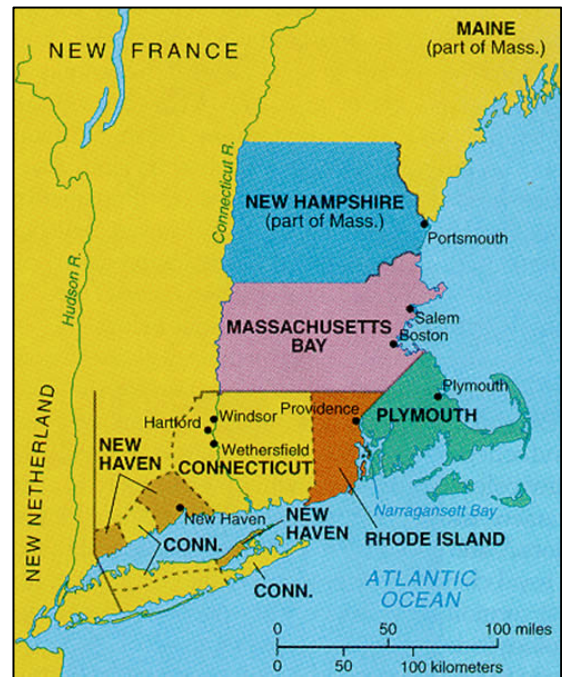


#621 Salem Rebellion, Salem Witchcraft – May 14, 1692: Increase Mather’s new charter for the Massachusetts Bay Colony reflected the transition from Puritan Theocracy to American Democracy, and thus *the voice/will of the people*

*John 18:36 (KJV) Jesus answered, **MY KINGDOM IS NOT OF THIS WORLD**: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.*

A new charter for Massachusetts Bay. Increase Mather was able to secure a new charter for the Massachusetts Bay Colony that united the Plymouth Colony with it. It was signed on October 7, 1691, and was a major departure from its predecessor, granting sweeping home rule, establishing an elective legislature, and enfranchising all free men. Previously, only men admitted to a congregation could vote. Increase Mather was dissatisfied with the new charter because of its less theocratic nature. He and Royal Governor William Phips returned to Massachusetts, arriving on May 14, 1692.

Key Understanding: *Increase Mather’s new charter for the Massachusetts Bay Colony reflected the transition from Puritan Theocracy to American Democracy. This event represented the great transition of America from Puritan theocracy to American democracy. The Puritans, of course, had always been in general opposition to the idea of governments of democracy because the rule of a government would expand beyond those in the church to all free men.*



New England colonies, 1650

Increase Mather and William Phips arrived in the Massachusetts Bay Colony on May 14, 1692, with a new charter that reflected the transition of the *City Upon a Hill* from the spirit of a Puritan theocracy to the spirit of American democracy. It is important to see how the Puritan association with and reliance upon *the voice/will of the people* in the English Parliament – a Parliament that invited William III to rule England and submit to the English Bill of Rights – automatically created the way in America for the transition from Puritan theocracy to American democracy, which would, of course, become fully represented by the *‘habitation of devils’* U.S. Bill of Rights of December 15, 1791. Remember, Ronald Reagan’s *City on a Hill* farewell address of January 11, 1989, added to that mixture of Puritan theocracy/American democracy by labeling John Winthrop as “an early freedom man.”

The fact that the Lord ordained the occurrence of the Boston-Salem *habitation of devils* at this particular time in America’s history makes all the more sense, for in 1 Samuel 15:23-24

the Lord connects *the voice/will of the people* with *rebellion* and the sin of *witchcraft*. The first order of business for the new Massachusetts Bay Colony charter – a charter that reflected more of a spirit of American democracy and *the voice/will of the people* – was the Salem Witchcraft Trials.

*1 Samuel 15:23 (KJV) FOR [1688-1692 Mather] **REBELLION** [in conjunction with the Glorious Revolution/English Bill of Rights of 1688-1689] **IS AS THE SIN OF** [1688-1692 Boston-Salem] **WITCHCRAFT**, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.*

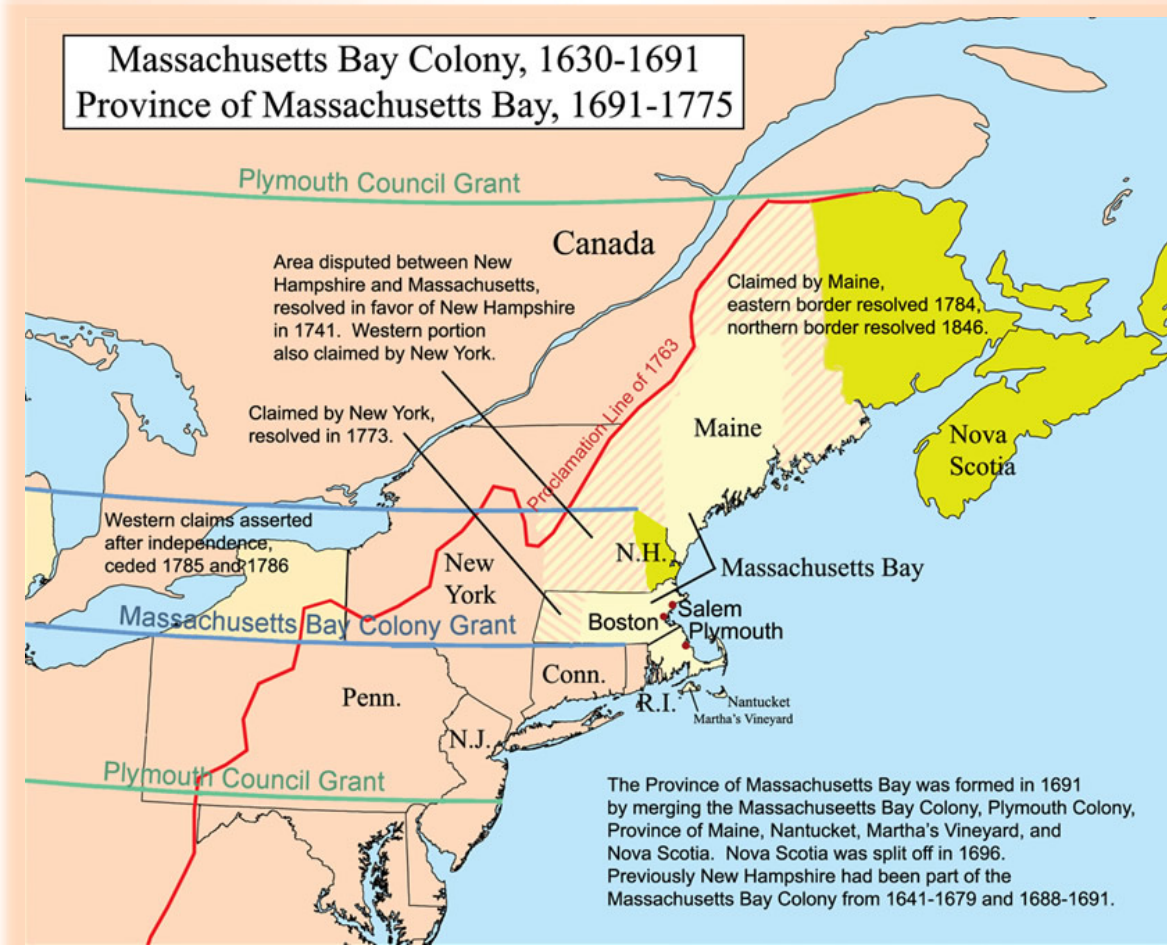
*1 Samuel 15:24 (KJV) And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because **I FEARED THE PEOPLE, AND OBEYED THEIR VOICE.***

Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1630-1691
represented

Province of Massachusetts Bay, 1691-1775
represented the transition
from Puritan Theocracy to

PURITAN THEOCRACY

AMERICAN DEMOCRACY



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