

## American Minute with Bill Federer

Battle of Princeton "Washington...advanced so near the enemy's lines that his horse refused to go further"

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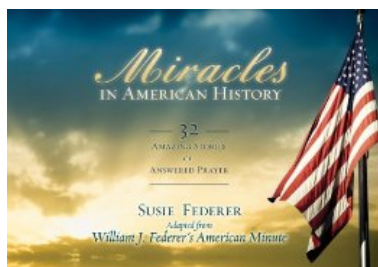
Frederick the Great of Prussia called these ten days **"the most brilliant in the world's history."**



After winning the **Battle of Trenton**, Christmas Day evening, 1776, **George Washington's 1,200 man force** faced **General Cornwallis' 4,500 man British army**.

Washington was fighting the army of the **globalist King of Great Britain** -- the **most powerful military on the planet** ... [continue reading ...](#)

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On the night of January 2, 1777, **Washington** left his campfires burning and marched his army around the back of a portion of **Cornwallis' army** - the 1,400 British troops camped at



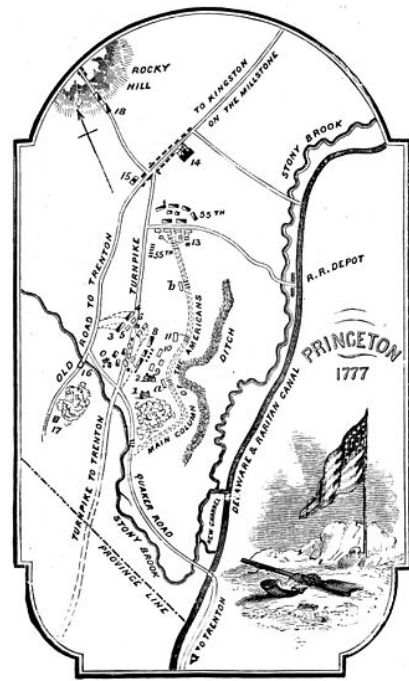
## Princeton, New Jersey.

He ordered his soldiers to march in absolute silence, even wrapping their guns with heavy cloth to lessen the noise of troop movement.

British commander **Lord Cornwallis** ordered Colonel Mawhood to join his regiments to the rest of the British army.

This providentially, resulted in the **British ceasing to patrol the very roads Washington was marching on.**

At daybreak, JANUARY 3, 1777, **Washington attacked the British from behind.**



This was similar to what the **British** did to the **Americans** at the **Battle of Brooklyn Heights** a little over four months earlier.

At the **Battle of Princeton**, the surprised **British** immediately fought back, sending forth a **bayonet charge** which killed dozens of **American soldiers**.



One of those killed was **General Hugh Mercer**, who had fought with Washington in the French and Indian War, and in the Battle of Trenton.

**Hugh Mercer's**  
descendants  
included WWII  
**General George**  
**S. Patton.**



After **Mercer** was killed, the **British** pressed their counter-attack.

The American militia under **General John Cadwalader** began to panic and flee.



To stop the retreat, **General George Washington** immediately rode to the front of the line and **ordered the soldiers to stop running away.**

He commanded them to turn around and **follow him back to the front lines.**

**Washington** rode extremely close to the **British**, within just 30 yards.

Turning and facing his men, **Washington** yelled:

"Halt!"

"Aim,"

"Fire!"

The **British** immediately fired a volley in return.

The **field of battle** was filled with a **cloud of smoke**.

Many thought **Washington** was surely shot, as he was exposed to fire from both sides.

**Irishman John Fitzgerald**, who was an American *aide-de-camp*, pulled down his hat down to cover his eyes so as to not see **Washington** killed.

But when the smoke cleared, to their dismay, **Washington** was seen on his horse, waving to his men to charge ahead.



The **Americans** charged and won a great victory at the **Battle of Princeton**.

An estimated **100 British** were **killed or wounded**, and over **300 captured**, as compared to only **23 Americans** killed and **20 wounded**.

Enthusiasm swept America. Though it took nearly seven more years of fighting till the Revolutionary War ended, **this battle was a major turning point**.

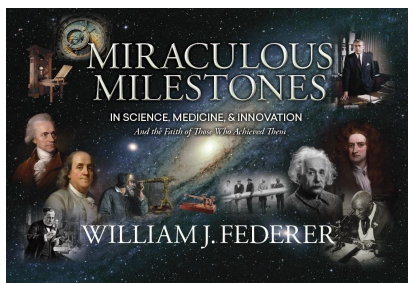
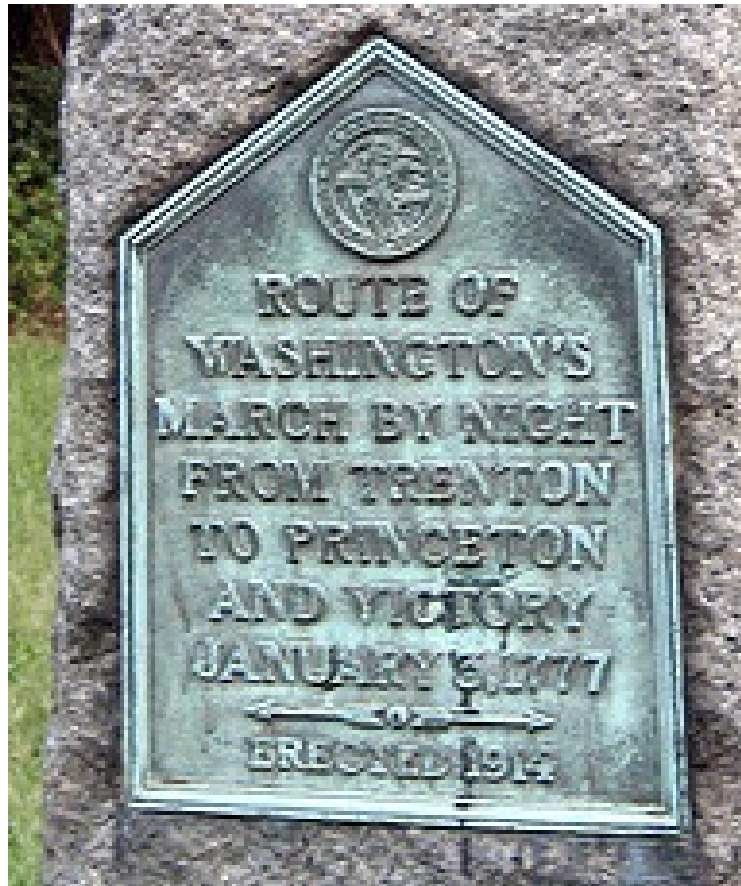
British historian Sir George Otto Trevelyan wrote of the **American victories at Trenton and Princeton**:

"It may be doubted whether **so small a number of men** ever employed so short a space of time with greater and

more lasting effects upon the history of the world."

**President Calvin Coolidge** stated October 28, 1925:

"Distinguished military critics have described **Washington's** campaign of **Trenton** and **Princeton** as a military exploit of unparalleled brilliancy."



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The equestrian statue at **Washington Circle** in **Washington, D.C.**, depicts **General Washington** at the **Battle of Princeton**.

At the statue's dedication in 1860, sculptor Clark Mills stated:

"... at the **Battle of Princeton** where **Washington**, after several ineffectual attempts to rally his troops, **advanced so near the enemy's lines that his horse refused to go further**, but stood and trembled while the brave rider sat undaunted with reins in hand.

But while his noble horse is represented thus terror

stricken, **the dauntless hero is calm** and dignified, ever **believing himself the instrument in the hand of Providence** to work out the great problem of **liberty.**"

**Yale President Ezra Stiles** described **General George Washington** as the American version of **the Israelite commander Joshua**, in an Election Address before the Governor and General Assembly of Connecticut, May 8, 1783:

"Congress put **at the head** of this spirited army, the only man, on whom **the eyes of all Israel** were placed ...

... This **American Joshua** was **raised up by God**, and divinely formed by a peculiar influence of **the Sovereign of the Universe**, for the great work of leading the armies of this American Joseph ...



and conducting this people through the severe, the arduous conflict, **to liberty and independence ...**"

**Ezra Stiles** continued:

"In our lowest and most dangerous estate in 1776 and 1777, **we sustained ourselves against the British army of sixty thousand troops** commanded by Howe, Burgoyne, and Clinton, and other the ablest generals Britain could procure throughout Europe, with a naval force of 22,000 seamen in above eighty British men of war ...

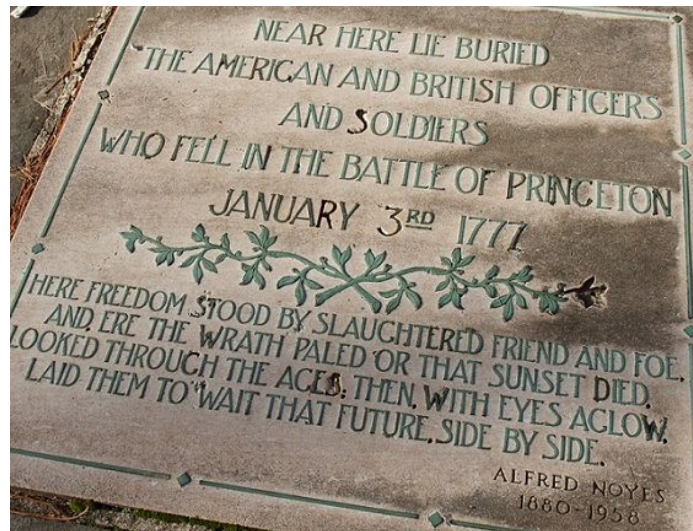
... This was sealed and confirmed by **God Almighty** in the **victory of General Washington at Trenton**,

and in **the surprising movement and battle of Princeton**; by which astonishing effort of generalship, **General Howe and the whole British army**, in elated confidence and in open-mouthed march for Philadelphia, **was instantly stopped, remanded back, and cooped up** for a shivering winter in the little borough of Brunswick.

Thus **God** turned the battle to the gate; and this gave a finishing to the foundation of **the American Republic ...**"

**Stiles** ended:

"Who but a **Washington**, inspired by **Heaven**, could have struck out **the great movement and maneuver of Princeton?** ...



**The United States** are under peculiar obligations to become a **holy people unto the Lord our God.**"

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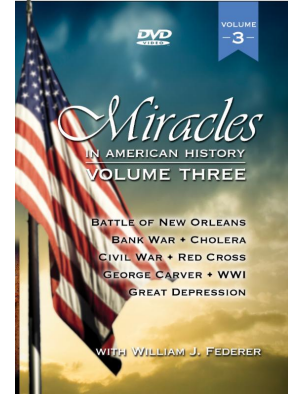
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