

## American Minute with Bill Federer

### Dutch Golden Age: World Maritime-Economic Power of 16th & 17th centuries, and the Dutch Colony of New Amsterdam, which became New York

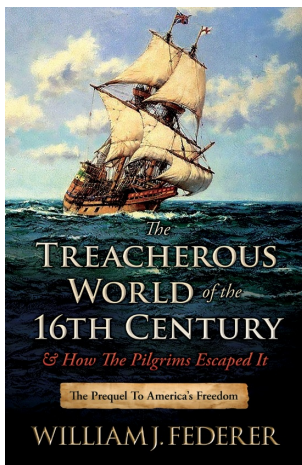
#### [Read American Minute](#)

After **seven centuries** of occupation by the **Islamic dynasties** of **Umayyad, Almoravid, Almohad, Marinid, and Nasrid**, **Spanish troops** under **Queen Isabella I of Castile** and



**King Ferdinand II of Aragon** finally drove out the last occupying armies on January 2, 1492 ... [continue reading American Minute here ...](#)

#### [Download as PDF ...](#)



[The Treacherous World of the 16th Century and How the Pilgrims Escaped It: The Prequel to America's Freedom](#)

**Jews** were culturally caught in the middle between **Christians** and **Muslims**, and consequently, viewed with

reservation.

**King Ferdinand** issued an ignoble decree, March 31, 1492, ordering Spain's large **Sephardic Jewish population** to either **convert** or **leave**.

Some **Jews** fled to **Portugal**, then to **the Netherlands**, which was Europe's **center of religious toleration**.

By the 17th century, **Holland** prospered tremendously, with its largest city of **Amsterdam** becoming the **wealthiest city in the Western world**.

During this time, **Holland** fought an **80 year war of independence** from **Spain**, from 1568 to 1648.

**Spain**, on one hand, **defended Europe** by driving back **Islamic Ottoman armies and navies**, but on the other hand, **Spain** attempted to **crush the Reformation** in **Holland and England**.

In 1572, as part of the **Dutch War of Independence**, the **Spanish Iron Duke of Alba** had his men **pillage** and **murder** thousands across the **Netherlands** in "**The Spanish Furies**."

The **Dutch** fought back, led by **William the Silent, Prince of Orange**.

In 1581, the **Dutch** formed the "**Republic of the Seven United Netherlands**."

It was one of the few nations with no king.

**Spain**, under Philip II, also assailed Queen Elizabeth's **England** in the **Anglo-Spanish War**, 1585-1604.

The **Invincible Spanish Armada** attacked in 1588, but **Dutch** and **English** sailors, with the aid of a hurricane, repelled it.

During **The Eighty Years War**, there was a brief twelve

year truce, but hostilities renewed in 1619 as part of a **larger European conflict** called **The Thirty Years War**, 1618-1648.

It began as a dispute between **Protestants** and **Catholics**, but ended as a **bloody rivalry** for **political dominance** between **France** and the **Habsburg Empire**, leaving 8 million dead.

The fighting finally ended with the **Peace of Westphalia** in **1648**.

**The Dutch Golden Age** is considered to have **begun** with the revolt of **William the Silent** in 1568, and **lasted until the Napoleonic wars** in the early 1800s.

The **Dutch Republic** had 2,000 ships, **more than England and France combined**.

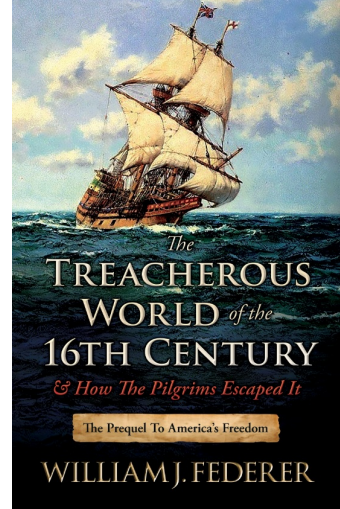
It became a **global leader** in **military, trade, science, and art**.

**Holland's University of Leiden**, established by **William the Silent** in 1575, became a center of the study of **Hebrew, Aramaic and Syriac**, with a **Jewish rabbi** as a professor.

The **Pilgrims** lived in **Holland** for 12 years before sailing to **America**.

Several **Dutch companies** approached the **Pilgrims** to settle **New Amsterdam** on **behalf of the Dutch Republic**, but the **Pilgrims** decided to sail with a patent from England's **London Company**, eventually settling **Massachusetts**.

[The Treacherous World of the 16th Century and How the Pilgrims Escaped It: The Prequel to America's Freedom](#)



The word "**company**" has an interesting development.

It originated with the Latin word **companiono**, meaning "**one who eats bread with you**" ("pan" means bread, and "com" means with).

By the **Middle Ages**, "**company**" was used to refer to **religious orders** and **trade guilds**.

The first use of "**company**" as a **corporate business association** was in England in 1553.

Prior to the Protestant Reformation, in **Medieval Europe**, it was forbidden to pay or receive **interest**.

It was called **the sin of "usury."**

As a result, there were **no business companies**.

If someone wanted to attempt an **expensive endeavor**, such as sailing around the world for **trade or spices**, they would have to approach **a rich person or a monarch to underwrite it**.

After the **Protestant Reformation**, **Amsterdam** was where some of the **first corporations** were started -- the largest being the **Dutch East India Company**.

**Common individuals** could pool their money by **investing** or "**owning stock**" in a **company expedition**

of **ships** going to Indonesia in search of **spices**, and when the ships returned, **interest** or "**dividends**" were **paid** from the profit to the **stockholders**.

If individuals wanted to **sell their share of ownership**, they could do so at **the first ever stock exchange -- The Amsterdam Stock Exchange**.

One important feature of a **corporation** was **limited liability**.

**Investors** only risked the amount they invested. They were **not liable** for damages or additional losses if the business venture failed.

But what if a **business failed**, a ship **sank**, was **taken in battle**, or **captured by Barbary pirates**.

In that case, the **Dutch** invented **insurance companies** to cover the loss.

**The Dutch city of Amsterdam**, became **Europe's leader in shipping, banking, insurance and commerce**.

The city of **Gouda** in South Holland became famous for its **cheese**.

The version of Protestantism in the Netherlands was **Dutch Calvinism**, which **prohibited religious paintings and statues in churches**.

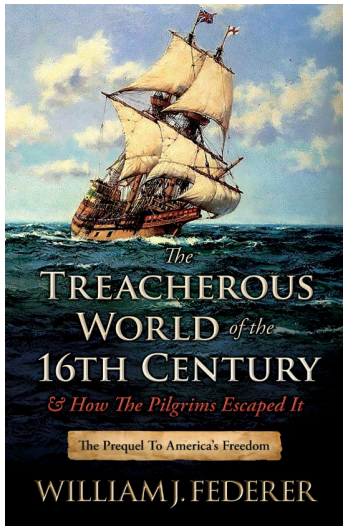
As a result, **Dutch artists** developed a variety of **other nonreligious genres**, such as:

- informal portraits,
- still life,
- peasant life,
- flowers,
- landscapes,
- townscapes,

- animals, and
- maritime paintings.

Famous **Dutch painters** included:

- **Pieter Brueghel the Elder,**
- **Pieter Claesz**
- **Frans Hals,**
- **Willem Kalf,**
- **Rembrandt van Rijn,**
- **Jacob Isaacksz van Ruisdael,**
- **Jan Steen,**
- **Hendrick Terbrugghen**
- **Johannes Vermeer.**



[The Treacherous World of the 16th Century and How the Pilgrims Escaped It: The Prequel to America's Freedom](#)

The **Dutch** sailed around **Africa's Cape of Good Hope**, and captured **Goa, India**, from the Portuguese.

**Dutch** opened trade with:

- **Japan,**
- **Jakarta,**
- **Mauritius,** and
- the **Indonesian Spice Island of Maluku.**

**Dutchman Willem Schouten** was the first to sail around **South America's Cape Horn** in 1616, naming it "**Kaap Hoorn**" after his home port city of **Hoorn** in the Netherlands.

The Dutch sighted **Fiji** and **Australia**, and colonized:

- the Pacific islands of **Tasmania** and **New Zealand**;
- the Caribbean Islands of **Netherlands Antilles**, **Aruba**, **Sint Maarten**;
- the **South American** settlements of **Guyana**, **Suriname**, and **Brazil**, which they captured from the Spanish and Portuguese for 24 years;
- **South Africa**; and
- the **North American** colony of **New Netherlands**, which included **New York**, parts of **Connecticut**, parts of **Pennsylvania**, **New Jersey**, and **Delaware**, which had previously been **New Sweden**.

On MAY 6, 1626, **Peter Minuit**, **Dutch Governor of the New Netherlands Province**, gave 60 guilders of brass buttons, scarlet cloth and trade goods to the **Manhattan Indian Tribe** in exchange for **Manhattan Island**.

The Articles for the **New Netherlands' Colony**, issued by the **Chamber of Amsterdam**, 1624, stated:

"They shall within their territory practice no other form of divine worship than that of **the Reformed religion** ...

and thus by **their Christian life and conduct** seek to draw the Indians and other blind people to **the knowledge of God and His word**, without, however, persecuting any on account of his faith, **but leaving each one the use of his conscience.**"

In 1628, **Rev. Jonas Michaelius** organized the first **Dutch Reformed Church in the Colony of New Amsterdam**, considered **one of the oldest continuous congregations in America**.

The **Dutch** set up a **New Amsterdam Stock Exchange**

along the wall of their fort -- Wall Street.

## **New Netherlands' original Charter of Freedoms and Exemptions, June 1, 1629, stated:**

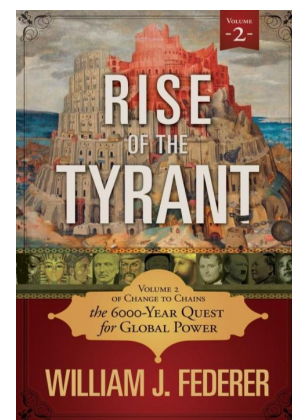
"Patroons (landholders) and colonists shall in particular, and **in the speediest manner**, endeavor to find out ways and means whereby they may support a **Minister and Schoolmaster**,

that thus the **service of God and zeal for religion may not grow cool and be neglected** among them, and they shall, for the first, procure a **Comforter of the sick there.**"

**Franklin D. Roosevelt** told the *Detroit Jewish Chronicle*, March 7, 1935:

"All I know about the origin of the **Roosevelt family** in this country is that all branches bearing the name are apparently descended from **Claes Martenssen Van Roosevelt**, who came from **Holland** sometime before 1648."

[Rise of the Tyrant - Volume 2 of Change to Chains](#)



The Dutch **Amboyna Massacre** occurred in 1623 **against the British** over which country would **control of the far east spice trade**.

Reports of this **massacre** were circulated, stirring up tensions which broke out into the **Anglo-Dutch Wars**:

- **First Anglo-Dutch War (1652-1654);**



- **Second Anglo-Dutch War** (1665-1667);
- **Third Anglo-Dutch War** (1672-1674);
- **Franco-Dutch War** (1672-1678);
- **War of the Spanish Succession**, 1701-1714;
- **Fourth Anglo-Dutch War** (1780-1784).

In the Anglo-Dutch Wars, **British Admiral William Penn** helped **defeat the Dutch Navy**.

This resulted in the **New Amsterdam** being taken over by the **British** in 1664.

After the **Second Anglo-Dutch War**, in negotiating the **Treaty of Breda**, 1667, **Britain** offered to **give Manhattan Island back to the Dutch** in **exchange** for the tiny nutmeg-producing **Island of Run** in the Moluccas, Indonesia.

In one of the most regretted negotiating decisions ever, the **Dutch gave up Manhattan to keep the Island of Run**.

**New Amsterdam** was renamed **New York City** after the **Duke of York**, who became **King James II**.

The **New Amsterdam Stock Exchange** became the **New York Stock Exchange** on **Wall Street**.

**1672** was known as "**Rampjaar**" or Disaster Year, as it was the beginning of the **Third Anglo-Dutch War, 1672-1674**; and the **Franco-Dutch War, 1672-1678**.

This marked the beginning of **the decline of the Dutch Golden Age**.

**King James II's** daughter, **Mary**, married the **Dutch** stadtholder **William III of Orange**, the great-grandson of William the Silent.

When it appeared **King James II** might make England Catholic again, **Protestants** asked the **William of**

**Orange and his wife Mary** to leave **Holland** and take over **England** in 1688.

This was called **The Glorious Revolution**.

**King James II's** army deserted him and he fled to **France**, leaving **William and Mary II** to co-rule England.

When **Mary** died in 1694, **Parliament** agreed to recognize **William** as the **King of England** provided he agree to certain **restrictions** being placed **on the powers of monarchy**.

In 1696, **King William** granted freedoms to **Dutch Church** in **New York** with the **Charter**:

**"William the third, By the grace of God, King of England ...**

Our said loving subjects ... to preserve to them and their successors that **liberty of worshiping God** according to the constitutions and directions of the **Reformed Churches in Holland ...**

have therefore thought fit ... that no person in communion of the said **reformed protestant Dutch Church**, within our said City of New York ... **shall be any ways molested, punished, disquieted, or called in question**, for any difference in opinion in matters of the **Protestant religion ...**

that all ... persons in Communion of the said **reformed protestant Dutch Church** may ... freely and fully have and enjoy his and their own judgments and consciences in matters of the **Protestant religious concernments ... not using this liberty to licentiousness and profaneness ...**

Mr. Henricus Selyns, the present Minister of the said **reformed protestant Dutch Church** ... since the ... dedication of the said **Church** to the **service of God ...**

the instruction of the members of the said **reformed protestant Dutch Church** inhabiting within Our said City of New York, in the **Christian faith** according to the constitutions and directions aforesaid."

**New York's Dutch congregation** met in several buildings over the centuries, including the imposing **St. Nicholas Collegiate Reformed Protestant Dutch Church** at Fifth Avenue and Forty-eighth Street.

**President Theodore Roosevelt** attended church there.

The congregation continues at the **Marble Collegiate Church**, where **President Donald Trump** had attended.

After becoming a **British colony**, the **Colonial Legislature of New York** stated in 1665:

"Whereas, The **public worship of God** is much discredited for want of ... **able ministers** to instruct the people in **the true religion**, it is ordered that **a church** shall be **built in each parish** capable of **holding 200 persons**;

that **ministers of every church** shall **preach every Sunday**, and pray for the king, queen, the Duke of York, and the royal family ... **Sunday is not to be profaned.**"

--

[Download as PDF ... Dutch Golden Age: World Maritime-Economic Power of 16th & 17th centuries, and the Dutch Colony of New Amsterdam, which became New York](#)

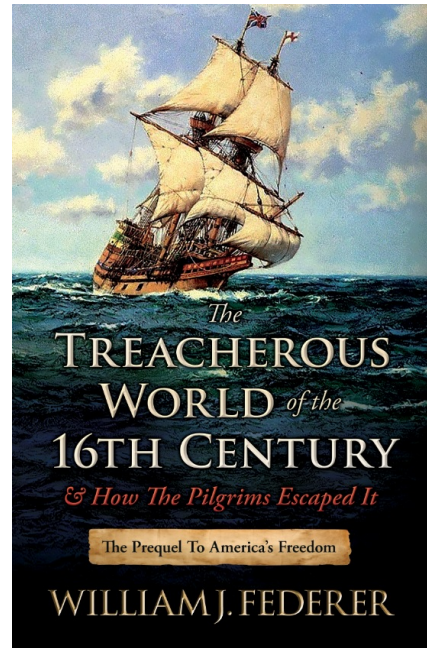
[Read as American Minute blog post](#)

William J. Federer  
videos

[Rumble](#)  
[YouTube](#)



[The Treacherous World of the 16th Century and How the Pilgrims Escaped It: The Prequel to America's Freedom](#)



Schedule Bill Federer for informative interviews & captivating PowerPoint presentations: 314-502-8924

[wjfederer@gmail.com](mailto:wjfederer@gmail.com)

American Minute is a registered trademark of William J. Federer. Permission is granted to forward, reprint, or duplicate, with acknowledgment.

[www.AmericanMinute.com](http://www.AmericanMinute.com)

[Please consider a donation to American Priorities. Thank you!](#)

[American Minute store](#)

[Interviews on The Eric Metaxas Show](#)

[700 Club - Miraculous Milestones in Science, Medicine & Innovation](#)

[700 Club - Socialism \(episode 1\)](#)

[700 Club - Socialism \(episode 2\)](#)

[700 Club - Miracles in History \(episode 1\)](#)

[\(episode 2\)](#)

[\(episode 3\)](#)

[Miracles in American History-Volume TWO \(D.James Kennedy Ministry\)](#)

[Faith in History TCT](#)

Archives

CBN "Liberty" Special  
Today's Bible reading

