

## Puritans Guiding Questions

Name:

### Document A:

1.) Who was John Winthrop speaking to in his sermon? What do you think was the purpose of his sermon?

---

---

2.) What is the main idea of this speech? What do you think Winthrop means by “We shall be as a city Upon a Hill?”

---

---

---

### Document B:

1.) Who was John Cotton speaking to in this sermon? Why is he speaking about settling a new land?

---

---

---

2.) In his sermon, who are the “inhabitants” in the new land? Who are the “foreign people?”

---

---

---

3.) What does Cotton say that God will do for the foreign people when they arrive in the new land?

---

---

---

## Vocabulary

Selfish:lacking consideration for others; concerned chiefly with one's own personal profit or pleasure

Selfless: concerned more with the needs and wishes of others than with one's own; unselfish

*Task: Using evidence from Document A and Document B, answer the question below in a paragraph. Cite evidence from the text and circle your evidence after you finish.*

## Were the Puritans selfish or selfless?

[illegible]

## Document A: City upon a Hill (Modified)

The only way to provide for our posterity is to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. We must be knit together in this work as one man; we must take care of each other with brotherly affection. We shall be united in the bond of peace, the Lord will be our God and delight to dwell among us, so that we shall see much more of his wisdom, power, goodness and truth.

We shall be as a City upon a Hill, the eyes of all people are upon us; so that if we shall (behave badly) and cause God to withdraw his help from us, we shall invite the mouths of enemies to speak evil of the ways of God, and cause their prayers to be turned into curses upon us.

Therefore let us chose life, that we, and our children, may live, by obeying his voice, for he is our life, and our prosperity.

Vocabulary:

Posterity: future generations

Prosperity: wealth

*Source:* John Winthrop, lawyer and leader of the 1630 migration of English Puritans to Massachusetts Bay Colony, delivered this famous sermon aboard the Arbella to settlers traveling to New England.

## Document B: “The Divine Right to Occupy the Land” (Modified)

The Bible says : “ I will **appoint** a place for my people Israel, and plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more.”

The settling of a people in this or that country is the Lord’s decision.

Now, God makes room for a people in three ways: First, he drives out the **heathens** before them by waging war on the **inhabitants**.

Second, He gives a foreign people favor in the eyes of any native people to come and sit with them.

Third, He makes a country empty of inhabitants where the people will live. Where there is an empty place, the sons of Adam and Noah are free to come and live there, and they neither need to buy or ask permission.

### **Vocabulary:**

Heathen: a term used at this time to describe anyone uncivilized and who did not believe in God

Appoint: assign; decide on

Inhabitants: people who live in a certain place

*Source:* Puritan leader John Cotton gave the following sermon to members of his congregation who were immigrating to America in 1630. Cotton became a respected and influential clergyman in the Massachusetts Bay Colony.