

#1439 (Re)building the Walls of the Christian New Israel and the Jewish new Israel – The first American Nehemiah: John Winthrop, part 1, Nehemiah and Jerusalem; Winthrop and Salem

Cotton Mather, grandson of John Cotton and Richard Mather [reference Unsealing #597], was the author of more than 450 books and pamphlets. He set the “moral tone” for early America, sounding the call for second and third generation Puritans (whose parents and grandparents had departed England for the New England colonies) to return to the theological roots of Puritanism.



The most important of Cotton Mather’s works was *Magnalia Christi Americana* (1702), in which Mather famously described John Winthrop as *Nehemiah Americanus*, or an “American Nehemiah.” What is meant by John Winthrop being an “American Nehemiah” is that he (Winthrop) was responsible for building the new Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Magnalia Christi Americana, or, *The Ecclesiastical History of New-England; From Its First Planting, in the Year, 1620, unto the Year of Our Lord 1698*, 2 volumes (commonly known as “Mather’s Magnalia”), by Cotton Mather

Here is #1439–Doc 1, a biography on John Winthrop from the Christian History Institute. The primary purpose of choosing this particular biography is not necessarily to read through the entire article, but to note its title, **John Winthrop: An American Nehemiah**:

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Christian History Institute Presents Glimpses #22: John Winthrop: An American Nehemiah © 2007

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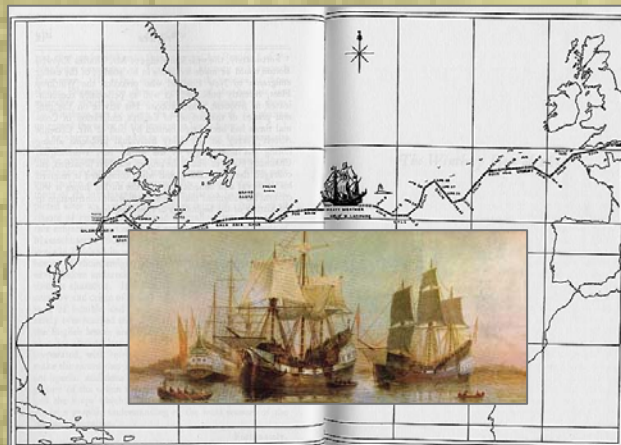
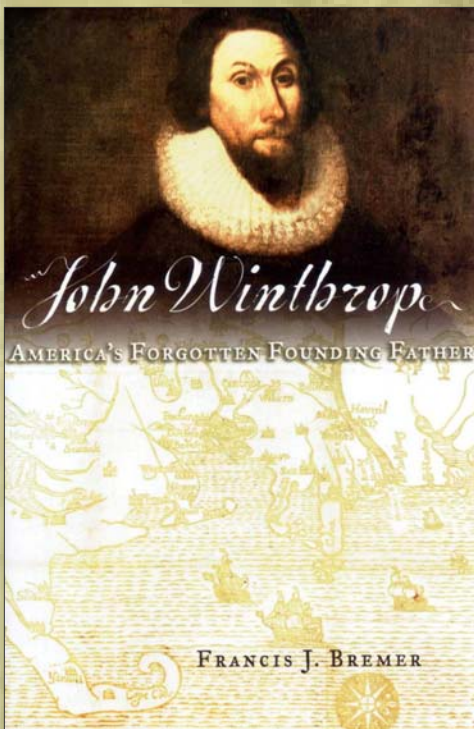
Key Understanding: *Linking Nehemiah and John Winthrop, the American Nehemiah, through Jerusalem and Salem.* John Winthrop is known in history as an “American Nehemiah.” The biblical Nehemiah journeyed to rebuild the Walls of *Jerusalem*, while John Winthrop, the American Nehemiah, journeyed to build *Salem* – the name for ancient Jerusalem – and Boston, as “Cities Upon a Hill.”

Nehemiah 2:17 (KJV) Then said I [Nehemiah] unto them, Ye see the distress that we are in, how JERUSALEM LIETH WASTE, and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and LET US BUILD UP THE WALL OF JERUSALEM, that we be no more a reproach.

Nehemiah
journeyed to
rebuild the walls of *Jerusalem*



The American Nehemiah,
John Winthrop, journeyed to
build *Salem* – the name for
ancient *Jerusalem* – and
Boston, as “cities upon a hill”



The route of the Winthrop Fleet. The fleet of 11 ships carrying the residents of the Massachusetts Bay Colony landed at Salem and Charlestown in 1630. John Winthrop, aboard the *Arbella*, landed at North River near Salem on June 12, 1630.

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