

CHAPTER 1

AMERICAN ORIGINS: THE AGE OF DISCOVERY AND EXPLORATION

What is history? History is not just names, dates, and places. History is people, their interaction with one another, and their interaction with God. History is God's dealing with man throughout the ages. It is especially important for us as Americans to know the history of our nation and to recognize the moving of the hand of God in guiding our country's direction.

A. DISCOVERY

1. Trans-Siberian Migration

It is customary to begin any discussion of American history with the first voyage of Christopher Columbus and subsequent European expeditions. The history of man in North and South America, however, began considerably before the year 1492. Sometime after the Noachian flood and the attempt by rebellious men to build the Tower of Babel, numerous Mongoloid peoples from Siberia began migrating to the Americans.

The most obvious point of ingress into the interior of the North American continent is the Bering Strait area between Russia and Alaska. The distance involved is less than sixty miles. Three major theories pertaining to the actual mechanics of this migration now exist. If the trip were made by water, two stopping-stone islands, the Diomedes, would aid in the shortening of the lengths of the necessary "hops." The largest expanse of open water to be crossed is only twenty-five miles. Such a simple voyage would be well within the abilities of migrating people. Another possibility is that these oriental travelers made use of an ice bridge that had been formed across the Bering Strait at some period in the history of the earth.

The most logical explanation of the trans-Siberian migration, however, is that these Mongoloid peoples simply walked from Asia to America on dry land! At the time of the Mongoloid migrations, the Bering Strait may have been a grass-covered land bridge between the two continents. Slowly, the game herds moved east and south into America. As the animals began to move across the land bridge, nomadic Oriental hunters followed them. A series of successive migrations over a long period of time eventually peopled most of North and South America with members of Asian tribes. These Mongoloid peoples were the first real discoverers of America. In 1492 Columbus named them "Indian." At some dateless time in history, between the final migration and today, the land bridge sank into the sea as the result of some unknown natural catastrophe.

The trans-Siberian migration hypothesis is further substantiated by many Oriental characteristics among American Indians. Indians, like their Oriental cousins are noted for having

a limited amount of facial and body hair. Many Indians exhibit the Mongoloid fold which gives the eye its 'slanted' look. Numerous Indian babies are born with the so-called "Mongolian spot," a bluish to brownish discoloration which appears at the base of the spine for a brief period in Oriental infants. Prominent cheek bones and straight, jet-black hair are also common with both groups.

These early Asian immigrants did not bring one unified culture with them to America, nor did they speak a single common language. The various prehistory Indian groups spoke languages as diverse from one another as English is from Chinese. Cultural attainment ranged from *aboriginal*¹ bands of hunters and gathers to complex civilizations who had the ability to write, compute, and make accurate astronomical observations. Long before the advent of Europeans in the New World, the Indians had populated the Americas from the Arctic Circle to Tierra Del Fuego at the tip of South America. Each ecological niche lent itself to the development of a unique cultural expression.

The sum of all the cultural manifestations of the American Indian groups gave to white men many items not known in Europe in *pre-Columbian*² times. Snowshoes, toboggans, hammock, and canoes are four *Amerind*³ inventions. The Indians taught Europeans how to play lacrosse and weave cotton cloth. More than eighty varieties of domestic plants were introduced to the white men by the Indians. A large number of these plants were edible and have become an integral part of our food supply today. These food items include maize (corn), squash, beans, avocados, peanuts, peppers, pineapples, tomatoes, potatoes, manioc (from which we get tapioca), and cacao (the source of chocolate). Numerous words from Amerind languages have become a part of English. Canoe, chipmunk, moccasin, skunk, succotash, toboggan, kayak, Potomac, Susquehanna, and Muskogee are examples of words borrowed from the first Americans.

We recognize that the most likely impetus for Mongoloid trans-Siberian migration was the following of slowly advancing game herds by early hunters, but the Hopi Indians of northern Arizona have an interesting legend in regard to this theory. The Hopis say that sometime in the distant past their ancestors became very concerned about the rapid degeneration of their culture. The people were wicked in all they did, and gross immorality was rampant.

Wishing to protect their wives and children from the effects of this evil, some good men took their families to a new land, which was America. There in the New World, the people could

¹ aboriginal – native to an area

² pre-Columbian – era in America before 1492

³ Amerind – American Indian

live the good, clean, moral lives that the “Great Spirit” wanted them to live. Although this is a legend, these aboriginals did recognize the difference between good and evil and the need for living moral lives.

1. The history of man in _____ and _____ America began before _____.
2. The Bering Strait area between Russia and Alaska is less than _____ miles.
3. Mongoloid peoples were the first real discoveries of _____.
4. Indians have a limited amount of _____ and _____ hair.
5. Aboriginal means _____.
6. Amerids are _____.
7. More than _____ varieties of domestic plants were introduced to the _____ men by the _____.

2. Pre-Viking Voyages

Although a thoroughly plausible hypothesis in the main, trans-Siberian migration of aboriginal Amerid leaves many pre-Columbian problems unsolved. Some scholars have maintained that it would be inconsistent to assume that early Mongoloid hunters had been the progenitors of the Inca, Maya, and Aztec civilizations. If all Amerid cultures had not the same origin, what were the alternative sources? Legends have persisted in America of light-skinned and even blue-eyed “Indians.” Europe also had no dearth of strange tales of her own. These sagas tell of trans-oceanic voyages to mysterious lands and strange peoples. Did pre-Columbian Europeans make physical contact with the Americans? Nearly every Old World group of people has been suggested as possible candidates for the honor of being the “discoverers” of the New World. Scholars and theorists have suggested the Egyptians, Jews, Greeks, Phoenicians, Romans, Welsh, Irish, and many, many more.

Throughout the Americas, artifacts of non-Indian origin have frequently been reported. Near North Salem, New Hampshire, are a number of impressive megalithic structures, including a large, bell-shaped stone altar. These structures have no counterpart in any North American Indian culture and have been ascribed alternately to Irish Culdee monks and the Phoenicians. On the banks of the Roanoke River in southern Virginia, numerous copper and iron artifacts were unearthed by a local farmer. Nails, bolts, and threaded nuts in Greek and Roman style of manufacture and a bronze goblet similar to some from ancient Pompeii were also discovered. In the same general area are two large rocks inscribed with monograms very much like those employed by early Christians. Roman coins were also reputed to have been found in Venezuela

in the 1800's. Japanese pottery has turned up on the west coast of South America in definitely pre-Columbian strata, and Chinese-appearing remains exist in southern Mexico. Speculation rages as to the import of all this accumulated evidence, but the fact remains that nothing can be proven conclusively at this time.

a. Irish Culdee Monks. There was in Ireland in the fifth century A.D. an order of anchorite monks known as the Celi Dei or Culdees. These Culdees lived an ascetic, semi-hermitic, and somewhat mystical life. The Culdees were part of the Scottish and Irish Celtic churches and were not Roman Catholic. For two hundred years they refused to recognize Papal authority. It was the monks' practice to set themselves or each other adrift in an open boat on the ocean as a form of expiation and penance. Wherever these outcasts landed was considered the will of God for them.

b. Brendan the Navigator. One of these Culdee monks was named Brendan Moccu Alti or "Brendan the Navigator." Brendan was born in Ireland ca. A.D. 484 and later educated in languages, theology, mathematics, and astronomy. A kinsman of Brendan, Fionn-Barr claimed to have visited a "Delicious Isle" somewhere in the western sea. This story intrigued Brendan, and he determined to do likewise. Brendan and fourteen other monks set sail on a voyage or a series of voyages to the unknown in ca. A.D. 545. These voyages are wrapped in great controversy and confusion. Adding to this confusion is the fact that there are many conflicting versions of the Brendan saga.

The Culdee monks claimed to have visited several "islands" including one that turned out to be a sleeping whale. It is thought by many that one or more of Brendan's "Blessed Isles" were a part of continental North America. Whether or not Brendan actually succeeded in reaching the New World is still a much debated question. The fact remains, however, that enough people believed Brendan's tales that other adventures were induced to attempt to duplicate the journey themselves.

c. Great Ireland. By the tenth century A.D., the Irish Culdee monks were playing a cat-mouse game with the Northmen. The lonely monasteries were subject to repeated Norse attacks. Some of the monks fled to Iceland to escape the Viking raids on Ireland. These men were totally familiar with Brendan's "Blessed Isles" legend. When the Norse began to emigrate to Iceland, the Culdee colonies there, including women and children (as many of the monks were married), fled again to the west to find refuge in Brendan's isles. Stories filtered back to Europe

of Irish Culdee settlements in “Great Ireland” far to the west. Many of the Icelandic sagas make reference to this “Great Ireland,” or “White Man’s Land.” If Great Ireland were in North America, it is likely that even this refuge was later shattered by the advent of the Norsemen.

8. Legends have persisted in America of _____ and _____ Indians.
9. Near North Salem, New Hampshire a large _____ stone altar was found.
10. Roman coins were found in _____ in the 1800s.
11. Culdees lived an ascetic, _____ and somewhat mystical _____.
12. Some monks fled to _____ to escape the Viking raids on _____.

3. Vikings

For many years the veracity of the Viking claims to the “discovery” of the New World was hotly debated. Relatively recent archaeological discoveries however have proved that the intrepid Norsemen did indeed reach North America and establish colonies here. From the eighth century onward, the Norse were moving westward from Scandinavia. They established communities on the Shetland, Faeroe, and Orkney islands, as well as in the Hebrides, Scotland, and Ireland. About A.D. 874 these Northmen reached Iceland and established a colony.

a. Eric the Red. When Eric Thorwaldsson was a young boy in Norway, his father was outlawed from the crime of manslaughter. Thorwald and his family were exiled to the Iceland colony. This particular kind of trouble seemed to run in the family, because in 982 Eric was charged with the same crime and received a similar sentence of exile from Iceland to a land west (Greenland) for a period of three years. Eric, known as “the Red,” explored the land, and after this sentence had been served, he returned to Iceland and recruited colonists to go back to Greenland with him where he established the first permanent Norse settlement at Julianehåb. It was Eric himself who gave that ice-bound island its ironic name, “Greenland.” By reaching Greenland the Norsemen had entered the Western Hemisphere. Eric was the first European who can positively be said to have crossed the Atlantic Ocean.

It is assumed that Eric the Red became so known either because of his red hair or possibly because he had such a bad temper.
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b. Bjarni Herjulfsson. In 986 the trader Bjarni Herjulfsson was on his way home from Norway to visit his father in Iceland. When Bjarni arrived home, he discovered that his father had been among those who had gone with Eric the Red to the Greenland settlement.

Young Bjarni set sail for Greenland even though he was not altogether sure where Greenland was. In a dense fog, Bjarni’s ship completely by-passed Greenland. For many days the Vikings could not even tell in what direction they were sailing. Soon after the fog lifted, they sighted land but could not identify it. The only thing they knew for sure was that it was not Greenland. They sailed north along the landfall for several days but did not land. Bjarni attempted to retrace his voyage and finally did reach the Greenland colony. Bjarni may have sighted the shores of North America, but if he did, he seems to have been utterly unimpressed.

c. Leif Ericsson. In the year 999, Eric the Red’s son, Leif Ericsson, sailed to Norway from Greenland. In Norway Leif was converted to the Christian faith, and the King of Norway sent Leif home again to Greenland as a missionary. Young Ericsson introduced Christianity to his father’s pagan colony and spent the next few years traveling among the communities on Greenland telling the people about Christ. Leif’s hot-tempered and heathen father was none too pleased with his son’s defection to the Christian religion, and Leif was forced to flee his father’s wrath. Leif had heard the tales about the land to the west that Bjarni Herjulfsson had sighted, and in 1003 Leif Ericsson and thirty-five men set sail for America in the very ship that had made the prior voyage, the ship that he had previously purchased from Bjarni.

Leif made three landfalls in America. At each, he landed and explored before continuing his voyage. Ericsson probably first sighted the coasts of Labrador and Newfoundland; then sailed southward to the Cape Cod area where he built a cabin and spent the winter. He named his three landfalls: Helluland (flat rock land), Markland (woodland), and Vinland (wineland or vineland). Vinland was said to be so named due to the great number of “wineberries” there. It is thought by some that these “wineberries” were Cape Cod cranberries, but it is even more likely that they were the wild grapes of that region.

In the spring Leif returned to Greenland with the exciting news that land truly did exist in the western sea. Upon his return to Greenland, it fell to Leif to take over the leadership of the Greenland colony because of the death of his father, Eric the Red. This unsought duty was perhaps the major reason why Leif never again journeyed to Vinland.

13. Archaeological discoveries proved the intrepid _____ did reach North America and established _____ there.
14. First permanent Norse settlement in Greenland was by _____
(_____).
15. Eric the Red named the ice-bound island as _____.

16. Bjarni Herjulfsson may have sighted shores of _____ looking for Greenland.
17. Leif Ericsson was _____ son.
18. Leif made _____ landfalls in America.
19. Leif built a cabin and spent the winter in the _____ area.

d. Thorwald Ericsson. A certain degree of sibling rivalry grew up between Leif and his brother Thorwald, and the latter decided to go to Vinland for himself. Leif gave his brother his own ship (which had been Bjarni's) and "loaned" him the cabin in Vinland. In A.D. 1007 Thorwald Ericsson and thirty men began the second planned Viking voyage to North America. They spent the next two winters at Leif's old camp without incident. During the first summer, they explored the area but made no discoveries of any importance. The second summer of exploration, however, brought them into contact with hostile Indians. Near some unidentified New England river, the first recorded battle between Indians and Europeans was fought.

The Indians (or "Skraelings") proved to be too many for the mere handful of Vikings, and the latter were forced to retreat. In the course of the battle, Thorwald Ericsson suffered an arrow wound from which he subsequently died. His men buried Thorwald Ericsson somewhere in the wilds of North America and returned to their settlement. The following spring the sadden Vikings returned home to Greenland. In 1831 a skeleton wearing metal armor was unearthed in Fall River, Massachusetts. The skeleton was tentatively identified as the remains of a Viking warrior. Was it that of Thorwald Ericsson? We will probably never know.

e. Thorfinn Karlsefni. The summer following the death of Thorwald, Thorstein, the third of Eric the Red's sons, sailed for Vinland to find and take back Thorwald's body. Thorstein's ship was tossed about in stormy seas for months and was never able to make landfall. Thorstein finally gave up and returned to Greenland where he died that winter. His widow, the young and beautiful Gudrid, soon married Thorfinn Karlsefni. It was Gudrid and Thorfinn who opened the next and perhaps most significant chapter of the Norse experience in the New World. Thorfinn, his bride, and 160 other men and women, including Leif's half-sister Freydis and her husband Thorward left Greenland in the year 1010 to establish the first permanent Viking settlement in North America. It is not clear whether this settlement was established at Leif's old camp or somewhere farther south. The colony existed for a period of three years. During that time Thorfinn and Gudrid's son, Snorri was born. Snorri Thorfinnsson was the first recorded white birth in America. Considerable exploration was carried on, and a great deal of Indian-

Viking contact occurred. This contact was to cause the demise of the colony. Hostilities grew between the Indians and the Northmen until open warfare broke out. Greatly outnumbered, the Vikings reluctantly decided to abandon the settlement and sail home to Greenland.

The next year the strong-willed Freydis returned to Leif’s old camp to again attempt a colony. This colony seemed doomed to tragedy. Dissension began to mount among the colonists, and the settlement divided into two distinct camps. During the long harsh winter, the somewhat unbalanced Freydis literally went berserk and committed brutal mass murder with a battle-ax. (Vikings often went berserk during the long boring winters, and “berserker” soon became a term for a Viking warrior.) In the spring the settlement was again abandoned, and the survivors of Freydis’ madness sailed home to Greenland.

For the next twelve years, Norse expeditions were sent out to Vinland with the charge from their king “to proclaim Christianity” wherever they made landfall. Numerous other habitation sites in North America have been ascribed to the Vikings. One such site was excavated by archaeologists at L’Anse aux Meadows, near St. Lorraine in northern Newfoundland. In recognition of the Viking “discovery” of the New World, the United States Congress in 1964 authorized the President to proclaim October 9 of each year as Leif Ericsson Day. Eventually, the Northmen gave up their ventures into Vinland, and North America waited to be rediscovered by Columbus five centuries later.

20. Thorwald Ericsson was killed somewhere in North America by _____.
21. In 1831, a skeleton wearing metal armor was discovered in _____, Massachusetts.
22. Snorri Thorfinnsson was the first recorded white birth in _____.
23. The United States Congress in 1964 authorized the President to proclaim _____ as Leif Ericsson day.

4. Post-Viking Voyages

Launching out on new adventures, encountering obstacles on long voyages, and dealing with difficulties in unknown territories demanded creativity of early American explorers in order to survive.

- a. Prince Madoc of Wales. The supposed voyage of Prince Madoc of Wales in the twelfth century has caused more heated debate than any other questionable “discovery” of America. The legend states that Madoc became disgusted with his brothers who were busily

murdering each other. Madoc is said to have outfitted a number of ships and sailed west until he landed somewhere in North America. He and his party are usually credited with being the progenitors of the so-called “White Indians” that have been reported from time to time. The voyage of Madoc of Wales, however, remains a matter of pure conjecture.

b. Antonio Zeno. Two centuries later a Venetian navigator named Niccolò Zeno was ship-wrecked on the Faeroe Islands. He was rescued by the Faeroese islanders and eventually went into the employ of Prince Henry Sinclair, the Earl of Orkney. Niccolò was later joined by his brother Antonio, and both became officers in Henry’s fleet. The brothers Zeno became determined to go on a voyage of discovery. Eventually, they sailed to Greenland, but the climate disagreed with Niccolò and he returned to the Faeroes where he died. Antonio Zeno again sailed west and encountered an inhabited land. His later reports of this land stimulated Prince Henry to take personal command of a second expedition. They failed to find Antonio’s “island” but made landfall elsewhere. All this was recorded by a series of letters from Antonio to his brother Carlo in Venice. After the voyages of Columbus, Antonio’s letters were restored and published by his great-great-great grandson.

c. João Vaz Corte-Real. Exactly twenty years before the first voyage of Columbus, America was “discovered” by an international expedition. The voyage was co-sponsored by the Kings of Denmark and Portugal. The two principal pilots or navigators of the fleet were the German Didrik Pining and Hans Pothorst. The official representative of the Portuguese crown for the expedition was João Vaz Corte-Real. The purpose of the voyage was to look for a water passage to India by going west. Little is known about the voyage of Corte-Real because the Portuguese did not publicize it, possibly due to the fact that they failed to find the desired route to India.

24. Niccolò Zeno was a _____ navigator who was ship-wrecked on the _____.

25. America was “discovered 20 years before Columbus by an _____ expedition, co-sponsored by the Kings of _____ and _____.

d. Christopher Columbus. Nearly every American is familiar with the essential facts surrounding the “discovery” of the New World by Christopher Columbus. Because he was convinced that the world was round and that the East Indies could be reached by sailing west,

Columbus attempted to enlist the aid of some European crowned head in financing an expedition. King John II of Portugal rejected Columbus' scheme. It is possible that the Portuguese King, due to the Corte-Real voyage, already knew that a large landmass stood between Europe and the Indies.

When approached about funding an expedition, the King and Queen of Spain were too busy waging war against the Moors to be interested. Christopher Columbus then sent one of his brothers to England, and he himself headed for France. It was at this juncture in time that Isabella of Spain had her mind changed by a court advisor, and Spain agreed to finance the voyage. On Friday, August 3, 1492, the *Niña*, *Pinta*, and *Santa Maria* set sail from Palos, Spain. Ten weeks later, after suffering many hardships, Columbus somewhat presumptuously claimed the New World for the Spanish throne.

Christopher Columbus was born in the year 1451. Several cities have claimed the honor of being his birthplace. It has generally been thought that he was born in Genoa, Italy, but it is also more than possible that he was born in Spain. For some unknown reason, all records of his birth and baptism were destroyed by the Jesuit Order.

For many centuries Spain had been the haven for the largest number of Jews in all of Europe. Since the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70, the Jews had been tossed about Europe on a raging sea of anti-Semitism. The Jews' physical cousins, the Moslem peoples, had given them refuge in those areas under Islamic control. For centuries the Moslems had held sway over the Iberian Peninsula, but with the marriage of Ferdinand of Aragon and Isabella of Castile in 1469, modern Spain was born. From that point political power rested in the hands of these two "Catholic Majesties." Moslem ascendancy was on the wane, and the Moors were soon expelled from the country altogether. With the expulsion of the Moslems, the handwriting was virtually on the wall for the Jews. In 1492, the very year of Columbus' first voyage, the Spanish Inquisition, which was initially aimed at the Jews but later expanded to include all non-Roman Catholics, began to operate in deadly earnest. Anti-Semitism and persecution, however, were nothing new to those Jews who had been living in the Roman Catholic area of Spain prior to 1492.

Although Christopher Columbus was apparently a nominal practicing Roman Catholic in Catholic Italy and Spain, he was probably a clandestine *Sephardic*⁴ Jew. In Genoa, Italy, the family "Columbus" was known as "Columbo," but in Spain the navigator called himself "Cristóbal Colón." "Colón" was a popular Sephardic Jewish name. It is very likely that the Colón family, because of anti-Jewish persecutions, had migrated to Genoa from Spain before or

⁴ Sephardic – pertaining to Jews from the Iberian Peninsula

just shortly after young Christopher was born. It may be significant that Luis de Santangel, the Court Advisor and royal treasurer to Ferdinand and Isabella was himself a Sephardic Jew. He secured Jewish financing for the voyage of Columbus. Señor de Santangel was forced to flee Catholic Inquisitional Spain a few years after Columbus’ voyage. After his third voyage, Columbus and his two brothers were returned to Spain in chains and were thrown into prison—victims of the Inquisition. Although they were later released and Columbus was allowed one more voyage, he was eventually relieved of all command. Columbus died in 1506. It might be added that many of Columbus’ crew, including the first man to set foot on the shores of America, Luis de Torres, were Jews. It is possible that the Spanish Jews were hoping to find a refuge in a new land beyond the sea.

In spite of his lip service to Roman Catholicism and his probable Jewish background, Christopher Columbus was very possibly a secret Christian. He definitely held a firm belief in God and depended on Him all through his life. His name, Christopher, means “Christbearer.” It is said that one day, as a small boy praying in church, he vowed that he would live up to that name and be a “Christbearer.” He became convinced that every Christian could and should “bear” the teachings of Christ wherever he went. As he grew to manhood, Columbus came to believe that he had been chosen by God to spread the Gospel to other lands. He became an ardent reader of books and a student of cartography. He believed that the Holy spirit helped him understand the Bible, navigation, and geography so that he could fulfill his personal destiny. In pursuit of that end, Columbus became conversant in Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Portuguese, Spanish, and Italian.

26. On August 3, 1492 the _____, _____, and _____ set sail from Palos, Spain.
27. For many centuries Spain had been the haven for the largest number of _____ in all of Europe.
28. With the marriage of Ferdinand of Aragon and Isabella of Castile in 1469, a modern _____ was born.
29. A Sephardic Jew pertains to Jews from the _____.
30. Columbus died in _____.

Previous to Columbus’ first voyage, Johann Gutenberg had invented the first printing press with movable type. The very first book to be printed on that press was the Bible, which was printed in 1456. By 1465 printing presses had been set up in Paris, Florence, Venice, and other

principal European cities. It is quite evident that Christopher Columbus acquired one of these Bibles and became a zealous student of God's Word. He also studied the Biblical commentaries of Nicholas of Lyra, Augustine, and Pierre d'Ailly. Columbus began to believe that the world was round instead of flat as many people of that time thought it was. He had a dual vision to spread the Gospel to faraway lands and to prove that the world was round. This vision was drawn from his studies of the Bible. It is likely that Columbus realized the truth of Isaiah 40:22, "*It is he [God] that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers...*" When he referred to the 'circle of the earth,' Isaiah was telling people that the earth was round. The reference to the 'inhabitants thereof' being like grasshoppers tell us, and evidently told Columbus, that there are thousands upon thousands of people around the world who need the Gospel. Columbus himself wrote a book entitled Libro de las Profecias (The Book of Prophecies) that told his views about Biblical teachings on geography, people of other lands, and the prophecies of the Book of revelation and of Matthew 24:14, which states, "*And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.*" Columbus firmly believed that the world must be evangelized before the Second Coming of Christ. He wanted to accomplish that end so that Christ would come. He was bitterly disappointed that few men shared his zeal for souls.

Throughout his voyages Columbus made constant references to the Lord. He opened his journal of his first voyage with the words, "In the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ ...". He led his crew in singing hymns of praise to God when they first sighted the landmass of America. He named that first land San Salvador which means "Holy Saviour." In his official reports back to Spain, Columbus expressed great concern that the Indians be won to the Christian faith, but he was adamant that he alone be allowed to handpick the men who would be sent out as missionaries. Certainly Christopher was a God-fearing man trying to be of service to his Lord, but perhaps the best statement of his Christianity is his own testimony: "I am a most unworthy sinner, but I have cried out to the Lord for grace and mercy, and they have covered me completely. I have found the sweetest consolation since I made it my whole purpose to enjoy His marvelous presence.

For the execution of the journey to the Indies, I did not make use of intelligence, mathematics, or maps. It is simply the fulfillment of what Isaiah had prophesied. All this is what I desire to write down for you in this book.

No one should fear to undertake any task in the name of our Saviour, if it is just and if the intention is purely for His holy service. The working out of all things has been assigned to each person by our Lord, but it all happens according to His sovereign will, even

though He gives advice. He lacks nothing that it is in the power of men to give Him. Oh what a gracious Lord, Who desires that people should perform for Him those things for which He holds Himself responsible! Day and night, moment by moment, everyone should express to Him their most devoted gratitude.”

Christopher Columbus may indeed have been looking for a water route to the Indies through or around the North American continent, but it is improbable that he did not know the continent was there. Christopher and one of his brothers lived for a while in Lisbon, Portugal, where they were employed as map makers and booksellers.

Many Portuguese maps of the period showed the lands visited by João Vaz Corte-Real, as did the newly published globe of Martin Behaim. Martin Behaim’s wife had a brother who was married to the daughter of João Vaz Corte-Real. Columbus also knew personally Corte-Real’s two sons, Gaspar and Miquel. In 1477 Columbus sailed to Iceland, where he must have encountered the Viking sagas concerning the various voyages, 500 years before, of Eric the Red’s restless family. Finally, in Columbus’ day the legends about the travels of Brendan the Navigator were widely published. It would have been next to impossible for Columbus the navigator, cartographer, and scholar to have been ignorant of these tales regardless of their own inherent veracity.

On his third voyage, Columbus reached the coast of Venezuela. His reaction to that discovery was as follows: “I believe that this is a very great continent which until today has been unknown.” Columbus’ personal name for the South American continent was the “Other World.” Columbus seemed to have been aware that he had reached a new world and not just another part of Asia. It is just possible that scholarly Jews in Spain, who were themselves quite aware of the existence of new lands in the western sea, financed Columbus’ voyages of exploration to provide themselves with a refuge from the mounting anti-Semitism of the Catholic Inquisition.

31. a. Many of Columbus’ crew were _____.
- b. The first man to set foot on the shores of America was _____.
32. Columbus wrote a book entitled _____.
33. Columbus named the first land San Salvador which means “_____.”
34. Christopher and one of his brothers lived for a while in _____, _____ and were employed as _____ and _____.
35. On the third voyage, Columbus reached the coast of _____.

36. Columbus’ personal name for South America was the “_____.”

B. EXPLORATION

1. The Naming of America

In 1501 and 1503, a Florentine navigator named Amerigo Vespucci made voyages of exploration to the eastern coast of South America. His observations were circulated in a series of published letters. Vespucci was the first European to refer to this hemisphere as *Mundus Novus*, the “New World.” Based upon his own voyages and astronomical observations made off the coast of South America, Vespucci was also the first to discern that the landmass discovered by Columbus could not be a part of Asia but was indeed a fourth and hitherto unknown continent. The observation was based upon calculations that indicated that the earth was greater in circumference than thought. Vespucci further maintained that Asia could be reached by sailing south around the tip of this newly discovered continent. It is also interesting to note that near the end of the fifteenth century, Vespucci was in Seville, Spain, as a representative of the De Medici family. Here he helped to supply the ships of Columbus. A cartographer named Martin Waldseemüller was greatly impressed by Vespucci’s letters, and when Waldseemüller published a book of maps in 1507, he called the new continent “Amerigo’s Land,” or “America.” This term was at first used with South America only but was later applied to both continents.

2. Spain and Portugal

a. The Division of the New Lands. The world became a virtual battleground between the countries of Spain and Portugal in their zeal for establishing claims in the newly discovered lands in both the Western and Eastern Hemispheres. Actual war appeared imminent between those two major powers. In an attempt to prevent open conflict, Pope Alexander VI issued a Papal edict that divided the world into two equal spheres of influence. In 1494 the two protagonists signed the Treaty of Tordesillas, which established a formal Line of Demarcation in accordance with the Papal decree. Most of the Western Hemisphere went to Spain, but Portugal held vast territories in Africa, India, and the area we call Brazil.

37. Amerigo Vespucci was the first _____ to refer to the hemisphere as the “_____.”

38. Actual war between _____ and _____ appeared imminent over establishing claims in the newly discovered lands in both the _____ and _____ Hemispheres.

39. Pope Alexander VI issued a _____ edict that divided the world into 2 equal spheres of influence.
40. a. The Treaty of Tordesillas established a formal _____
_____.
- b. Western Hemisphere went to _____.
- c. Portugal held vast territories in _____, _____ and the area we call _____.

Portugal’s main interest was in the East. In 1500 Pedro Cabral, as admiral of thirteen Portuguese ships, sailed southwest from Portugal on his way to Africa. However, whether intended or accidental, he landed on the east coast of present-day Brazil. Where he landed forms the “bulge” of South America and is east of the Line of Demarcation; therefore, Cabral was able to claim the area for Portugal. To this day, the third of May is Cabral’s Day in Brazil.

The only other noteworthy Portuguese voyage of exploration to the New World lay outside the agreed-upon Portuguese area. In 1501 King Manuel of Portugal commissioned Gaspar Corte-Real, son of the famous navigator João Vaz Corte-Real, to explore some of the North American continent. Perhaps King Manuel was again seeking a northern water passage to India. Corte-Real made landfall somewhere off the coast of Maine and sailed northward for several hundred miles. In the northern seas, he encountered icebergs that effectively blocked his way. However, on his return, Corte-Real succeeded in capturing fifty North American Indians whom he later sold into slavery. Slave trading proved to be such a lucrative undertaking that Corte-Real returned to North America for the purpose of securing another cargo of Amerind slaves, but he and his ships disappeared without a trace. The following year Gaspar’s brother Miquel set out to search for him. Strangely enough, Miquel Corte-real also never returned. The fate of the two sons of one of America’s alleged discoverers remain an unsolved mystery.

West of the Line of Demarcation, the Spaniards began to explore their vast holdings. Juan Ponce de León accompanied Columbus on the latter’s second voyage to America. Ponce de León later assumed the governorship of Puerto Rico. In 1512 the aging governor decided to search for the fabled Fountain of Youth. In the process of searching for that mythical wonder, Ponce de León literally stumbled onto one “island,” which turned out to be Florida, the “Land of Flowers.” The King of Spain rewarded the explorer by making him the governor of Florida. Ponce de León attempted to establish a colony there, but he and many of his men were killed in a battle with the local Indians.

Another Spanish New World governor who has left his name to history was Vasco Núñez de Balboa. Balboa was governor of the settlement on the Isthmus of Panama, which was the first Spanish continental settlement. When told by Indians of a great sea to the west, Balboa crossed the isthmus and became the first European to see the Pacific Ocean from the shores of America.

b. The conquest of the Aztec Empire. Before his conquest of Mexico, Hernando Cortez was a relatively wealthy planter in Cuba, but he lusted for even greater riches. Cortez laid plans to lead a gold-seeking expedition to the mainland of Mexico. He was, however, in bad graces with the governor of the area, who has specifically ordered him not to begin his expedition. Hernando Cortez deliberately chose to violate the lawful commands of the legitimate local government official, and he set sail for the mainland. The Cortez expedition landed on the Yucatan Peninsula early in 1519. The conquistadores crossed the bay and established the village of Villa Rica de la Vera Cruz (present-day Veracruz). In order to prevent any of his men from deserting, Cortez burned his entire fleet. Montezuma, the Aztec Emperor, heard about the strange white-skinned, bearded men who rode astride odd animals and controlled thunder and lightning. To the superstitious Aztecs, the Spaniards appeared to be gods.

As Cortez advanced toward the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan (Mexico City), he encountered vast numbers of peoples previously conquered by the war-like Aztecs. Those vassal tribes, when confronted by the Spanish host, either fought them ferociously or gladly flocked to their standards. Tenochtitlan was built on a series of islands and was accessible only by a number of narrow causeways. The Spaniards were reluctantly welcomed into the city and treated as honored guests. Meanwhile, Pánfilo de Narváez had been sent to Veracruz to arrest Cortez for the latter's flagrant disobedience of government orders. Cortez immediately returned to Veracruz and used the promise of gold to bribe Narváez's entire army to his side. Back in Tenoshtitlan, tension between the Spaniards and the Aztec grew into open hostilities. Montezuma was kidnapped and ultimately killed, possibly by his own people. The Spaniards attempted to retreat from Tenochtitlan via the causeways, taking with them vast amounts of Aztec gold. A bloody slaughter resulted with over 600 Spaniards being captured or killed. Most of the stolen Aztec treasure was lost on the bottom of the lake. The Spaniards withdrew, gathered their scattered forces, and launched a counterattack on Tenochtitlan. By means of a fleet of small boats, the Spaniards recaptured the city. The proud Aztec Empire was destroyed, sacrificed on the altar of greed.

41. Portugal's main interest was in the _____.
42. João Vaz Corte-Real captured 50 North American _____ whom he later sold into _____.
43. a. Ponce de León stumbled onto one "island" while searching for the fabled _____.
- b. The "island" was actually Florida, the "_____."
44. Vasco Núñez de Balboa was the first European to see the _____ _____ from the shores of American.
45. The Cortez expedition landed on the _____ _____ in 1519.
46. Another name for the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan is _____.
47. Tenochtitlan was built on a series of _____.

c. The Circumnavigation of the Globe. When the Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan failed to enlist support in his native Portugal, he offered his services to Spain. It was Magellan's plan to reach the East Indies by sailing around the southern tip of South America. Financed by the Spanish crown, Magellan left San Lúcar de Barrameda in southern Spain on September 20, 1519. Misfortune plagued the expedition from the very start. A mutiny occurred off the coast of South America, and two of the five ships deserted before they reached Tierra Del Fuego. Magellan spent five frustrating weeks searching for the strait which now bears his name. The tiny vessels were constantly buffeted by storms within the strait. Once through the strait, they encountered a placid sea, which Magellan named the Pacific Ocean. The fleet sailed northwest for months through seemingly endless water. Finally, their food was gone; and the crew was reduced to eating rats, sawdust, and "fried" leather. Many of the sailors died of starvation. One hundred days elapsed before they reached the Ladrone Islands. Later in the Philippines, the explorers were attacked by savage natives. Magellan, among others, was killed. In September 1522, after three years of sailing, the *Vittoria* (alone of the original five ships) sailed into San Lúcar de Barrameda. Juan Sebastián del Cano and seventeen men were all that survived of the 240 who had begun the historic voyage. Although seemingly doomed to disaster, the expedition was the most important voyage to that date. It proved that the earth is round, that Asia could be reached by sailing west, that the New World was a large continent, and that the earth was much larger than had been thought.

d. The Conquest of the Inca Empire. The Inca Empire was richer than that of the Aztecs, and its conquest was even more brutal. In 1530 Francisco Pizarro, an illiterate, cruel, and

unscrupulous adventurer, led a Spanish army into the Inca's Andean kingdom. The Inca Empire was in the midst of a disastrous civil war. Two heirs to the throne were vying for total control. The situation was tailor-made for a butcher like Pizarro. The Spaniards invited the Emperor, Atahualpa, to a banquet. When the unsuspecting Inca accepted the invitation, he became Pizarro's prisoner. The Spaniards strangled Atahualpa, even though a huge ransom was paid for his release. When Pizarro was urged to stop his unwarranted slaughter of the Indians and to instruct them in the Christian faith, he responded, "I have not come for any such reasons: I have come to take away from them their gold."

Pizarro's acquisition of that great wealth for himself and for Spain turned out to be both a personal and a national curse. Pizarro was murdered by his own men. Spain squandered her riches on senseless European wars; her young men came to despise work as a way of earning a living; and Spain spent her time looking for more Perus and Mexicos instead of establishing permanent settlements.

e. The Expedition of Narváez and de Vaca. In the spring of 1527, a large expedition of 400 men under the joint leadership of Pánfilo de Narváez and Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca sailed from Spain to the West Indies. It would appear that the Narváez-de Vaca expedition was destined for disaster from the very start. The original fleet sailed from Spain to Cuba, but nearly half of this fleet was lost in a storm just off the island. At Cuba most of the crew deserted, and valuable time was lost recruiting new men. On the way to Florida, another storm sank half of the remaining ships. Once the expedition was in Floridian waters with the land party on shore, the remainder of the fleet was split in two. One half was to sail north and the other sought, both to explore the Florida coastline. The southern half of the fleet simply disappeared and when the northern half lost contact with the land force, it gave up and went home. The land party, once it realized that it was totally on its own, headed north. Some time later it also split into two groups. Again, one continued north and one went back south. The southbound group, like its counterpart in the fleet, simply disappeared. The remaining Spaniards struggled north through Florida's swamps and forests, continually harassed by Indians. The explorers finally reached Apalachee Bay, where they expected to meet their fleet. When they realized that the fleet would not meet them, the adventurers built a fleet of five tiny handmade boats. Late in September 1528, two hundred forty-two survivors sailed out of Apalachee Bay westward across the Gulf of Mexico. Somewhere in the Gulf, a storm hit the fragile fleet, and most of the crude vessels sank. More than eighty men were washed up on the Texas shore. These men wandered around Texas for a while before being captured by Indians. For the next four years, those who

survived lived the lives of slaves. Many died cruel deaths, some even at the hands of cannibals. Finally in 1536, after suffering great hardships with the Indians, four men made their escape. After eight long years, Cabeza de Vaca, Alonzo del Castillo, Andres Dorantes, and the latter's black slave Ésteban – the four lone survivors of the expedition of 400 – staggered into Culiacán, Mexico, to tell their fantastic tale.

48. Ferdinand Magellan failed to enlist support in his native _____, so he offered his services to _____.
49. Magellan was attacked and killed in the _____.
50. Francisco Pizarro's acquisition of great _____ for himself and for Spain turned out to be a personal and national _____.
51. a. In 1527, a large expedition of _____ men sailed from Spain to the West Indies.
b. After eight long years, 4 survivors of the _____ lived to tell their fantastic tale.

f. The Entradas into North America Proper. The ill-fated Narváez-de Vaca expedition opened the door of that vast area of North America that is now the United States, and explorers and adventurers were quick to follow its lead. In 1539 Hernando de Soto, one-time partner of Pizarro in Peru, launched the most elaborate Spanish expedition into North America. The de Soto party essentially followed the Narváez-de Vaca route up the Florida peninsula. De Soto journeyed through most of the area of today's southern states, making slaves of the Indians along the way. After three years of travel, the Spaniards sighted the Mississippi River, which they crossed near the mouth of the Arkansas River. The expedition continued west until hostile Indians and the threat of mutiny caused de Soto to retreat. De Soto died of fever, and the others returned to Mexico. At one time the de Soto and Coronado expeditions were quite near to each other but never once met. The latter expedition under the command of Francisco Vásquez de Coronado moved north out of Mexico into the present-day states of Arizona and New Mexico. Coronado's Spanish army conquered and entered the village of Hawikuh (Zuñi). At this point the expedition split into two parties. The party under Lopez de Cardenas became the first group of Europeans to view the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River. The other and larger group, under the personal command of Coronado, journeyed into Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. For months a Plains Indian guide led the Spaniards around in circles. Finally, Coronado gave up and returned to Mexico without ever finding the mythical "Seven Cities of Gold."

g. The Black Legend. The Spaniards developed the theory that some peoples were destined by God and nature to be slaves. The American Indians were relegated to such a position. A controversy raged as to whether or not Indians were human beings with souls. Were Indians, they asked, capable of being converted to the Christian faith? Indians were treated like beasts of burden, and they were an integral part of the property that belonged to the land granted to an estate holder. Indians were beaten, starved, tortured, and murdered without regard to gender or age. Nearly the entire Indian population of the Caribbean Islands was decimated in a few short years. That cruelty, which seemed to be a major part of the Spanish *encomienda*⁵ system, became known as *La Leyenda Negra* (the “Black Legend”). A few men of conscience cried out against the injustices.

One man in particular became a legend in his own right. Bartholemé de Las Casas, whose father, Francisco de Las Casas, had accompanied Columbus on his second voyage, had been a successful lawyer in Spain before he sailed to America. Las Casas, the first man to be ordained a priest in the New World, later joined the Dominican Order. He became very concerned about the maltreatment of the Indians and in 1514 relinquished his own *encomienda*. He became a vociferous opponent of the excesses of the rights, for which he earned the title “Protector of the Indians.” Las Casas made two trips to Spain to ask the government for laws to protect the Indians, and in 1542 he published a book entitled *Brief Account of the Destruction of the West Indies*. Finally, Carlos V of Spain yielded to Las Casas, pressure and abolished the *encomiendas*.

3. France

a. Giovanni Verrazano. In the sixteenth century, piracy was considered an honorable profession. Privateers often carried *lettres des marques* from one country authorizing them to prey upon the shipping of another nation. One such pirate/privateer was the Florentine, Giovanni Verrazano, who sailed under the ensign of France. After gaining a reputation for successfully raiding Spanish shipping, Verrazano, was commissioned to search for a Northwest Passage. Verrazano first sighted the New World off the coast of South Carolina and proceeded to sail to Newfoundland. On the way north, he sailed into New York Harbor but failed to discover the Hudson River. Verrazano recommended to the King of France that the area be settled, but Francis I would not listen because the expedition had produced neither gold nor a Northwest Passage.

⁵ *encomienda* – Spanish landholding system

b. Jacques Cartier. France continued to send expeditions to search for a Northwest Passage. In 1534 another privateer, Jacques Cartier, sailed for North America under the auspices of France. Cartier's voyage marks the real beginning of France interest in North America. Cartier discovered and sailed up the St. Lawrence River until his progress was blocked by the Lachine Rapids. By that Cartier knew that the St. Lawrence was not the Northwest Passage. Cartier sailed back to France with no gold, no silver, no Northwest Passage, and no conviction that America was worth anything.

c. Samuel de Champlain. A company of Rouen merchants commissioned Samuel de Champlain to further explore the area of the St. Lawrence River and establish a trading post. It was their desire to create a lucrative fur trade in North America. Champlain accomplished the erection of a fort at Quebec in 1603. On his second voyage to America in 1608, Champlain discovered the lake now named for him. Champlain was always careful to be fair in his dealings with the Indians; and he, more than anyone else, opened North America to French colonization and fur trading. Samuel de Champlain has been called the "Father of New France."

d. Marquette and Jolliet. In 1673 the priest Jacques Marquette and the trader Louis Jolliet began the exploration of the Mississippi River for France. That nation was still looking for a water passage through the North American continent to Asia. It was thought that the Mississippi might indeed be that desired passage. Marquette, Jolliet, and five other explorers left Lake Michigan in two birch bark canoes. They traveled for several hundred miles down the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers until they reached the mouth of the Arkansas River. At that point it was obvious to the Frenchmen that the Mississippi was flowing south instead of west and thus could not be the Northwest Passage. The seven explorers abandoned their search and returned upriver greatly disappointed.

e. La Salle. Robert Cavelier, Sieur de la Salle, was a well educated scion of a French noble family. His overriding ambition was to obtain for France the fur trade of the Great Lakes and the Upper Mississippi River area. La Salle also desired to find the mouth of the Mississippi and claim all of the interior of North America for his native France. His first attempt to accomplish this end, after considerable hardships, ended in failure; but the determined La Salle refused to give up. On a second attempt, he traveled by canoe through the Great Lakes and down the various rivers. He traveled the length of the Mississippi, and in April of 1682, La Salle succeeded in reaching the Gulf of Mexico and the mouth of the Mississippi River. Sadly, the

great explorer was murdered by one of his own men because of the hardships they had to endure. La Salle accomplished much for France. Due to his personal exploration, La Salle was able to claim all of mid-America for France. He inaugurated the use of the great inland waterways system and was the chief architect of the chain of forts and missions along them. He further envisioned a great city that would be a New World Paris. That dream was somewhat fulfilled in the foundation of New Orleans.

52. After three years of travel, the _____ sighted the Mississippi River, which they crossed near the mouth of the _____ River.
53. The party under Lopez de Cardenas became the first group of Europeans to view the _____ of the _____ River.
54. The American Indians were relegated by God and nature to be _____ according to the Spaniards theory.
55. _____ were beaten, starved, tortured, and murdered without regard to _____ or _____.
56. In the 16th century, _____ was considered an honorable profession.
57. Giovanni Verrazano sailed into _____ but failed to discover the _____.
58. Jacques Cartier discovered and sailed up the _____ until his progress was blocked by the _____.
59. Samuel de Champlain erected a _____ at Quebec in 1603 and discovered the _____ now named for him in 1608.
60. Samuel de Champlain has been called the “_____.”
61. Jacques Marquette and Louis Jolliet did an exploration of the _____ for France looking for a water passage to Asia.
62. La Salle’s ambition was to obtain for France the _____ trade of the _____ and the _____.
63. La Salle envisioned a great city that would be a _____ and that dream was fulfilled in the foundation of _____.

C. NON-ANGLO COLONIZATION

1. The Spaniards and Portuguese. The main bulk of Spanish North American settlement was concentrated in the Rio Grande Valley and the Valley of Mexico, with the other towns and

presidios scattered throughout the Spanish holdings. Two of the earliest settlements north of Mexico were St. Augustine, Florida, and Santa Fé, New Mexico. The latter has served as a seat of government longer than any other state capital in the United States. For decades a controversy has raged among scholars and other interested persons as to which is the oldest continuously occupied town in the continental United States. St. Augustine and Santa Fé have been the two principal contenders in this debate. The official date for the founding of St. Augustine is 1565, and the official date for the founding of Santa Fé is 1598. Both cities however, claim earlier origins, and the matter has never been satisfactorily settled. In addition to Santa Fé and St. Augustine, the little town of Tubac, Arizona, has recently been included as a third contender for the title. This town was officially proclaimed a Spanish presidio in the early 1700s, but the site may have been occupied as a Spanish outpost for nearly 150 years prior to that date. If this is true, it definitely places Tubac in contention with St. Augustine and Santa Fé. Whatever European-founded town eventually proves its case can at best come in only second, however, when one realizes that there is an Indian village that has been occupied continuously since A.D. 1000, the time of Leif Ericsson. This town is the Hopi Indian pueblo of Old Oraibi, located a few hundred miles north of Tubac, Arizona.

a. Portuguese Brazil. The largest single colony in South America was Brazil, which fell to the Portuguese due to the 1494 signing of the Treaty of Tordesillas. Because they were busy developing their holdings in the Orient, the Portuguese did little with Brazil for over thirty years. In 1534 Portugal divided Brazil into fifteen captaincies, or estates, each of which extended from the east coast westward to the Spanish lands in the interior. A central government was set up in 1594 under a governor-general. Thomé de Sousa and six Jesuit priests headed that government from their headquarters in Salvador. Those seven men have often been proclaimed the “Founders of Brazil.”

b. Encomienda and Captaincy⁶ Systems. The Spanish were cruel in the New World and developed a system of landholding known as encomiendas. The encomiendas were huge land grants upon which the conquistadores were virtual lords. The Indians living on the land were little more than beasts of burden and were considered part of the personal property of the landlord, who could buy and sell them as a part of the estate. The Portuguese captaincies were very similar to the encomiendas. In Brazil more black Africans were imported and used as slaves than native Indians. The encomienda system of the Spaniards and the captaincies of the

⁶ captaincy – Portuguese landholding system

Portuguese created a rigid, stagnating feudal system that reduced the Indians to the position of land-bound serfs and plantation slaves. Any attempt to achieve religious or individual freedom was squashed with brutal cruelty. The conquistadores and padres had brought the terrors of the “Holy Office of the Inquisition” with them to New Spain. In some instances the Indians were considered to be sub-humans without souls and, therefore, incapable of being converted.

When Francisco Coronado failed to find the gold-laden, fabled Seven Cities of Cibola, the Spaniards basically gave up seeking treasure north of the Rio Grande. They turned instead to Mexico, Central America, and South America. Spain was in the new World to exploit the country and the natives by means of mining, slavery, and outright plunder. They had the moral duty to spread Christianity and civilization among the pagan inhabitants of the Americas, but they failed to do so. By means of the sword, thousands upon thousands of unbelieving Indians were forced to accept the Catholic baptism of sprinkled “holy water.” The result was not converted Indians but merely thousands upon thousands of slightly damp, but still unbelieving, natives. Very rarely did these lost heathens have the true Gospel of Christ preached to them. The record of the Portuguese in America, although similar, was not as bad as that of the Spaniards.

64. Two of the earliest settlements north of Mexico were _____, _____ and _____, _____.
65. The Indian village that has been occupied continuously since A.D. 1000 in the Hopi Indian pueblo of _____.
66. Thomé de Sousa and six Jesuit priests have been proclaimed the “_____.”
67. Encomiendas were huge _____ upon which the conquistadors were virtual lords.
68. a. Francisco Coronado failed to find the _____, fabled Seven Cities of Cibola.
b. The Spaniards basically gave up seeking treasure north of the _____

2. The French. In 1542 Jean François de la Roche, Sieur de Roberval attempted to establish the first French colony in North America. Roberval and 200 potential colonists, mostly convicts, landed on the shores of Newfoundland and journeyed up the St. Lawrence River. Near the future site of Quebec, Roberval founded his settlement. The majority of the colonists, however died during the extremely harsh Canadian winter. The following spring the few survivors gave up and went home to France. Sixty-six years later, the first permanent settlements in French Canada was

founded very near the site of Roberval’s failure. In 1608 Samuel de Champlain laid the foundation for the city of Quebec. It was Champlain’s personal desire to see a highly populated French Empire carved out of the American wilderness.

Due to Champlain’s efforts, the French government promulgated a colonial policy but with less than the desired success. France established the *viceroy*⁷; however, the trading companies failed to live up to their commitment, and New France did not grow as Champlain had hoped. Like the Spaniards and Portuguese to the south, France was a failure in the New World. The French did not, as a general rule, settle down and farm the land and build homes. They roamed through the forests as hunters and trappers. They did not bring wives and raise families but merely lived with the Indians. They failed to bring Christianity and civilization to the Indians but became savages themselves. The fur men did nothing to elevate the Indians but lowered themselves to their level. The population of New France was sparse, and few real population centers existed. The colony as a whole had no chance of sending down roots and growing into interlinked viable communities. The Frenchmen exploited the land and the native people. They did not enslave or torture the Indians as did the Spaniards and Portuguese, but they used them for their own purposes. They armed them, set them against the Dutch, English, and other Indians, and encouraged scalp-hunting for bounty. They gave the Indians guns and liquor in exchange for furs and cared little about the results of such a trade. Once again, the French colonials, like their Spanish and Portuguese counterparts, had come to the New World to exploit and to take but not to bring and to build.

Twenty years after the failure of Roberval’s attempt to establish a settlement of French convicts, the Protestant statesman Gaspard de Coligny used his influence to gain sanction for the establishment of a Huguenot⁸ colony in the New World. The Huguenots were a group of Protestants in France who followed the teachings of John Calvin. They were given the name “Huguenots” by the French Catholic Church as a term of derision. This name may have come from the last name of Besançon Hugues, a Swiss Protestant leader. The Huguenots were the victims of persecution and repeated atrocities at the hands of the French Catholics and the “Holy office of the Inquisition.” Because of this persecution, many Huguenots fled to other parts of the world.

In 1562 Jean Ribault of Dieppe led a party of Huguenots to the New World, where they established a colony at Charlesfort near Parris Island, South Carolina. They were, however, forced to abandon Charlesfort two years later. Ribault and a man named Ladonnière founded a

⁷ viceroy – French landholding system

⁸ Huguenot – French Calvinistic Protestant

second colony at Fort Caroline, near the mouth of the St. John’s River in Florida. After suffering great hardships, these French Christians succeeded in stabilizing their tiny settlement, and shiploads of new Huguenots began to arrive from France.

When these events were communicated to the Spanish authorities, Spain dispatched Pedro Menendez de Aviles to Fort Caroline in 1565. De Aviles brutally destroyed Fort Caroline and immediately slaughtered 200 of its inhabitants. Those Huguenots who escaped through the swamps were later induced to surrender with the understanding that they would be granted clemency. Instead, they were bound and taken to the newly founded city of St. Augustine, where the 700 defenseless prisoners were ruthlessly murdered. De Aviles had premeditatedly annihilated all the men, women, and children of the Huguenot colony: “Not because they were Frenchmen,” he said, “but because they were heretics.” The long arm of the Inquisition had reached to Florida. Murdered in and chased out of New Spain and barred from New France, the Huguenot refugees began to flee to the English colonies.

69. The French did not settle down and _____ the land and _____ homes, but roamed through the forests as _____ and _____.
70. The Frenchmen exploited the _____ and the native _____.
71. The French colonials, like the Spanish and Portuguese, had come to the New World to _____ and to _____, but not to _____ and to _____.
72. The Huguenots were a group of _____ in France who followed the teachings of _____.

3. The Dutch

On his voyage, the English navigator Henry Hudson sailed under the auspices of the Dutch East India Company. In the process of searching for the nonexistent Northwest Passage, Hudson discovered the New York Harbor and the Hudson River. Hudson’s voyage opened the New York area to Dutch trade and settlement. The new market led to the formation, in 1621, of the Dutch West India Company. In the year 1624, thirty Belgian Protestant families, who had been exiled from Roman Catholic Spanish Netherlands (Belgium), settled on Manhattan Island and in the surrounding areas. Those religious refugees founded Fort Amsterdam, which later became the town of New Amsterdam. Willem Verhulst led the colony until he was replaced in 1626 by Peter Minuit. In order to establish better relations with the local Indians, Minuit “purchased” Manhattan for sixty Dutch guilders (\$24). The New Netherland colony soon became

a haven for Protestant refugees from many countries. Although the Dutch were always the most numerous single group, they never achieved majority status in their own colony.

a. The Patroon⁹ System. The Dutch land grants, known as patroons, were similar to the Spanish encomiendas, Portuguese captaincies, and French viceroys in their basic methods of functioning but not to the same degree. A New Netherland estate included mineral rights and hunting and fishing rights, but it did not include ownership of the native peoples living on the land. The Dutch did not enslave the Indians; although, like all European powers, they did at times exploit the Amerinds. The precedent was established for buying land from the Indians rather than stealing it outright. The patroon system greatly restricted the personal trade that could be carried on by the colonists themselves. Those restrictions led to the ultimate destruction of the patroons.

b. First Jews in United States in New Amsterdam. Many of the Jews who fled the pogroms¹⁰ of Spain found refuge in Holland and the Dutch West India Company holdings around the world. There were Jews in the West Indies by 1511, in South America by 1516, and in Mexico by 1571. Wherever they went, however, the Inquisition continued to persecute them. The “Holy Office” sought to root out secret Jews and clandestine Jewish practices by means of undercover agents who posed as Jews and wormed their way into Jewish society. Thus, in many areas, Jews had learned to keep their Judaism a carefully guarded secret to all but know fellow Jews.

By 1548 a secret congregation of Jews was in Pernambuco, Brazil (present-day Recife). Although underground, it was then the largest congregation of Jews in the Americas. When Brazil came under Dutch rule in 1620, there was a great rejoicing among the Jewish population. For the first time in that country, the Jews began to meet and practice Judaism openly. The congregation in Recife maintained the first openly acknowledged synagogue in the New World. That condition, however, was very short-lived. In 1654 Brazil was recaptured by the Portuguese, and the nightmare of Inquisitional persecution returned to the Jews in Recife. Since they had openly proclaimed their Jewishness for the previous thirty-four years, they could not simply return undetected to a clandestine state. They could only flee the country. The government allowed them to leave on a Dutch ship bound for New Amsterdam, but they could take no personal belongings with them.

⁹ patroon – Dutch landholding system

¹⁰ pogrom – term used for an organized massacre of Jews.

Twenty-three of these Sephardic¹¹ Jews from Brazil arrived in the harbor of New Amsterdam later in 1654, penniless and unwanted. Peter Stuyvesant, who was the governor of New Netherland, refused to let them ashore on the grounds that the colony could not afford to support paupers. His real motives were based on the ever-present cancer of anti-Semitism. The twenty-three Sephardim made a direct appeal to the home office of the Dutch West India Company in Holland to be allowed to land and settle the New Amsterdam colony. The Dutch West India Company overruled Stuyvesant and decided in favor of the Jews. Perhaps one main reason for this decision was that a majority of the major stockholders in the Dutch West India Company in Europe were themselves Jews!

Those Sephardic Jews eventually became a clique of socially elite families in New York City. Although these Sephardic Jews from Brazil became the first settlement of Jews on U.S. soil, no one of their group can claim to be the very first Jew to settle in the United States. In that same year of 1654, some months before the arrival the Sephardim, and *Ashkenazic*¹² Jew named Jacob Barsimon arrived from the Netherlands to take up residence in New Amsterdam. To him goes the honor of being the first Jewish resident to the future United States of America.

Even in Protestant New Netherland, the Jews encountered anti-Semitism such as that of Peter Stuyvesant. Persecution of God's people runs rampant throughout the history of the world. It is a historical fact that those nations persecuting the Jews have suffered the wrath of God's judgment, whereas nations offering shelter to the Jews have prospered. The United States, in particular, is a good example of the latter. This country, although not completely free from prejudice, has always opened her shores to the Jew; and the United States has reaped bountiful blessings from God.

73. a. Henry Hudson discovered the _____ and the _____.
- b. This voyage opened the New York area to _____ trade and settlement.
74. Peter Minuit purchased Manhattan for _____ Dutch guilders (\$24).
75. A New Netherland estate included _____ rights and _____ and _____ rights, but not the ownership of the _____ peoples on the land.
76. The Dutch did _____ enslave the Indians.
77. The Jewish congregation in Recife, Brazil maintained the first openly acknowledged _____ in the New World.

¹¹ Sephardic – pertaining to Jews from the Iberian Peninsula

¹² Ashkenazic – pertaining to Jews from Germany

78. The twenty-three Sephardic Jews from Brazil eventually became a clique of socially _____ families in _____.
79. The first Jewish resident to the future USA was _____.

4. The Swedes and Finns

One of the founders of the Dutch West India Company, William Usselinx, had quarreled with the company's directors and subsequently resigned from the company. Usselinx went to Sweden and tried to interest the Swedish crown in North American settlement. Consequently, in 1637 the New Sweden Company was formed. The following year, Peter Minuit, the founder of New Netherland, also quarreled with the Dutch West India Company and was discharged by the directors. Minuit then led a nationally mixed group of colonists to establish New Sweden. Fort Christina, named for the girl queen of Sweden, was constructed on the Delaware River near the site of present-day Wilmington. Like New Netherland, people from several European countries migrated to New Sweden. By far the greatest numbers of those foreign immigrants were Finns. Eventually, New Sweden became absorbed by New Netherland when Peter Stuyvesant demanded and received the surrender of the Swedish-Finnish colony. Finally in 1664 Dutch New Netherland, which included New Sweden, became the British New York.

Unlike the Spaniards and Portuguese, the Dutch, Swedes, and Finns did not enslave the native Indians or their own colonists. A great degree of personal freedom and religious tolerance was granted. The patroon system did not begin to approximate the feudalism of the encomiendas and captaincies. The land holdings were not limited to the favored few. The Holy Office of the Inquisition had no authority in these Protestant colonies. Jews and other groups were given a chance to live and practice their own lifestyles as long as the rules of the colonies were obeyed. These colonies were established for the financial benefit of the trading companies, but the people who populated them, for the most part, came to stay. They wanted to build homes, raise families, and worship their God. They did not come to quickly amass a fortune, but they did come to work and make a profit. They came to build a new life, not destroy an old one. The Spaniards and Portuguese were but direct pawns of the crown and the Papacy. The Dutch, Swedes, and Finns were responsible to the trading company, which acted as a buffer between the colonists and the government. A colonist in these settlements owed allegiance to the company and to the mother country, but beyond that, his life was his own. The Dutch and Swedish experiments in colonization were not really failures; they were simply overwhelmed and absorbed by the more aggressive English.

80. The greatest number of foreign immigrants to New Sweden were _____.
81. The Holy Office of the Inquisition had no authority in _____ colonies.
82. The _____ and _____ were direct pawns of the crown and the Papacy.
83. The _____, _____, and _____ were responsible to the trading company.