

Chapter 2 notes 9/3/08

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Chapter 2

American Colonies Emerge

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- **Conquistadors** – Spanish explorers seeking gold and silver
 - **CORTES**– Spanish conquistador who lands in Tenochtitlan (Aztec Capital) in Present day Mexico
 - Cortes claims region for Spain
- **MONTEZUMA** – Leader of Aztec people
 - Believes the arrival of Cortes was a foretold prophecy and he is perceived as a God.
 - Offers Cortes GOLD
 - *Aztecs and Spanish do not see gold equally. Cortes gets greedy and wants all of the gold
 - Takes Montezuma hostage and forces Native Americans to work and mine for gold (**ENCOMIENDA SYSTEM**)

Aztecs and Cortes

- The Aztec people start to view their former leader, MONTEZUMA as a **traitor** for giving Cortes the gold.
 - The **stone him to death**.
- Aztecs rebel against the harsh treatment of Cortes and lose
- Cortes founds the city of **NEW SPAIN** (Present day Mexico City)
- The Spanish also start to inter-marry the Native Americans. A **MESTIZO** is the offspring of an intermarried Native American and Spanish Couple

Converting and Rebellion

- Missionaries in New Mexico and Arizona wanted to convert the Native Americans to their religion
- Build missions with bells and pictures of clouds on it. They did this to lure Native Americans in because clouds were a symbol of power to them.
- Once they decided to convert, however, the Native Americans wanted to go back to their own beliefs.

Pope's Rebellion

- **Pope** was a religious leader of the Pueblo tribe
 - Refused to stop practicing his religious rituals
 - His rituals were interpreted as **witchcraft**.
 - The Spanish beat him up
- Pope gathered about 17,000 men and **fought back** against the Spanish.
 - This resulted in **14 years of Native American control** of the land before they were ever attacked again.

Florida

- **Juan Ponce de Leon** sails and lands in **Florida** looking for Gold and the Fountain of Youth
- Him and his men find neither, start to sail back to Spain
- But, at the same time, the **French** along with Pirates and Buccaneers land in **Jacksonville**.
- This changes Spain's mind of turning back and going to Spain, so they turn back to Florida.
- **Pedro Menendez de Aviles** founds **St. Augustine**
 - St. Augustine is the **oldest surviving** European Settlement in Americas

Jamestown (1607)

- First permanent ENGLISH settlement in America
 - Jamestown, Virginia
- King James 1st grants a charter
 - Joint-Stock companies (Investors funding colonists to go settle in “New World” and make a profit)
 - Virginia Company
 - Sends over 150 settlers

Jamestown Starts out as a Disaster

- The settlers who first went to Jamestown **were not of the working class**
 - Could not fend for themselves and **many died**.
- **Powhatan** Indian Tribe – Native Americans that lived in Virginia at the time. Traded goods with the settlers at first.
- After many colonists die because they cannot fend for themselves, **JOHN SMITH** takes charge.
 - Says “If you don’t work, you don’t eat”

Jamestown starts to grow

- Once Jamestown overcame its initial drawbacks, more settlers (**about 600**) **came over**.
- This **threatened the Pawhawtan people**. They now realized that their way of life could be coming to an end
- The Pawhawtan people **start to burn the colonists livestock and crops** so they could not eat.
 - This is known as **STARVING TIME** in Jamestown

Tobacco (Brown Gold)

- **John Rolfe** – Englishman who crossbreeds two types of **tobacco** and sends it back to Europe.
 - Europeans love this new tobacco and demand more of it.
- Virginia needs to colonists now to work the tobacco farms, and comes up with two different ways to get people there
 - 1) **Head-right system** – Purchaser of passage would get **50 acres of land**
 - 2) **Indentured Servants** – Would come to work for the farmers for 4-7 years. After contract was up (**NO LAND GIVEN TO THEM**). Became the poor people.