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People of the Enlightenment

- Ben Franklin – American thinker, diplomat, and inventor

- John Locke – natural and capable people (Natural Rights)

  - Life, Liberty, & Property

  - Government must work for the people to protect Natural Rights

- Baron Charles de Montesquieu –

  - division of state (federalism) and separation of powers

- Sir Isaac Newton –

  - Scholar and mathematician regarded as the father of physical science

- Thomas Paine –

  - Profound influence on public sentiment during the American Revolution

- Jean Jacques Rousseau –

  - The Social Contract (1762) conceived of a system of direct democracy in which all citizens contribute to an overarching “general will” that serves everyone at once

The Great Awakening

- In the Early 1700s, many colonists lost the religious passion that had driven Pilgrims, Puritans and others to seek out a new life in America

- 1730s-1740 a religious revival began to sweep through the colonies lead by travelling ministers

Spreading the Great Awakening

- Began in the New England Colonies and spread.

- Travelling ministers preached that inner religious emotion was more important that outward behavior.

- The Sermons appealed to the heart/emotions and drew large crowds
Leaders of the Movement

George Whitefield

Jonathan Edwards

Effects of the Great Awakening

- Protestant groups began to expand
- Some groups welcomed women, African-Americans and Native Americans as members of the congregation
- Colleges such as Princeton and Brown were created to train Ministers

Effects of the Great Awakening

- Encouraged ideas of equality and the right to challenge authority
- These ideas inspired future generations to challenge the authority of the English government
  - Lead to the American Revolution and Declaration of Independence