New England Puritans

* Calvinism
* Predestination
* Human corruption and depravity
* The Church as the foundation of social order
* Government enforcement of God’s law
* Natural liberty v. civil liberty
* Rights of the individual
* Importance of education
* America as a “city on a hill”

Discuss

* God predetermined certain souls for salvation and others for damnation
* Human beings are corrupt and depraved
* God’s elect are recognizable by their virtues of hard work, thrift, moderation, and temperance
* The church provides a foundation for social order.
* Church membership should be a requirement for participation in politics
* Government officials gain their authority from God and not from the electorate
* Liberty should allow people to do only that which is good, just, and honest
* All people should be equal under the law
* Citizens should be educated
* America is a “city on a hill”

Roger Williams

* Religious separatism
* Uncertainty of religious truth
* Liberty of conscience
* Religious diversity
* Separation of church and state
* The rights of America Indians

Discuss

* The church is a holy place that should not be open to non-Christians
* Force should not be used to prohibit people from worshipping as they please
* No person can be so certain of religious truth that he can impose personal beliefs on others
* Liberty of conscience should be granted to all people
* Individual conscience must be respected even if it’s wrong
* Christianity will flourish in a society of diverse religions
* Church and state should be separate
* Christians must learn to live in a world full of non-Christians