colonies and people of America...in all cases whatsoever.”*

# **TOWNSHEND ACTS 1767**

- **Taxes on “common” goods (paper, tea, lead, paint, etc...)**
  - **Increased boycott of English goods**

# **BOSTON MASSACRE 1770**

- **“Liberty Boys”**
- **“Lobster Backs” opened fire**
  - **Killed 5...Crispus Attucks**
- **Paul Revere depicted shootings as a “massacre”**
- **British repealed Townshend Acts, except for “Tea Tax”**

# **GASPEE INCIDENT 1772**

- **British ship, Gaspee, ran aground and was set on fire**
- **King George III wanted “suspects” brought to England for trial**
  - **Colonists wanted local trial... “Trial by Jury”**
- **“Committees of Correspondence set up to communicate w/ colonies**



# **TEA ACT 1773**

- **British East India Tea Company was going bankrupt**
- **To help it recover, Parliament agreed to not tax them to ship their tea to the colonies**
  - **“BEITC” was also given rights to who could sell their tea**
    - **Gave “BEITC” a monopoly**
- **Although tea was now cheaper, if colonists bought the tea they would be “indirectly” acknowledging England’s right to tax them**
  - **Boycott failed...smuggling increased**

# **BOSTON TEA PARTY 12/16/73**

- **“Sons of Liberty” dressed up as Mohawk Indians**
  - **342 cases of tea were thrown overboard**
- **King George III...”the die is now cast, the colonies must submit or triumph”**

# **INTOLERABLE ACTS 1774**

- **King George was determined to make colonists obey England/Parliament**
  1. **Boston put under “Martial Law”**
  2. **Limited colonial “self-rule”**
  3. **Increased “Quartering” of troops**
  4. **Boston Harbor closed until tea was paid for**

## **1<sup>ST</sup> CONTINENTAL CONGRESS 1774**

- **Philadelphia**
- **Colonies have right to make their own laws**
- **Patrick Henry...”there are no differences between Virginians, New Yorkers, and New Englanders. I am not a Virginian, but am an American.”**
- **Beginning to prepare for revolt**

# **BATTLES OF CONCORD / LEXINGTON**

**4/19/1775**

**General, Thomas Gage, on way to Concord to confiscate colonial ammo**

- **Paul Revere, William Dawes, Sam Prescott... "1 if by land, 2 if by sea"**
  - **"Minutemen"**
  - **"Shot heard around the world"**

## **2<sup>ND</sup> CONTINENTAL CONGRESS 1775**

- **Olive Branch Petition**
- **Patrick Henry... "give me liberty or give me death"**
- **established "Continental Army" under General George Washington**

# **COMMON SENSE 1776**

- **Thomas Paine**
- **argued for “right” of colonists to fight for independence**

# **DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**

- **Thomas Jefferson** **7/4/1776**
- **Influenced by John Locke**
- **King George III wrote in his diary for the day “...nothing of importance.”**

# **BATTLE OF SARATOGA 1777**

- **Victory that became the turning point of revolution**
- **France joined America after**

# **BATTLE OF YORKTOWN 1781**

- **British General Cornwallis surrenders**
- **American Revolution is over**
- **Treaty of Paris (1783)**

# **ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION 1781**

- **1<sup>st</sup> Government...Central Gov't was created "intentionally weak"**
- **failure**

# **CONSTITUTION 1789**

- **est. Strong Central Gov't**
- **Federalism**
- **Bill of Rights (1791)**