

# The Crucible

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# Who were the Puritans?

- ▶ The Puritans were a group of English Protestants in the 16th and 17th centuries, including, but not limited to, English Calvinists. Puritanism in this sense was founded by some people exiles from the clergy as an activist movement within the Church of England.

# What distinguished their faith from others of their time period?

- ▶ The difference was that Puritan's beliefs was an emphasis on the righteousness and sovereignty of God. God they said directed all things by exercise of his will and directed all things to an intelligent end. This differed from the Catholic point of view that priests were holier than the rest of the congregation. The Puritans also were more partial to the teachings of the Old Testament.

# Why did they cross the Atlantic Ocean?

- ▶ The main reason to worship freely or religious freedom from the church of England because they found it corrupt.

# What were their goals?

In the beginning the main goal was to reform from the church of England and when that failed they broke off and left to America to establish a theocracy that would allow the state to force all people to live and worship in an orthodox way.

# In particular, how did Puritans feel about the Sabbath day?

- ▶ Strictly celebrated holy and for example no one could walk freely because it was a day meant for worship.

# What were the focal points of Puritan life?

- ▶ They believed the bible was gods law and that it provided a plan for life.

# What sort activities were and were not acceptable to the Puritans as recreation?

- ▶ Christian holidays were allowed, such as the Sabbath day and Christmas, Easter, etc. The Bible was not only the law, but read freely like a newspaper. They also were permitted to read the Psalm Bay Book. But gambling, music, and dancing were considered sinful. Ball games were disapproved of, as well. Martial arts was permitted because men were required for military service. Fishing was approved of simply because it provided food and entertainment that wasn't considered sinful.



# How tolerant were the Puritans of those who differed from their norms?

- ▶ The Puritans had no religious tolerance due to the fact they believed that syncretizing sin and contemporary pleasure would simply ruin being a Puritan in general. They feared god and his wrath, but also accepted his mercy and love. Thus, they were absolutely determined to complete Yeshua's (Hebrew: Jesus's) holy mission.

The End