

A historical painting of a 17th-century town square. On the right, a large white church with a tall, multi-tiered steeple stands behind a fence. In the center, a large, leafy tree is prominent. To the left, a row of multi-story wooden buildings with many windows lines the square. In the foreground, a person on a horse is riding across the cobblestone street. The overall scene is a detailed depiction of a colonial-era town.

FIRSTSF 10.8.23

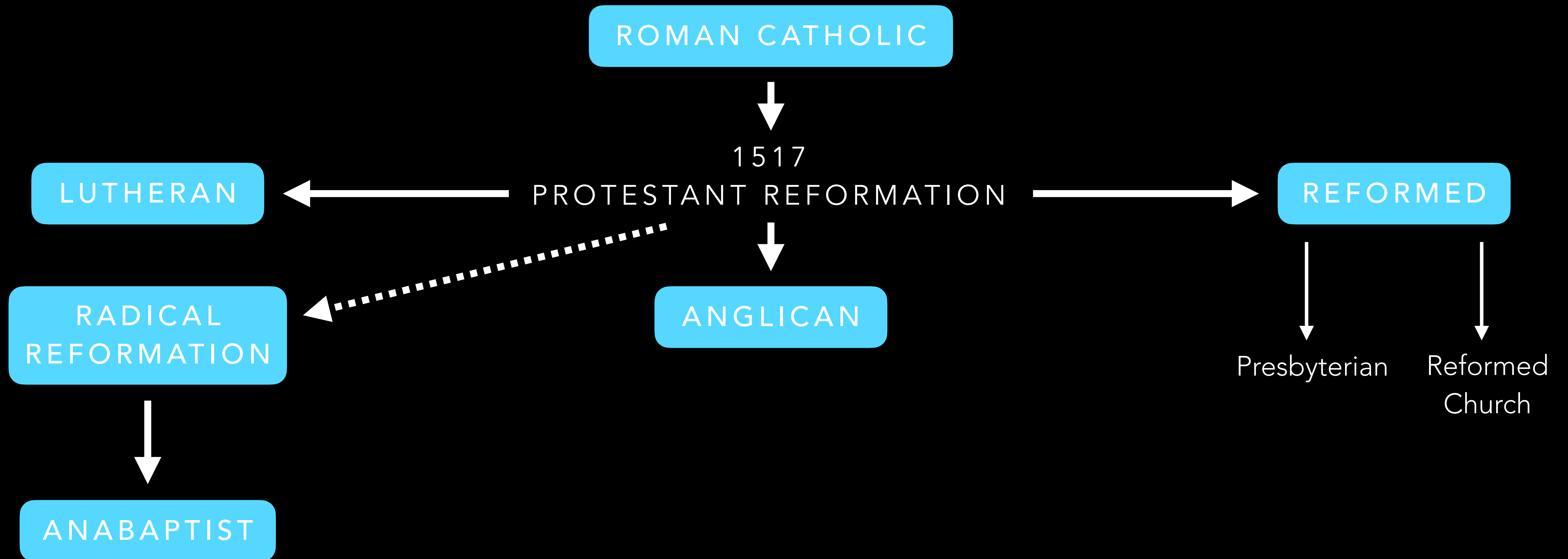
# POST-REFORMATION: BAPTIST ORIGINS

1525-1676 AD



BAPTIST ORIGINS, 1525-1676 AD

# CONTEXT OF CHURCH HISTORY

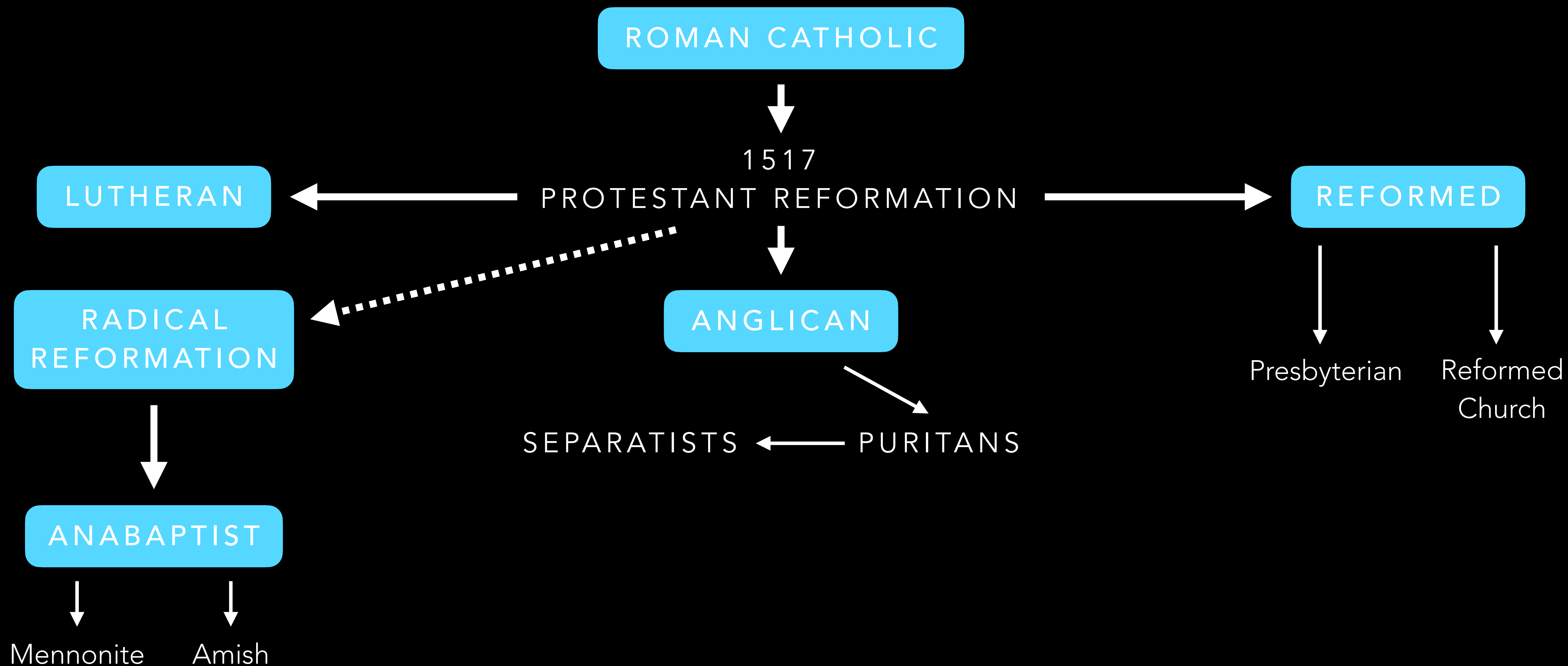


# ANABAPTISTS

- *Ana-baptismos* = "re-baptize"
- Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531): Reformation in Switzerland
  - Persecution of Anabaptists fled to Germany & Netherlands
- Menno Simons (1496-1561) = "brethren"/Mennonites in Amsterdam
- Was baptism a hill worth (literally) dying on?

BAPTIST ORIGINS, 1525-1676 AD

# CONTEXT OF CHURCH HISTORY

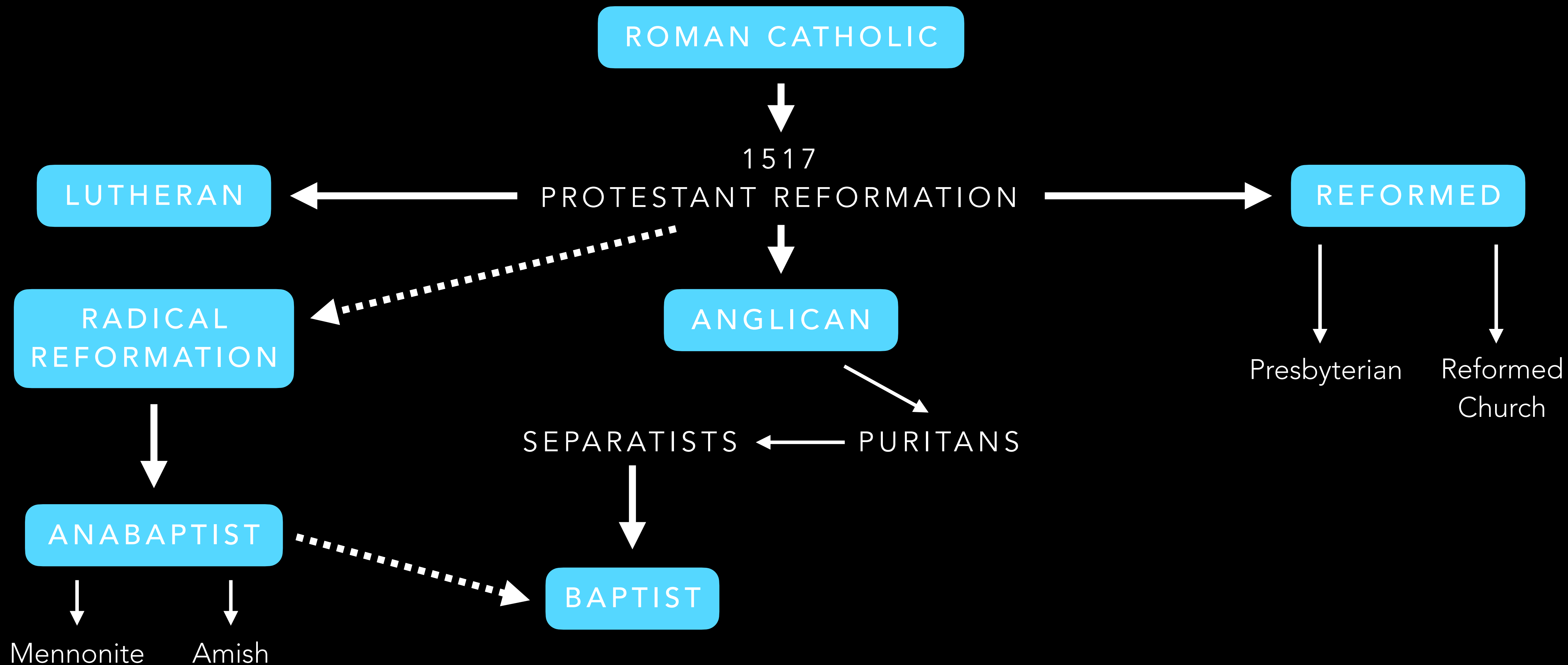


# PURITAN SEPARATISTS

- Congregationalists = priesthood of believers
- John Smyth (1565-1612): est. first Baptist congregation in Holland ca.1609
- Thomas Helwys (1550-1616): est. first Baptist Church of England ca.1612
  - General Baptists vs. Particular Baptists
  - "A Declaration of Faith of English People", 1611

BAPTIST ORIGINS, 1525-1676 AD

# CONTEXT OF CHURCH HISTORY



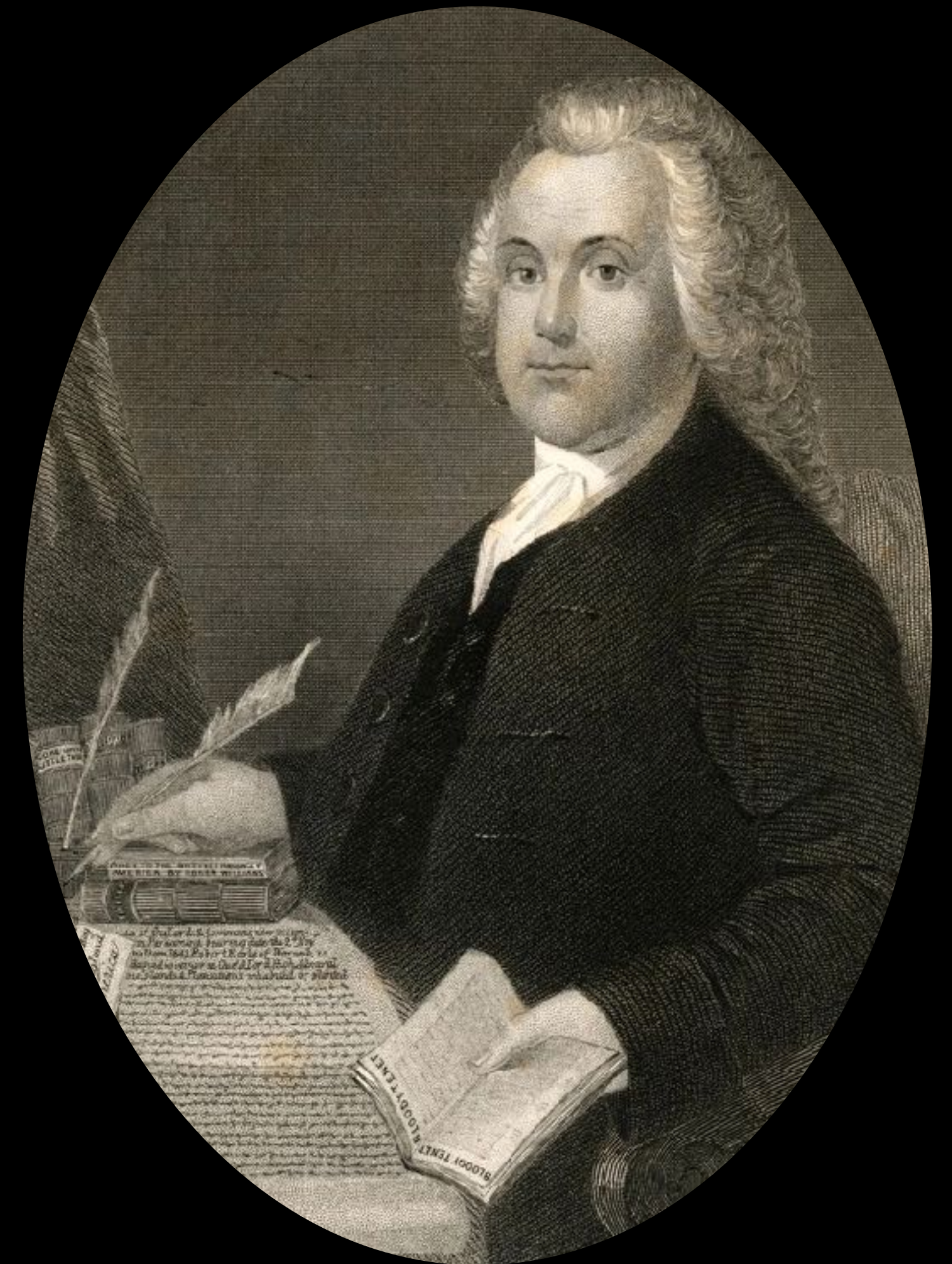


BAPTIST ORIGINS, 1525-1676 AD

# AMERICAN BAPTISTS

## ROGER WILLIAMS (1629-1676)

- Raised Anglican; adopted Separatists views
  - Sailed for Massachusetts to est. Puritan church
- Argued heavily for separation of Church & State
- Est. Rhode Island as a religious free state, city of "God's Merciful Providence"
- 1638 First Baptist Church of Providence, RI



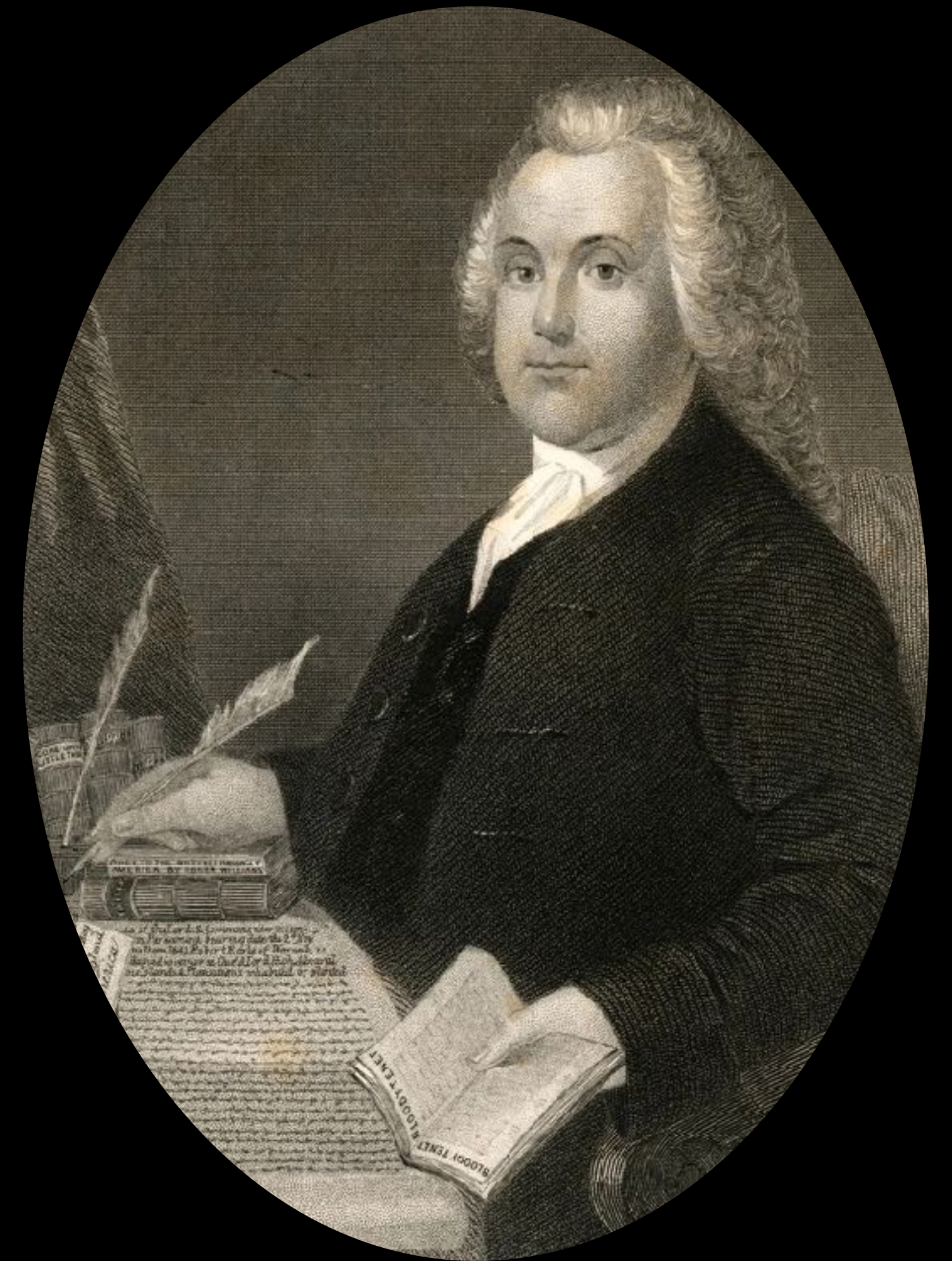


BAPTIST ORIGINS, 1525-1676 AD

# AMERICAN BAPTISTS

"...forced worship stinks in God's nostrils. 2d. That it denies Christ Jesus yet to be come, and makes the church yet national, figurative and ceremonial. 3d. That in these flames about religion, as his Majesty, his father and grandfather have yielded, there is no other prudent, Christian way of preserving peace in the world, but by permission of differing consciences."

LETTER TO GOVERNOR OF  
CONNECTICUT, 1670

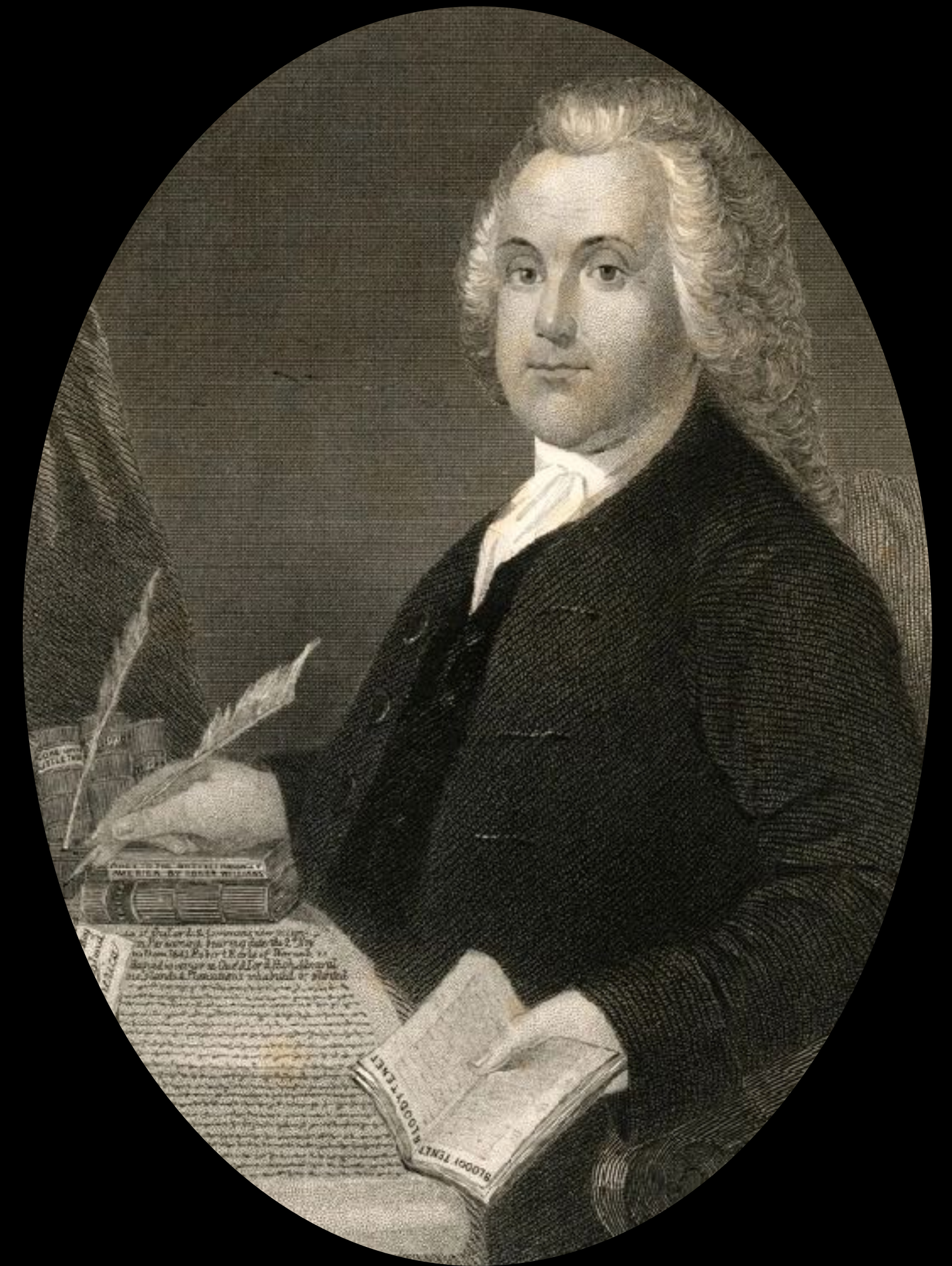




BAPTIST ORIGINS, 1525-1676 AD

# AMERICAN BAPTISTS

Is religious pluralism good or bad  
for the Christian faith?



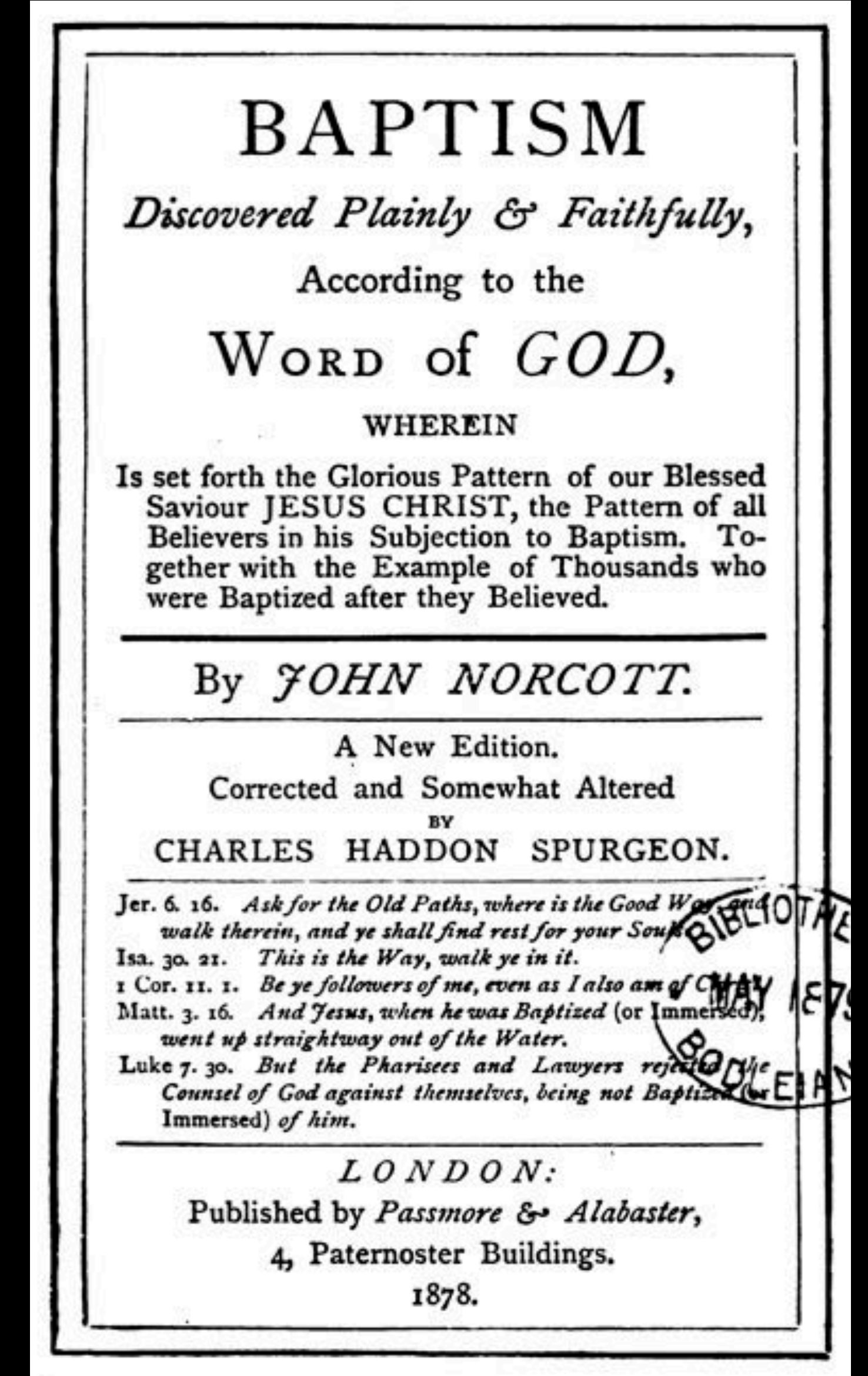


BAPTIST ORIGINS, 1525-1676 AD

# AMERICAN BAPTISTS

JOHN NORCOTT (1621-1676)

- Successor of John Spilsbury's church in England
- 1672, *Baptism Discovered Plainly & Faithfully, According to the Word of God*
  - Christ was baptized at 30 years of age; why not in infancy?
  - Jesus was immersed in the water
  - Dipping in or being covered by water illustrates burial with Christ and resurrection





# CONTEXT OF CHURCH HISTORY

