

The Real “Heretics”, Catholics, Arminians, Deists, and Anglicans

- Catholics: Pope was the Anti-Christ, etc. Remember that Martin Luther, Calvin, etc., was only 100 years earlier. Problem was that the French were Catholics and constant nemesis. Captives were taken to French settlement town and the younger ones were converted to Catholicism.
- **Anglicans and Puritans Clash**
- Though the different Puritan movements in England never united completely, they all rejected the elaborate rituals, decoration and hierarchy of the Anglican Church and wanted to move it further away from its Catholic roots. The Puritans sought to simplify religious practice and abandon traditions that were not grounded in scripture. There were also socially rooted disagreements between Puritans and Anglicans that related to issues such as the observance of the sabbath. The disagreement between Anglicans and Puritans became increasingly political in the 17th century, with the monarchy fighting to keep control through the state-run Church of England, and the Puritans, represented more and more in Parliament, pushing back. The result was civil war and the temporary abolition of the monarchy. King Charles I was beheaded in 1649 and Oliver Cromwell, the Puritan leader of the Parliamentary army, became Lord Protector of England.





Calvinism, Arminianism, and Deism

What is the difference between Puritans and Presbyterians? We are still here and they are not. Church government, Congregational vs. national.

	Calvinism	Arminianism
Election	Election is by God’s sovereign grace. God did not foresee. The number of the elect is fixed. God is not the author of sin.	God decreed to save those who believe in Christ and leave in sin those who did not. By foreseen knowledge God knew who would believe and elected those.
Effect of Christ’s death	Christ’s death was a substitutionary death for the elect. We preach the gospel to all	Christ died equally for all men though only believers obtain its efficacy.

	because we don't know who are saved.	Universal atonement not universal redemption.
Man's free will	Sin corrupted all of man's faculties including the will. Man is unable to do good by God's standards.	Sin did not affect the will so the will is not in bondage. Man has free will.
Grace	Saving grace is irresistible but grace is resistible after salvation.	No such thing as saving grace; Prevenient grace God has given the gift of grace to everyone to allow them to respond. grace is resistible after salvation.
Perseverance	The saints will persevere because God works in them.	Possible for true believers to fall from grace; must continue in the faith.

Deism. Began as a reaction to the religious wars (Catholic/Protestant) in the 16th and 17th centuries. Also was influenced by the interest in world wide exploration and the discovery of new people groups.

-  Believed in God but not the Bible because it was "particular"
-  Believed that God must somehow reveal himself to all people so that everyone has an equal chance to know God. How to do that? It must be through nature (not just physical nature but 'natural theology' in that everyone knows what is right and wrong)
-  The belief that God created the world and set it in motion but does not control events (Providence). The so-called clock maker God.
-  Led to a belief that God = nature, and so God could not change nature and so miracles were impossible (Jefferson's bible).

Edwards saw Deism as much more a threat than Arminianism because Deists rejected the Bible entirely.