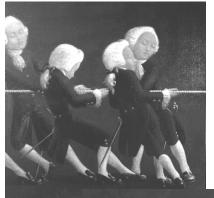
The Ideological Tug of War in 18th Century America



Great Awakening Constitution
1700

Declaration

of Independence



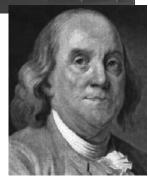


Jonathan Edwards/Calvinism/ Puritanism

Pulling us back

Benjamin Franklin/Deism/ Age of Reason / Enlightenment Ideals

Pulling us forward



Puritan Thought:

- ❖ Human nature is essentially bad; all humans were born in sin and deserve damnation
- ❖ God is revealed in the Bible
- Government should enforce codes of behavior based on religious tenets
- ❖ Imagination and knowledge may be evil in some cases

Enlightenment Thought:

- ❖ Man is capable of improving through the use of his mind and conscience
- Education and science are essential to the happiness of man
- Civil and religious liberty are essential to man's interests
- ❖ There can be no human authority to which man ought to be accountable for his religious opinions