The Knights Templar IV

“Ye Shall Know Them by the Fruit of their Will”

Matthew 7:16

Establishing the Ideal for America

Andrew Linnell
Asking questions is OK

• First Half - Historical
  – Brief Historical Review of Knights Templar
  – The Stream that Formed America

• Second Half – Secrets, Esoteric Wisdom
  – Concepts and terminology
    • Concepts herein may be difficult
    • Not a religious lecture, rather we’ll try to understand the Mysteries
  – Wisdom of the Knights Templars hidden in:
    • Architecture
    • Art
    • Answer why? Effect on America
Surface: Outer History

- First Crusade to the Holy Lands 1096-1099 succeeds
  - Jerusalem and coastal area comes under European control
  - Godfroi de Boullion - Count Hugues de Champagne – Hugues de Payens
    - Hugh de Champagne returns to the Holy Land in 1104-5, 1108, and 1114
- Pope Urban II asks Hugues de Payens to return 1118 to find the Ark of the Covenant
  - King Baldwin grants Hugues and his 7 relatives a base on Mont Moriah
    - Excavate under Solomon’s Temple and Al Aqsa [Dome of the Rock] mosque
- Birth of the Templars: 1119 to 1128
  - No warfare, no military mission at this time.
  - Something comes over the group – changes their “aura”
  - Hugues sent to Europe for the Council de Troyes in 1128
    - At the Council great presence of Cistercians and Benedictines
      - Council delegates St. Bernard of Clairvaux to write the rules of the Templar Order
        » First Monk-Knight order. Fusing streams theme.
        » Order appears to be assuming all the layman tasks of the monasteries
    - Many join from across Europe – branches and churches spring up
      - Compare to Hospitallers who have same mission: Protect pilgrims in Holy Land
  - Bestowed immense possessions
    - 1128: Mary of Portugal gives Templars Castle of Soure on the Mondego
- Successful in warfare in Mideast due to fearlessness even when 3X force
- Builders: more than 150 cathedrals built in first 100 years
  - Gothic architecture appeared complete in 1130, with no previous ‘trial period’
  - It is extraordinary that all the craftsmen are so quickly present to build
  - Gothic stain glass remains a mystery to this day – disappears with the Templars
Surface History – End of the Templars

- Fourth Crusade, 1204 Sack of Constantinople, Relics
  - Now lose battles in Holy Lands, eventually driven out
    - Call for Templars and Hospitaller forces to be combined
  - Christian on Christian wars: Persia, Germanic tribes (Vandals), others
    - Heretics, Reformation,
- Continued as important force for change in European society till end
  - King Philip seeks to seize their gold for power (1300-1314)
    - “Babylonian captivity” of the Pope (Avignon) – Philip’s boyhood friend, 1305
    - 1307: de Molay summoned to France by King Philip. October: Gestapo-like sweep
      - Torture of Templars, forced “confessions” – burning at the stake
  - Smear campaign – secret declaration of innocence by the Pope Clement V
  - Templars rounded up across Europe save Scotland & Portugal (1307-1311)
    - Scottish rites of the Freemason
    - Replay of the Destruction of Manichaeists and other heretics
  - Council of Vienna 1314 – forced by Philip to condemn the Templars
  - “Curse” of Jacques de Molay – both Philip and the Pope dead within 1 yr.
  - Neither Templar wealth nor archives have ever been found
Following Templar Extermination

- Both Philip and Clement are dead within a year
- Great Famine 1315-1317
- Black Plague 1347-1351
- 60-75% of Europeans die
- 1337-1453 100 Year War
  - Joan of Arc
- Birth of Renaissance. Role of Florence. Templar schools
  - Resurrection of Greece. Christian & Greek Mythology themes in art
  - 1413: Age of Aries ends, Age of Pisces begins: Consciousness Soul development
  - 1492: Columbus – America. Islam and Jews driven out of Spain
Knights Templars Lecture 3 Summary

- Healing of Christendom
  - Illness from 333 when center moved from west to east
  - And as a remedy for the ills of today
- Offered example of a healthy Christian life
  - Never sought notoriety, no longer my blood but Christ in me
- Carrying Europe from end of Aries age to Pisces (1413)
  - Embedded the mysteries into Art and Architecture
    - Wisdom of Aries Age would die out – had to go into form for the unconscious
      - Humankind had to sink deeper into materialism
    - Overcame ethnicities, nationalities
    - Advanced the arts of craftsmen, architects, builders for Renaissance
- Carried forward the mysteries
  - School of Chartres and others
  - Suffered same fate as the Manichaeists – total and brutal destruction
    - Mid-point was 869 when Christian Church denied the spirit in Man
    - Similar fate befell Paulicians in the East and Cathars in the West
  - Passing to Freemasonry, Rosicrucianism, and the Founding of America
Templar Castle Tomar, Portugal

- Built in 1160 as a stronghold for the Knights Templar
- Now Convent of Christ
- Templars who built the Gothic cathedrals formed a group known as the Children of Solomon. This branch was instructed in the art of sacred geometry. Knights Templar who, acting with the agreement of Bernard of Clairvaux, gave a 'rule' to the Children of Solomon in March 1145, which laid down the conditions required for living and working. The preface to his rule contains these words: “We the Knights of Christ and of the Temple follow the destiny that prepares us to die for Christ. We have the wish to give this rule of living, of work, and of honor to the constructors of churches so that Christianity can spread throughout the earth not so that our name should be remembered, Oh Lord, but that Your Name should live.”
School of Chartres – Rise of Platonism

• John Scotus Erigena (815–877) Greek scholar
  – First to translate Plato and Dionysius the Areopagite into Latin
  – Head of Palatine Academy later Palace School in France
    • Established by Charlemagne
  – All creatures--angels, humans, and devils--will eventually come to a harmony in God's kingdom
  – 869 AD – 8th Ecumenical Council declared it heresy to speak of a human spirit
• Plato’s *Timaeus* and Cicero's *Dream of Scipio*
• Bernard of Chartres (? – 1124+?)
  – Chancellor of Chartres School until 1124
  – Students included Gilbert de la Porrée and William of Conches
• John of Salisbury (1120 – 1180), English author, diplomat, and bishop of Chartres
  – Student of Gilbert de la Porrée
  – Presented by Bernard of Clairvaux to Theobald, archbishop of Canterbury, who sponsors him in England about 1150
• Alanus ab Insulus (Alain de l’Isle) (1128-1203)
  – Platonism, Pythagoreanism/Hermes, and Aristoteleanism
Chartres

- About 80 km from Paris
- The original Church of 876 housed the Sancta Camisia, Mary’s tunic
  - From Charlemagne
- First cathedral burnt 1020
- Popular pilgrimage destination in the 1100s
- 2nd fire 1134 – tunic OK
- Cathedral rebuilt 1145
- 3rd fire 1194 – tunic OK
- Cathedral rebuilt 1220
Chartres’ Labyrinth – why in a church?

- Daedalus and Labyrinth for Minotaur
Chartres Art

- 152 of the original 186 stained-glass windows, have survived
- Particularly renowned for their vivid blue colors
- Legend has it that Hugh de Payen, having found the Ark of the Covenant, deposited it for safekeeping in the crypt of Chartres Cathedral, where it remained for centuries. The carving on a pillar at Chartres represents the Ark being transported on some type of wheeled vehicle, a cart or, possibly, a wheelbarrow.
- With Templars went the art of stained glass windows
Raphael: School of Athens

- Peter and Paul? Plato and Aristotle? Cain and Abel?

1 Cor 2:7 Paul places Dionysius the Areopagite in charge of the School of Athens to cultivate the “hidden wisdom of God”

Two Streams
1. Heavens
2. Earth
Sandro Botticelli: Birth of Venus

Rebirth of Greece  (Uffizi Gallery, Florence)

Earth
Water
Air

Where is Fire?

- ans: within - right hand on heart – birth of conscious love

Note: copper hair and sea shell - alchemy
Face of Venus - Botticelli

- Indescribable Beauty
- Greek cultural expression of beauty reemerges
- Importance of the Etheric/Life body
- Etheric makes beautiful forms
  - Nature & human
- A life without beauty = Issues for next life
- Templars: Strength, Beauty, & Wisdom
Fra Angelico (1395-1455)

Templar devotion to Feminine: Isis/Sophia/Mary

Beauty
Inner space
• heart
• garden
• fence with wilderness behind – John the Baptist “I am a voice crying out in the wilderness”
Raphael (1483-1520, Good Friday)
Combining the Jesus of Luke and Matthew

- Dead Sea Scroll (Essene)
  - Damascus Document
    "The Messiah, which is the Son of Joseph will be made one with the Son of David, but he will be killed..."

  "Another Messiah, the son of Joseph, will unite himself with the Messiah, the son of David. But the son of Joseph will not remain in life, he will be killed and will become alive again, when the little hill receives life upon the great hill."

  "There shall come a star out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel."

  Name change at initiation: Jacob to Israel

- God of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob

- Secret could not be revealed until 1909
  - By Rudolf Steiner

- St. Ambroglio altarpiece, attributed to Giovanni Martino Spanzotti
  - Vinci’s name is on the back in 3 places

http://www.transintelligence.org/Occult%20Christological%20Research/weretheretwo.htm
Depicting how both Jesus' 4-fold beings merge

Reproduction by Depatie Bros for monastery

Luke story: Matthew story:
Priest-Abel  King-Cain
Da Vinci and Agrippa

Also an image of man in square
not shown
God the Geometer – Rise of Materialism

13th century manuscript

- Supported by Alchemists, Rosicrucians, & Masons
- Age of Enlightenment
- Religious freedom
- I can know
  - Everything obeys mathematical laws
- New social/world order
  - Social engineering
American History: The Vikings

• Captain Rollo the Walker conquers St. Cler, Normandy
  – In 911, King Charles the Simple offers Rollo a treaty.
    • Rollo would stop killing his citizens and become Christian. In return the King gave Rollo his daughter in marriage and made him 1st Duke of Normand
  – 5 generations later, William the Conqueror wins the Battle of Hastings
• Greenland had been discovered by Viking Gunnbjorn in 983 and settled by Erik the Red ca. 985
• Viking runestones dating to the 11th century
  – Found in Kensington, Minnesota and Heavener, Oklahoma
  – Danish/Norman Viking, Wilhelm (William the Conqueror) defeated the Saxons at the Battle of Hastings in 1066. Norsemen become the rulers of Britain.
  – Hugues de Payens and the Templars would have known Vikings in the Crusade
    • Templar Portuguese sailors mingled with the Viking sailors
  – King Richard the Lionheart, one of England's greatest kings, was a direct descendent of William, a Viking descendent. During the era of the Crusades, the Norman Vikings had landholdings as far away as in Syria & Lebanon.
Were the Knights Templars in America?

• Basilique de la Madeleine in Vezelay
  – 1050 the monks claim to hold the relics of Mary Magdalene
  – 1132 church rebuilt by Templars around old church
  – Sculpture of man, woman, infant with giant ears.
    • The man wears a Viking helmet, the woman is bare except for a long skirt with Indian face. Incas had the strange habit of elongating their ears.
    • Did the sculptor know of these Indianized Vikings?
      – Did the Templars visit the Americas?

• The Seal of the Templar Order. It bears the inscription Secretum Templi. In the center stands an American Indian figure.
  – It has a feathered headdress of the kind only used in North America and Mexico
The Sinclairs and Scotland

• The Sinclairs
  – The St Clairs clan after a knight called William de St Clair
    • He fights at Hastings 1066
    • Yet his family become noted opponents of King William the Conqueror
    • He had a claim to the throne of England whereas William the Conqueror had none, being the illegitimate son of Robert, Duke of Normandy.
  – William Sinclair, disenchanted over the King's aggressive expansion of his new kingdom, left England to become steward to Queen Margaret and King Malcolm III of Scotland.
    • He becomes known as William the Blond and Seemly Sinclair.
  – Starting with William, 1st baron of Rosslyn and cupbearer to the King and Queen of Scotland, many Sinclair generations and branches became Lords, Barons and lairds of Orkneys, Caithness, and Fife
  – The first Templar preceptory outside the Holy Land was built on the St. Clair/Sinclair Estate in Scotland

*The Preceptory of Prince Henry St Clair of the Scottish Knight Templars*
Sinclair Family

• Henri Sinclair (1060-1110) born in Roslin Castle
  – Fought in the crusade 1096-1099 alongside Hugues de Payens
    • de Payens married Henri’s niece Catherine; dowry was lands in Scotland
• In 1307, many Templars escaped to Scotland
  – Enjoyed Sinclair protection
• In 1314, with Templar help, Bruce-led Scots defeat England.
  – The Sinclair and Bruce families were related through various marriages that furthered their alliance
• There are many Templar graves in the Sinclair family cemetery
• Henry Sinclair (1345-1400) Lord Chief Justice of Scotland, Admiral of the Seas, Baron of Roslin, Earl of Orkney, and Lord of Shetland
  • Orkney people were predominantly Norse Vikings and ‘belonged’ to Norway
  • Henri was made the Earl in 1379 in Marstrand, Sweden
  • This made Henri next in rank to the Scandinavian Royal family
• Sinclairs were the patrons of the Freemason guilds into which the inheritors of the Knight Templars survived. They would be named by James II of Scotland as the guardian family of Freemasonry
• Sinclairs of Roslin were Hereditary Grand Masters of Masons in Scotland 1437-1736
  – The office became elective: William Sinclair elected 1st Grand Master
• Many Sinclairs fought against England – even in America
According to Fredrick J. Pohl,

- Henry Sinclair built a fleet of ships larger than the navy of Norway.
- He gained adherents from the princely Zeno family of Venice, who were great sailors and who made available to him the new invention of cannon. Both the Zeno and the Sinclair families have often been associated with the Knights Templar, who were also great sailors.

According to Pete Cummings and others, soon

- Henry used many of his ships and his Italian expert to sail to Nova Scotia in 1398 and to Massachusetts in 1399. He may even have gone to Rhode Island, where evidence suggests that he built Newport Tower.
- His grandson William, first Sinclair Earl of Caithness, immortalized that voyage (among many other things) in stone at Rosslyn Chapel, near Edinburgh.
Masons and the Founding of America

• Lord Jeffery Amherst, French and Indian War
  – 1758-60 Commander of the British army in NA

• General Arthur Sinclair (1736 – 1818)
  – 1764 was the largest landowner in Western Pennsylvania
  – Dies in Greensburg, Pennsylvania in poverty – his vast wealth dissipated by generous gifts
  – 9th President of the Continental Congress
  – General in the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War – believed to have formed strategy for Crossing the Delaware
  – Highest-ranking officer in the US Army (1791–1792)
  – The only territorial governor of the Northwest Territory (OH – MN)
    • Cincinnati Society's motto reflects the ethic of selfless service
America’s Seeing Eye Pyramid

Great Seal of the United States

- All Seeing Eye of the Spirit, placed above a pyramid
  - Egyptian and the Mayan initiation chamber.
  - Symbol represents spiritual vision to the Rosicrucians and the Freemasons.
- Designed by Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and Ben Franklin
  - Final version by Charles Thomson, 1782
- Minted in 1789. 1933 President Roosevelt puts it on the dollar bill

From: *The Deeper, Secret Roots of America's Founding*
  by McLaughlin and Davidson
• Several intriguing Latin phrases:
  – Annuit Coeptus ("God Favors Our Endeavors")
  – Novus Ordo Seclorum ("The New Order of the Ages")
  – E Pluribus Unum ("Out of Many, One") not only reflects the unity of the original thirteen states but on a deeper level takes diversity and fuses these into one.

• The eagle on the front side of the Seal represents spiritual vision
  – Eagle holds a sheaf of arrows, war, and in the other the olive branch, peace.
  – The bird looks to the West – the direction of cultural movement
  – Above the eagle is the Rosicrucian symbol of the Son, “In Christos Morimor”

• The number 13 is used 13 times in the Great Seal—in the number of stars, clouds around the stars, stripes, arrows, leaves and berries in the olive branches, feathers in the tail, layers of stones in the pyramid, number of letters in E Pluribus Unum and in Annuit Coeptus, and the number of letters (3x13) in the title: "The Coat of Arms of the United States of America."
  – Where does 13 come from? Is it an unlucky number?
    • Twelve signs of the zodiac plus the sun, the twelve knights of the round table plus King Arthur, twelve tribes of Israel plus Yahweh, twelve disciples plus Christ, twelve bodhisattvas plus Christ.
Francis Bacon

- [www.crcsite.org](http://www.crcsite.org)
- Francis Bacon wrote *The New Atlantis*
  - About America before its founding
- Member of the company that founded colonies in Virginia and the Carolinas
- “Father of Modern Science”
- Thought by many researchers to be at one time the head of the Rosicrucian Order and brought forth modern Freemasonry from Scotland to Europe
- “The seeds for America's founding were planted much earlier by the wise initiates of many cultures, from ancient Egypt and Greece to latter-day England and France.”
  - *The Deeper, Secret Roots of America's Founding* by McLaughlin and Davidson
Other Supposed Rosicrucians

- Baruch or Benedict Spinoza (1632-1677)
  - Dutch philosopher of Portuguese Jewish origin
  - Foremost philosopher of democratic thinking, equality, secular values and universality
    - [www.lsa.umich.edu/UMICH/german/Home/Newsletter/GDS_W05online.pdf](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/UMICH/german/Home/Newsletter/GDS_W05online.pdf)

- Tyco Brahe (1546-1601)
  - Astronomer, committed to a relationship between macrocosm and microcosm
  - Johannes Kepler

- René Descartes (1596-1650),
  - On November 10, 1618, while walking through Breda, Descartes met Rosicrucian Isaac Beeckman

- Blaise Pascal (1623-1662),
  - Following a mystical experience in late 1654, he abandoned his scientific work and devoted himself to philosophy, Rosicrucianism, and theology

- Gottfried Leibnitz (1646-1716),
  - Invented calculus, alchemist

- Robert Boyle (1627-1691)
  - Boyle’s Law, Chemist, prominent in the "Invisible College"

- Georg Joachim Rheticus,
- Jan Amos Comenius (1592-1670),
- John Dee (1527-1608); Ella Wheeler Wilcox – Writer, Mystic, Cornelius van Hooghelande,
- Jan Baptista van Helmont, Francis Mercurius van Helmont, Johann Faulhaber,
- John Pell, Samuel Hartlib, Theodore Haak.

- [www.rosicrucian.org](http://www.rosicrucian.org) [some question the authenticity of this site]
Rosicrucians

• The "Brethren of the Rose Cross"
  – Important part of the Hermetic-Christian tradition of alchemy
• 'However, modern researchers of history and sociology have placed its origin in a group of German Protestants between 1607 and 1616, when three anonymous documents first surfaced in Europe: Fama Fraternitatis Rosae Crucis, Confessio Fraternitatis, and Chymical Wedding of Christian Rosenkreutz anno 1459. The influence of these documents, presenting the "most laudable Order" and promoting a "Universal Reformation of Mankind", was so profound that this period of the 17th century has been deemed the "Rosicrucian Enlightenment". ’ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosicrucians
  – Luther's family crest was a cross on a rose
  – Johan and Jakob Andreae family’s crest was the Scottish Cross surrounded by four roses
  – Jakob was the champion of the Lutheran cause after Luther’s death
• The Royal Society of today is derived from the efforts of a group of known Rosicrucians: Theodore Haak, John Pell, and Samuel Hartlib, to name but a few. The group was first known as the "Invisible College," later as the "Rosicrucian College," and finally as the "Royal Society“ a name conferred by King Charles II in 1662
Rosicrucian History

• Rosicrucian scholar Baron de Westerode:
  – Rosicrucian Order created in 46AD when an Alexandrian Gnostic sage named Ormus and his six followers were converted by Mark, one of Jesus' disciples. From this conversion, Rosicrucianism was born, by raising Egyptian mysteries with the new teachings of early Christianity.
  
• “Many recent researchers take as granted the Alexandrian Ormus as the founder of "hermetic Rosicrucianism", via the medieval agency of the Templars.” [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosicrucians](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosicrucians)

• 1530s: The Association of Cross and Rose existed in Portugal in the Convent of the Order of Christ, home of the Knights Templar.

• Christian Rosenkruetz was a boy in Cathar Montsegur
  – Crusade against the Cathars May 1208 led by the bishop of Citeaux, Arnaud Amaury “Kill them all, God will recognize His own!” 7000 were killed in the church as they kneeled celebrating a saint’s day while the soldiers slaughtered 20,000 of Toulouse indiscriminately.
  – Purge continues for 20 years. First Inquisition: goal - root out the Cathars.
    • Historians say Templars assisted the Cathars, hid them in their castles.
  – Last group at Montsegur – boy C.R.C. initiated, then escapes.
    • Only way to understand Rosicrucianism & Catharism is through reincarnation.
Rosicrucian Practices

• "We speak unto you by parables, but would willingly bring you to the right, simple, easy, and ingenuous exposition, understanding, declaration, and knowledge of all secrets," but that a fundamental requisite to achieve this knowledge is "that we be earnest to attain to the understanding and knowledge of philosophy."

• Met in groups of seven
  – 3 would enter spiritual world, 4 would listen
  – 3 represent the soul, 4 the body and ego

• Alchemy of the Soul
  – Symbol exercise – 10 minutes
Freemasons

• At least 50 out of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence
  – Including John Hancock, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson.
  – Franklin and Jefferson had both been initiated into a French Masonic lodge
  – Washington was initiated into the Masonic Lodge of Fredericksburg, VA.
  – The Boston Tea Party was the work of the Masons of the St. Andrews Lodge
  – Paul Revere began his famous ride after he left a meeting of a Masonic lodge
  – At America's founding, the Masonic lodges had a strong metaphysical orientation, which
devolved common values and purposes among members, as well as deep bonds of loyalty.
  – The traditional secrecy preserved in Masonic lodges allowed members to communicate and
organize the American Revolution with little fear of exposure. Several significant foreign
contributors to the revolution were also Masons, e.g. Marquis de Lafayette of France
• The structure of the U.S. Constitution was based on Masonic ideals, and the
federalism created by the Constitution is identical to the federalism of the Grand
Lodge system of 1723
• The cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol Building was laid in a Masonic ceremony with
George Washington presiding as Grand Master.
• Physical pattern of Washington is based on sacred architecture.
  – Line of sight at the winter solstice exists from the top of the monument to the southeast down
Virginia Avenue
  – Masonic architects also laid out the city of Washington, D.C., in a metaphysical design to
make the best use of the earth energies called "ley-lines"
  – The original design of Pierre-Charles L’Enfant was later modified by Washington and
Jefferson to produce the octagonal patterns incorporating the particular cross used by the
Masonic Templars
Enemies of Freemasonry

- Internet is full of sites that condemn Freemasonry
- Example: Albert Pike
  - Born Dec. 29, 1809, in Boston, oldest of six children, studies at Harvard
  - Served as a Brigadier-General in the Confederate Army
    - After the Civil War, Pike was found guilty of treason and jailed, only to be pardoned by fellow Freemason President Andrew Johnson on April 22, 1866, who met with him the next day at the White House.
    - On June 20, 1867, Scottish Rite officials conferred upon Johnson the 4th to 32nd Freemasonry °s, and he later went to Boston to dedicate a Masonic Temple.
  - A 33 ° Mason, he became Grand Commander of North American Freemasonry from 1859 and retained that position until his death in 1891. In 1869, he was a top leader in the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.
  - Statue of him near the foot of Capitol Hill, between 3rd and 4th Streets
  - Right-hand man was Phileas Walder, from Switzerland, who was a former Lutheran minister, a Masonic leader, occultist, and spiritualist.
  - Pike worked closely with Giusseppe Mazzini of Italy (1805-1872) who was a 33 ° Mason, became head of the Illuminati in 1834, and founded the Mafia in 1860.
  - “Together with Mazzini, Lord Henry Palmerston of England (1784-1865, 33 ° Mason), and Otto von Bismarck from Germany (1815-1898, 33 ° Mason), Albert Pike intended to use the Palladian Rite to create a Satanic umbrella group that would tie all Masonic groups together.”
Architecture of Washington D.C.

- Many buildings are Roman-style
- Many internet discussions on metaphysics of layout
  - Manley Hall’s map
    - http://www.geocities.com/jussaymoe/mann/mann.htm
- Freemason’s see their founder as Hiram Abiff, representative of the Cain stream whose ancestors were Tubal Cain and Cain himself.
  - Hiram is a Son of a Widow – an initiate in the Egyptian Temple
George Fox (1624-1691) and the Quakers

• Founder of the Religious Society of Friends
  – Commonly known as the Quakers
  – Time of great social upheaval
    • Refused to bow or take off their hats to “social superiors”
• Rebelled against the religious and political consensus
  – Began preaching at age 23. Solemn devotion pledged at age 11.
  – "being bred at Oxford and Cambridge did not qualify or fit a man to be a minister of Christ."
  – Shut out of churches, he preached to the crowds in the streets. Taken from the street to the jail, he made the jail a cathedral
• Proposed an unusual approach to the Christian faith
  – Believed direct communication with God was possible for everyone
  – Pacifism, taking no oaths, no pledges of allegiance other than to God
  – “Unadulterated Christianity and the destruction of priest craft, superstition, and ridiculous, unavailing rites and ceremonies”
    • Leonard Ravenhill [http://www.ravenhill.org/fox.htm](http://www.ravenhill.org/fox.htm)
• His journal is known even among non-Quakers for its vivid account of his personal inner and outer journey
William Penn (1644–1718)

- Joined the Religious Society of Friends at 22
- Expelled from Oxford for being a Quaker
- Was imprisoned in 1668 for writing *The Sandy Foundation Shaken* which attacked the doctrine of the trinity
  - Designed Philadelphia, The City of Brotherly Love
- Champion of democracy and religious freedom
- Pennsylvania (First) Frame of Government protected many rights and liberties including trial by jury, freedom of the press and religion
  - Liberty Bell made for the 15th anniversary of the 4th Frame (1701)
- Wrote and urged for a Union of all the English colonies
- Wrote plan for a United States of Europe
- Democratic principles he set forth in the Pennsylvania Frame of Government served as an inspiration for the United States Constitution
William Penn

• Penn's "greene countrie townes" reflected the Quaker respect for nature and environmental diversity.
• He made occupations in agriculture, crafts and trade so attainable that his colony became renowned as "the best poor man's country."
• Penn provided public, practical education to all children.
• His imprisonment for his beliefs inspired him to substitute workhouses for dungeons.
• While contemporary English law assigned the death penalty for over 200 crimes, Penn limited it only to murder and treason in his colonies.
• His penal system was designed to reform, not just to punish.
  – All prisons shall be free, as to fees, food and lodging."
• IN 1693, Penn wrote a plan for the "Present and Future Peace of Europe," which included settling disputes between nations by arbitration instead of war. This plan is considered a prototype of the United Nations, which acknowledges this legacy by celebrating UN Day on Penn's birthday (October 24).
• He suggested a similar union of the American colonies as early as 1696, writing proposals which Benjamin Franklin and others incorporated into the U.S. Constitution a hundred years later. Congress met in Philadelphia for more than 20 years, allowing the representatives to see the effective, daily working of Penn's laws in a multicultural, urban setting.
Penn’s Holy Experiment

- The Crown had owed his father, Admiral Sir William Penn, the huge sum of 16,000 pounds for loans and back salary. In March 1681 the king agreed to grant young William, the admiral's heir, proprietary ownership of the lands west of the Delaware River and north of the Maryland border in exchange for canceling the old debt.
- "that an example may be set up to the nations."
- Treaty with the Lenape (Delaware) Indians 1682
  - Ensured that they were paid fairly for their lands – treated as equal humans
  - If a European did an Indian wrong, there would be a fair trial, with an equal number of people from both groups deciding the matter
- Pennsylvania lived from 1684 - 1688 in a de facto condition of individual anarchism, and seemed none the worse for the experience. The Assembly passed no laws after 1686
- Germantown Friends' Protest against Slavery, 1688
- French and Indian Wars damaged the Holy Experiment
Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love

- United States 'is a planetary nation, emerging not from a particular race or people, but from the efforts, hopes and dreams of men and women of all races and nations.

- It is the site of a great planetary experiment, a human experiment; for the United States has emerged with a destiny to serve humanity in ways no other country has ever done.

- William Penn, founder of this "Holy Experiment", as he called it, was guided to call this area - Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love, even before the settlement was started!

  - Philadelphia - The Holy Experiment by Johanna Rucker
  - http://www.ascordia.com/atu5holyexp.html
Rosicrucians in America

Drawn by Penn’s Holy Experiment
• 1694: a commune of hermits near Wissahickon Creek
  – Founded by Rosicrucian Johannes Kelpius (1673-1708)
    • *A Mystical Pamphlet from Colonial America*
• Conrad Beissel (1691-1768), born in Eberbach in Germany, came to Pennsylvania in 1720.
  – Sought Kelpius but Johannes had already died
• Ephrata: founded in 1732 a semi-monastic community (the Camp of the Solitary) with a convent (the Sister House) and a monastery (the Brother House) – now Lancaster County
• Like Cathars, members were vegetarian and most were celibate once they started on their spiritual path
• Beissel served as the community's composer (Ephrata Community Manuscript hymnal) as well as spiritual leader.
  – Created new musical styles/structure.
• Beissel's colony was noted for its printing facilities
  – Benjamin Franklin was a regular visitor – interested in printed content
• The utopian community declined in population after the Revolution
Benjamin Franklin

- Benjamin Franklin was raised as a Quaker
- Inventor: bifocal glasses & rubber catheter. Lighting & electricity.
- Healing Arts: founded first hospital and first medical library in America
  - He wrote extensively about the gout, the causes of lead poisoning, and the origins of the common cold. Invented the bar of soap.
- Franklin published an astrological ephemeris in his Poor Richard's Almanac
- Rosicrucian connection:
  - Franklin also published the books of Johann Conrad Biessel, who founded Ephrata in Pennsylvania, the first Rosicrucian community in the New World. Franklin visited there frequently and brought gifts.
    - This community was a focus for the spreading of the Ageless Wisdom in America, and after its disbanding, most of its metaphysical library passed into Franklin's keeping.
    - George Washington was also a friend of the community
  - Franklin spoke of the "Father of Lights," as the Rosicrucians do, and his speech to the Continental Congress reflects other Rosicrucian themes: "God governs in the affairs of men. If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?" Some researchers believe that Franklin himself was secretly a Rosicrucian
- His epitaph suggests he believed in reincarnation: "The Body of B. Franklin, Printer ... lies here, food for worms, but the work shall not be lost; for it will appear once more, in a new and more elegant Edition, Revised and corrected by the author."
George Washington

• "No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men more than the people of the United States. Every step by which they advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some token of Providential agency."
  – George Washington, first inaugural address

• Washington was often called clairvoyant because it seemed he could look into the future and predict troop movements with amazing accuracy.

• According to a report by Anthony Sherman, who was with Washington at Valley Forge when the incident occurred, Washington had a vision of an Angelic presence.
  – He was shown the birth, progress, and destiny of the United States in three great crises where enemies within and without challenged the Union, but it persevered.
  – He was told that "while the stars remain and the heavens send down dew upon the earth, so long shall the Republic last. The whole world united shall never be able to prevail against her. Let every child of the Republic learn to live for his God, his land, and the Union."
Enlightenment Age (1700s)

- Critical questioning of traditional institutions, customs, and morals
  - Late 16th and early 17th centuries: Europe ravaged by religious wars
  - After Peace of Westphalia (1648) an intellectual upheaval overturned the accepted belief that mysticism and revelation are the primary sources of knowledge and wisdom
  - Age of Reason had established axiomatic philosophy and absolutism as foundations for knowledge and stability
- Epistemology [Montaigne, Descartes, Pascal] based on skepticism and inquiry into the nature of knowledge
  - Leibniz’s Treatise On Wisdom
- Philosophy based on self-evident axioms
  - Baruch (Benedictus de) Spinoza's Ethics expounded a pantheistic view of the universe where God and Nature were one
  - Idea becomes central to the Enlightenment from Newton to Jefferson
- Newton's philosophy combined mathematics, axiomatic proofs, and mechanics to understand nature
  - Newton's Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica
Enlightenment Age (1700s)

• Enlightenment Age advocated *reason* as the primary basis of authority (rather than the *Church*)
  – Questioned and attacked the existing institutions of both Church and State
  – Political changes: greater rights for common people
    • Decline in the influence of authoritarian institutions: Monarchies and Church
  – Piety and belief in this period were integral to the exploration of natural philosophy and ethics
  – Thomas Paine, Voltaire, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, David Hume

• The 19th century also saw a continued rise of empiricist ideas and their *application* to political economy, industry, government, and sciences such as physics, chemistry and biology.
  – Eventually relegating the Human to status of a machine
Trancendentalists, Concord, MA

- Believed spiritual state transcends the physical and empirical
  - Spiritual is only realized through the individual's intuition,
    - Rather than through the doctrines of established religions
- Ralph Waldo Emerson
  - 1836 *Nature*: "We will walk on our own feet; we will work with our own hands; we will speak our own minds ... A nation of men will for the first time exist, because each believes himself inspired by the Divine Soul which also inspires all men."
- Henry David Thoreau
  - Ecology and natural foods movement: *Walden*
  - *Civil Disobedience*
- Amos Bronson Alcott and Abigail May Alcott
  - Louisa May Alcott
  - Founded Boston’s Temple School 1834 – controversial teaching methods
    - Located in a Masonic Temple building
- Margaret Fuller: journalist, critic and women’s rights activist
  - She met the Italian revolutionary Giovanni Ossoli and had a child together named Angelo. Lived in Florence, Italy and supported Giuseppe Mazzini’s revolution for the establishment of a Roman Republic in 1849 — Ossoli fought in the struggle while Fuller volunteered to run a supporting hospital. During this period, Florence Nightingale came to hospital management from Margaret.
  - Aunt of Buckminster Fuller.
More on Freemasonry

• Several claims to Masonic origin
  – Golden and Rosy Cross founded by alchemist Samuel Richter in Prague in the early 18th century
    • Not as free brotherhood as envisaged by the original Rosicrucian Manifestos, but as a deeply hierarchical secret society, composed of internal circles, recognition signs and based upon alchemy
    • Egyptian “Ormusse” or “Licht-Weise” emigrated to Scotland with the name “Builders from the East”.
    • Then the original Order disappeared to be resurrected by Oliver Cromwell as “Freemasonry”.
    • In 1785 and 1788 the Golden and Rosy Cross group published the Geheime Figuren or “The Secret Symbols of the 16th and 17th century Rosicrucians”.
  – Some claim branch formed Thules who founded Nazis
• Strange relationship of Materialism and Metaphysics
Historical Summary

• Do you Feel their Ideals?
  – Founding Fathers
  – Holy Experiment
  – Freemasons
  – Rosicrucians
  – Templars, Cathars, Paulicians, Manichaeists

• Look into their secrets, their wisdom, their practices
  – Rosicrucian symbols