**Life and Work of John Eliot (1604-1690)  
 Apostle to the Indians  
  
 Long Eliot Presentation   
(make a 20 min. short version for Gordon College, 9/28/21)**  
**Resources:** Winslow, Ola E. John Eliot: "Apostle to the Indians" (1968)   
 Nehemiah Adams, The Life of John Eliot (1870)  
 Convers Francis, Life of John Eliot: The Apostle to the Indians (1840)  
 Williston Walker, Ten New England Leaders (1901)   
 (vid. Biblicalelearning.org website for many more resources on Eliot).   
 Dustin Benge and Nate Pickowicz, The American Puritans (2020)  
  
 **Session #1:   
 Why Eliot: Significance, Birth (1604)   
 to Roxbury Church (1643)  
  
 Session #2: Waban's Wigwam (1646) to Natick   
 and 14 Praying Indian Villages (1674)  
 Session #3: Eliot Bible (1663) – King Philip's War (1675)  
 – Rebuilding and End (1690)**

**1. Introduction: 6 Opening examples of John Eliot's significance recognized**:   
   
 Famous Eliot Quote: [Quote picture]  
 **"You will not do incredible things without an incredible dream"**   
 1) **Congregational Archive** – 14 Beacon St. 4 Domingo Mora's marble bas relief,   
 [video and bas relief image]  
 **1) Mayflower Compact (1620)** Rule Under Law by Consent of the Governed –   
 The Pilgrims signing the Mayflower Compact  
 **2) The Pilgrims’ observance of the Sabbath on Clark’s Island, December 20,   
 1620 -** Worship According to Conscience   
 **3) The founding of Harvard College in 1636 -** Education for Leadership**4) John Eliot** preaching to the Native Americans in the Nonantum settlement in   
 1646 -- Community Witness or Philanthropy –   
 [Congregational bas-relief video]  
  
 2) **Beacon St. State House Hall of Flags, Eliot Mural**  
 [Images/videos] Significance of Eliot  
  
 3) **First book** printed in America (The Bay Psalm Book) – 1640 [image]  
  
 4) **First Bible Printed** in America (1663) Algonquin Bible 1180 pgs [image]  
  
 5) **Oldest continuous High School** in America (Roxbury Latin School) – 1645   
 [image]  
  
 6) **14 Praying Indian Villages** (by 1674) Natick the first in 1650. [signs images]

Received the title "Apostle to the Indians" in 1660 from his friend Thomas   
 Thorowgood (Walker, 138)

2. **Life in England (1604-1631; until 27 years old)**  
 1A. **Widford Birth** (1604): St. John the Baptist Church in Widford, England   
 ca. August 1, 1604. [Baptized on August 5] His parents were   
 married in that church as well (Winslow, 6) – 28 miles north of   
 London  
 3rd child of Bennett & Lettese Eliot (yeoman, extensive landowner)  
 both his brother and sister later traveled to New England shortly   
 after John and later his younger brother.   
 [Images of location, and St. John's church]  
  
 2A. **Childhood in Nazeing** (ca. 1608) – this is where he grew up: he summarizes  
 life with his parents (Winslow, 8f) – 16 miles north of London  
 "I do see that it was a great favour of God unto me, to season my first times   
 with the fear of God, the word, and prayer." – godly parents  
 [Images of location and All Saints Church]  
  
 3A. **Jesus College, Cambridge University** (1618-1622) enrolls at 14.   
 (Winslow, 14) – 60 miles north of London,   
 Emmanuel College was more favorable to Puritans (Walker, 139)   
  
 1) Probably had 7 years of Latin (reading and spoken), some Greek and   
 Hebrew, thorough acquaintance with the Bible, logic, public speak.   
  
 2) **Roger Andrewes** was one of the KJV [1611] translators was teaching   
 there when Eliot was there.   
  
 3) Later he **would send one of his Indian Bibles inscribed**: (Winslow, 16)  
 For Jesus College  
 "Accept, Mother, I pray, what a most humble  
 alumnus offers, a son ever having thy prayers. John Eliot"  
  
 4) Mother died in his sophomore year (March 16, 1620)  
 Father died in his junior year (Nov. 21, 1621).   
 **Father's endowment of £8 a year** making sure his studies   
 at Cambridge could be completed (A.B. degree in 1622)  
 Plague hit in 1625 classes interrupted for his MA and he   
 never returned   
 [Images of location and Jesus College, Cambridge]  
  
 5) Apparently **ordained** shortly after that.

4A. **Thomas Hooker's (1586-1647) school as usher** and lived in his house in   
 Little Baddow. 30 miles north east of London  
 Hooker, an Emanuel College grad, fled to Holland in July 1630 then to  
 America .   
 – Eliot 26 when school their closed. Archbishop Laud contra   
 Nonconformists Hooker which Laud saw as a threat to the Anglican Church   
 Hooker saw the handwriting on the wall rising power under Charles I   
 [Laud later executed 1645] Hooker fled to America.   
   
 **Conversion** of sorts with **Hooker**, who fled to Holland and then to   
 America settled initially in Cambridge MA founding the first church   
 there. Went then to found Hartford CT became known as the father   
 of Connecticut (Winslow, 20f)   
 John Cotton, Thomas Shepherd also depart  
 for New England becoming "First Generation" of settlers group.   
  
 Eliot writes: To this place [Hooker's school] was I called [John Eliot   
 wrote] through the infinite riches of God's mercy in Christ Jesus to my poor   
 soul, for here the Lord said to my dead soul, live! Live! And through the   
 grace of God I do live and shall live forever! **When I came to this blessed   
 family I then saw as never before, the power of godliness in its lovely  
 vigor and efficacy.**" (Winslow 20; vid. Adams 47)  
 [Location maps]   
  
  
**3. Eliot Comes to New England (1631)**  
 1A. **Eliot Comes to New England [1631-Boston First Church]**  
 **Ship**: Eliot leaves Nazeing arrives with 60 passengers and 200 tons of   
 provisions requested by Gov. Winthrop at Nantasket (Nov. 2, 1631) 10   
 weeks on **ship Lyon** with Captain Pierce (10 week voyage). Wife and   
 children of John Winthrop on the boat with Eliot who was called "a   
 minister". (Winslow, 23f) Boat's provisions saved lives of many  
 in Boston suffering with scurvy – lack of vitamin C for 3 months  
 (Benge/Pickowicz, 146)  
 **Promise**: Eliot promised the Nazeing group that when they came he would   
 be their pastor. They came and went to Roxbury and he followed them   
 there.   
 **John Wilson** (past of the First Church of Boston) returned to England   
 trying to convince his wife to return to New England with him   
 (unsuccessfully). – leaves Boston Church [Nov. 5, 1632]  
 Eliot became minister until John Wilson returned. Boston only being   
 18 months old moving from Charlestown to Boston.   
 [Boston Map of First Church]  
   
 When Wilson returned Boston wanted him to stay as "teacher" but he   
 kept his promise to the Nazeing friends and when to Roxbury  
 [Location images: Boston, Roxbury]   
   
 4. **First Church of Roxbury: pre-Nonantum/Indian years (1632-1646)**   
  
 1A. **First Meeting house** (lasted 40 years) build on Meeting House Hill 20x30'  
 place of 5th meeting house now stands—his house was just   
 down the hill by the stream. None of Eliot's sermons have survived.   
 He will be teacher/pastor there for 58 years.   
  
 **Thomas Welde** called as first pastor (1632, 9 yrs. Older than Eliot). Welde  
 would pass in 1674 (Walker, 143) just before King Philip's War.

**Congregation**: Originally 25 people, more from Essex UK joined   
 including some of Eliot's own family (older sister Sarah and husband   
 William Curtis, 1632). Sisters Sarah and Mary and brother Philip  
 join him in Roxbury (Benge/Pickowicz, 148). Brothers Jacob and  
 Francis join the Boston church.   
 [Images of First Church Roxbury, Eliot Square Roxbury]  
   
 2A. **Wife: Hanna Mumford (1604-1687)** came and first marriage recorded in   
 Roxbury was Eliot's in Sept. 4, 1632 (Walker, 142). – known for   
 hospitality and nursing skills. Winslow comments: "In her many-faceted   
 partnership in the Eliot home she probably deserved the superlatives she   
 inspired." (Winslow, 29, Benge/Pickowicz, 148)  
  
 Next 10-12 years Eliot primarily focused on Roxbury congregation   
 (1632-44).   
   
 Early fire destroyed many of the records of the Roxbury group.   
 1645, 17 barrels of powder blew up and scattered the flames   
 destroying many homes (not unusual in early New England).   
 (Winslow, 30f)  
  
 3A. **3 Family stories & 6 Character Qualities:** 6 children, Hannah, John,   
 Joseph, Samuel, Aaron and Benjamin (1632-1646). (Winslow, 35)   
 4 of his children die before he does  
  
 Walker notes that Eliot (and J. Edwards) viewed business   
 incompatible with ministerial office so he divorced himself from it   
 leaving it to his wife. (Walker, 143) Some called Hannah and John:   
 Elizabeth and Zechariah (from Luke 2) (Adams 270f discusses   
 Hannah)  
  
 1) **Hanna and the cows:** some of their cows got loose. They were at   
 Eliot's front door. Hanna asked John whose they were. He did  
 not know and thought they were a neighbor's…(Adams, 54)  
  
 2) **Eliot had an enemy** to talked and wrote against him. The fellow got  
 sick. Eliot sent Hanna to help him and he recovered. Eliot then  
 invited the fellow to his house for dinner not in any way   
 reprimanding him. They became friends. (Adams, 58)  
  
 3) **Eliot and his salary (generosity/kindness).** Eliot was paid by the   
 treasurer of the church but the guy knew of Eliot's generosity so he   
 tied it in very tight knots of a handkerchief. Eliot stopped at the   
 home of widow in need on the way home. He wanted to give them   
 some money for their needs. He tried but couldn't get the   
 handkerchief unknotted so he said. Well, I guess the Lord wants you   
 to have it all and gave the whole handkerchief to the needy family.   
 (Winslow, 120; Walker, 145; Adams 53)  
  
 **6 Character Qualities of John Eliot:**  
 1) **Practical**: walking up hill to meeting house Cotton Mather records him  
 saying "This is very like the way to heaven, 't is uphill….and truly   
 there are thons and briars in the way, too." (Walker, 144, Adams   
 49). (Francis, 331) used common things/images and linked them to   
 spiritual realities  
  
 2) **Morning person:** "He would say to students, "I pray look to it that you  
 be morning birds." (Adams, 57)

3) **Temperate**: Having been invited at a stranger's house to take some   
 drink, which he was told was wine and water, he replied, "Wine! 'tis   
 a notable, generous liquor, and we should be humbly thankful for it;   
 but, as I remember, water was made before it," and water was his   
 drink which was far from being common even in those days."   
 (Adams, 57f) "  
  
 4) **Hospitality**: "Few in New England at that day would have shown the   
 charity that he did, in 1650, in inviting a visiting French Jesuit   
 missionary, Gabriel Druillettes, to spend the winter as an inmate of   
 his house." (Walker, 148) See below also. – expressed in the unity  
 Christian Indians felt toward other believers (Francis, 144)  
 Was **not intolerant** bigot as others (same example in Walker, 148)  
  
 5) **Diligence, work ethic, persistence**: (one guy producing Bible 1180   
 pgs.) **Cotton Mather: what is Eliot spelled backwards: toile –   
 his character of persistence (Adams, 78; Francis 339)  
  
 6) Humility:** **I am but a shrub in the wilderness."** (Winslow, 188)

4A. **Passion for Schools:** (Walker, 147; Adams 51, Francis 125)  
 1) "Schools for the natives were favorite objects with our apostle" (Francis  
 125, 142f) "if the work of improvement was to be permanent, the   
 foundation must be laid in the education of the young. He insisted,   
 therefore, that there must be an annual appropriation for the support of   
 schoolmasters and schoolmistresses." (Francis, 142)   
  
 Mather states: "that Roxbury has afforded more scholars, first for the   
 college, and then for the pubic, than any town of its bigness, or, if I mistake   
 not, of twice its bigness, in all New England." (Francis, 314)   
  
 2) "He was remarkable for the efforts he employed to instruct the children,   
 making catechisms for them… Cotton Mather said "As when certain Jesuits   
 were sent among the **Waldenses** to corrupt their children, they returned   
 with much disappointment and confusion, because the children of seven   
 years old were well-principled enough to encounter the most learned of   
 them all; so, if any seducers were let loose to wolve it among the good   
 people of Roxbury, I am confident they would find as little prey in that well   
 instructed place as in any part of the country." (Adams, 60)   
  
 1C. **Cotton Mather (Magnalia Christi Americana**, 1702) records Eliot   
 as saying: "Lord for schools every where among us! That our   
 schools may flourish! That every member of this assembly may go   
 home and procure a good school to be encouraged in the town where   
 he lives! That before we die, we may be so happy as to see a good   
 school encouraged in every plantation of the country!"   
 (Winslow, 37f)  
  
 2C. **Roxbury Latin School** oldest continuous school in the country –   
 1645. Philip, John Eliot's older brother became its  
 first headmaster. 🡪 Entrants went to Harvard (founded ca. 1636)  
 To this day Natanya says 20% success rate of getting kids into   
 Harvard. [images/video]  
  
 3C. **Jamaica Plan – Roxbury Latin School**. (integrated  
 blacks, Indians and whites) Still standing on Eliot St. in Jamaica   
 Plain. [video]  
  
 4C. **Harvard – Indian College:** It was where his Bible was printed.  
 First brick building at Harvard. Built in 1656 only a handful  
 of students ever attended. Closed in 1693 and demolished in   
 1698. [video]   
  
   
 5A. **Champion of democracy:** consent of the governed: John Winthrop (gov.)   
 1634 treaty of amity with the Pequots who were facing war  
 with the Narragansets. Winthrop asked the ministers of Boston  
 for consent but not the people. Eliot objected. A committee of   
 ministers was immediately appointed to deal with the Roxbury  
 teacher and show him his error. Eliot apologized of his error   
 the next Sunday. (Winslow, 40; mentioned in Winthrop's journal,  
 also see Francis, p. 16f).  
 Adams comments he was strongly attached to the Congregational  
 for of church polity (Adams 61)

5. **Two problems**

1A. **Anne Hutchinson's trial** 1637/38 (Winslow, 41ff) 15 kids–   
 no secular/sacred or church/state divide. (vid. Adams 262ff, cf. Francis,  
 pp. 22ff) He also wrote the justification for the banishment of Roger  
 Williams (Benge/Pickowicz, 151)  
  
 1) Governor was also defender of the faith, reenforced by the clergy.   
 Most heresy cases handled locally. Anne had attended John Cotton's  
 church in Lincolnshire, England. Was attracted to New England   
 when he was in Boston (with pastor John Wilson). She taught the   
 women of the settlement—talk of the town. Great knowledge of   
 the Bible. Accused basically all the ministers of New England of  
 teaching the "covenant of works" outer religion, as opposed to the   
 "covenant of grace" inner religion—buzz words.   
  
 2) Banged heads with John Wilson; only John Cotton and her brother-in-  
 law John Wheelwright had the "seal of the Spirit"—tried to vote   
 Wheelwright in as John Cotton's associate (failed).   
 John Winthrop favored the "orthodox" party for his "city set on a   
 hill."   
  
 3) 1637 she was found guilty of sedition.  
 Thomas Welde sharply opposed her. John E. was kinder although he and  
 others found problems with her teaching. She was tried for disturbing  
 the peace of the community (now only 7 yrs. Old). John Eliot and   
 five other ministers condemn her.   
  
 4) She claims immediate revelation the same way God talked to Abraham.   
 Denied the bodily resurrection saying the soul was mortal.   
 Winter was setting in so they banished her to Roxbury (Welde and Eliot)  
   
 5) Second arraignment more damaging by the church (March, 1638).   
 She ends up getting caught in a lie and John Cotton finally turns against   
 her. She was banished from the community by the court. Went to   
 Rhode Island and where her husband died (1642) then went to Long Island  
 where she and her children were massacred.   
   
 6) Eliot at 36 first generation "After five years of association with Thomas  
 Welde of Roxbury, it is too easy to say that he had allowed the elder   
 man to be his tutor. – Eliot established himself in this sad story as a   
 champion of orthodoxy. (Winslow, 64)   
   
   
 2A. ***The Christian Commonwealth*** (published in England, 1659). Strongly   
 opposed by leaders in England. Seditious (rulers of 10, 50, 100,   
 democracy). He used Exodus 18:25 Jethro's advice to Moses as model   
 (Walker, 149) Chief ruler of all chosen by the people. Stuarts in England   
 condemned the book (May 1661) and ordered it suppressed.   
  
 He recants although in his tract "Communion of Churches" he applies those   
 same principles to the churches and later will implement them in the Indian  
 villages. (Walker, 150f) – **Communion of Churches the first privately  
 printed book in America (Eliot)**

6. **First Published book in America** (Winslow, 65) – 1640, **The Bay Psalm Book** [Cover Image]   
  
 1A. Cotton Mather's, Magnalia, iii, ch. 12: (Francis, 27)   
  
 You Roxb'ry poets keep clear of the crime,   
 of missing to give us very good rhime. – [Welde, Eliot]  
 And you of Dorchester your verses lengthen, -- [Richard Mather]  
 But with the text's own words you will them strengthen."   
  
 Francis comments: Mr. Eliot appears sometimes to have indulged  
 the rhyming vein for his own amusement." (Francis, 29)   
  
 1A. **Ministers and magistrates of Boston wanted their own version of   
 Psalms "fit to be sung on Sabbath**" and "good Hebricians" among   
 the clergy were invited to prepare it. – Eliot would be one of those  
 English meter poetry used; Printed by the press in Cambridge, MA.  
 Puritans loved to sing.   
 Wanted the church council deliberations to be done in   
 Hebrew. These recommendations not followed in New England. Argued  
 for its universal use (Adams, 59, 258ff; cf. Francis, 210ff)

2A. Originally thought Thomas Welde and John Eliot of Roxbury and   
 Richard Mather of Dorchester were the main contributors. Now realized  
 more than that involved. "We have endeavored, according to our light  
 and time, to retranslate the Psalmes, as near the originall as we could,   
 into meeter." (Winslow, 67)  
  
 3A. Long preface done by John Cotton.   
  
 4A. Psalm 23 – 1640   
 THe Lord to mee a shepheard is,

want therefore shall not I.  
 Hee in the folds of tender-grasse,

doth cause mee downe to lie:

5A. **Designed to be heard not just read**. (Winslow, 69)   
  
 6A**. "The Bay Psalm Book was an event in which they took pride.** To have  
 been one of the creators of this small volume was a shared honor,   
 but **an honor for John Eliot."** (Winslow, 70).

**7. Indian Mission early acknowledged and supported  
  
 1A. Descriptions of Indians**: Francis, 32 "like all savages, were averse to regular  
 labor of any sort. Their time was spent in the alternations of war, hunting,   
 or fishing, and idleness or sleep. Elsewhere mentioned problems with   
 drunkenness, gaming, revenge and powwowing. Francis says: "A powaw,  
 in short, was at once priest, physician, and juggler." Sachems were the   
 chiefs. – Later there would be problems with these two as they lost power.

2A. Indians emaciated after **small pox** epidemic prior to 1620 and the   
 pilgrims landing at Plymouth. Some viewed it as God opening the  
 way for the settlers. In the "New England's   
  
 3A. **Massachusetts Seal – Come over and help us**. [Image]  
 "our forefathers did not come here merely to "enjoy their liberty," not   
 merely to flee from persecution, not to increase their worldly estate; they   
 came here, among other good reasons, as they expressly declare, to extend   
 the kingdom of Christ" (Adams, 25)  
  
 4A. **The King's grant to the Council of Plymouth**:   
 "the principall effect which I can desire or expect of this action is the   
 conversion of the people of these parts unto the true worship of God and   
 Christian religion." (Winslow, 82)   
  
  
 5A. In the letter of Matthew Craddock, Governor of the Company to Governor  
 Endicott of MA, February 16, 1629, these words, "We trust you will not be   
 unmindfull of the main end of our Plantation, by endeavouring to bring  
 the Indians to the knowledge of the Gospel." (Winslow, 82)  
  
  
 6A. **Indians believed to be one of the 10 lost tribes of Israel**. – Thomas  
 Thorowgood in his Jewes in America or Probabilities that the   
 Americans are Jewes. Eliot concurred. (Winslow, 82; Adams, 76,   
 also more in Adams 150-52) View also held by Rabbi Ben Israel  
 of Amsterdam (Francis, 140)

1) Why? Indians anoint their heads, wash stranger's feet, delight in   
 dancing, circumcision, belief in immortality, body will rise from   
 dead, express themselves in parables, believe to have said   
 "Hallelujah," didn't like swine/pork.   
   
  
 7A. Others who worked early and seriously with the Indians:   
  
 1) **Roger Williams** at Plymouth and Providence, preached to them in their   
 language, "Key to the Indian Language of America" (1643) Walker   
 says as early as 1632 Roger Williams had begun to acquire the   
 Indian vocabulary (Walker, 153) banished in 1636 having a good   
 command of the dialects of the tribes of the region.   
  
 2) **Thomas Mayhew** and his children on Martha's Vineyard would continue   
 his work for 3 generations until 1806. Preaching in Indian tongue  
 Thomas Mayhew even more than Eliot on Martha's Vineyard. Two   
 generations following for a total of 163 years that family working   
 among the Indians there (Winslow, 165) Missed the hardships  
 Eliot's group had in King Philip's war (1675/6) (Walker, 165)   
  
 3) **Eliot and his friends (Daniel Gookin, Thomas Shepard**, … most   
 systematic; **Edward Winslow** published work in order to raise   
 money in England. **Richard Boyle** (great economic supporter   
 in England) and **Richard Baxter** spiritual support.  
  
  
 8A. **5 Indian groups in New England**: (Adams, 17-19) Visited by plague in   
 1612-13 wiping out many before the settlers arrived.   
  
 **Pequots** formerly 4,000 warriors, in 1674 only 300 (S. part,   
 Connecticut)  
 **Narragansetts** formerly 5,000 warriors, 1,000 in 1674 (Rhode   
 Island)  
 **Pawkunnawkuts** formerly 3,000 warriors, 1674 nearly extinct   
 (Plymouth colony area)   
 **Pawtuckets** formerly 3,000 warriors, 250 in 1674 NE of   
 Masschusetts Indians, almost totally destroyed by plague  
 **Massachusetts** Indians 3,000 warriors, 300 in 1674.

8A. **Massachusetts Tribe, Algonquin language – many dialects** (Eliot   
 translated for the **Wampanoag people**)   
  
 1B. **Resistance from settlers**, unwilling to trust "Praying Indians"   
 Clash of farmers (fence, gardens, crops) versus Indians (hunters,  
 roaming) Different view of relationship to the land: English   
 owned land; Indians roamed land.   
 [cf. Egypt farming and Hebrews (sheep) 🡪 Goshen]  
  
 2B. **Resistance from sachems (chiefs) and powwows** (priests)—  
 loosing power when Indians became Christians and to the English   
 who put up fences etc.  
  
 3B. **Cockenoe** (captured in the Pequot wars on Long Island (ca 1635-37)  
 fur trader and land investor Richard Callicott of Dorchester had   
 Cockenoe after the Pequot war. Eliot got Cockenoe from him.   
 (Benge/Pickowicz, 152)   
 Knew both English and Algonquin. Eliot employed him to   
 help teach him the Indian tongue.   
  
 4B **Poetry: Robert Frost**: "Poetry is what disappears in translation"  
 1/3 OT is poetry. New analogies needed.

5B. **Indian Bible 1663** – First Bible printed in America  
  
 6B. **Writing of The Indian Grammar Begun**. [Image of cover]  
 Eliot said: "We must not sit still, and look for miracles; Up   
 and be doing, and the Lord will be with thee. Prayer and   
 Pains through Faith in Christ Jesus, will do anything."   
 (Winslow, 95) - 1666  
  
 "You will not do incredible things without an incredible   
 dream" John Eliot [Quote picture]   
  
**Next time:** Eliot's work among the Indians from Wabon's Wigwam to Natick and 14 Praying Indian Villages.

**Session #2: Waban's Wigwam (1646) to Natick   
 and 14 Praying Indian Villages (1674)  
  
Review Session #1:** Why Eliot: Significance (State House, Congregational Bas-Relief, Birth (1604) in Widford, childhood Naseing, Cambridge, Hooker, Boston, to Roxbury Church (1643)  
 **8. Waban's Wigwam, 1646 (Nonantum 🡪 Newton, MA) [Image, sign]   
 Nonantum= rejoicing "because they did rejoice [becomes Newton, MA]  
 at the word of God, and God did rejoice over them as penitent   
 sinners." (Adams, 99)**

**1A. First sermon preached in Algonquin bombed:** in Dorchester Mills,   
 Cutshamekin a shachem of the Massachusett tribe first convert.   
 (Benge/Pickowicz, 152)  
   
 2A. **First meeting at Waban's wigwam (Oct 28, 1646**). [Image of Newton]  
 Had preached in Dorchester Mill in Algonquin but without much effect.   
  
 1) Four went together: Daniel Gookin later appointed by the General Court  
 to supervise the Indian towns; Thomas Shepherd (minister of   
 Cambridge) and John Wilson (pastor of Boston)   
  
 2) Preached reading the Ten Commandments.   
 **Preached on Ezek. 37:9 Vision of Dry Bones** "Then said he unto me,  
 prophesy unto the wind," – they looked at Waban, only later   
 Eliot learned **Waban's** name meant "wind" in Algonquian (Winslow, 98;   
 Adams, 80f)  
 3) 1 hr 15 minute sermon and then 3 hours of questions (Adams, 85).   
 Key to Eliot was he had long question and answer sessions after sermons.  
 After the sermon Eliot's friends gave the men some tobacco and the   
 children some apples and said farewell (Francis, 55)

4) **Questions:   
 a) How may we come to know Jesus Christ?** Two ways he   
 responded often to the same question: read the Bible (but since they  
 didn't have it) listen to what he told them and prayer (Winslow, 100;   
 Adams, 82f)  
  
 b) **Does the white man's god hear Indian prayers?"**   
 **Eliot**: Look at this basket. You made it. White straws, black straws.   
 You know where they came from, and how you put them together.   
 Someone who didn't make it, wouldn't know. He wouldn't   
 understand how you could do it. God made Indians. He knows all   
 about them. Of course he knows your language and understands   
 every word." (Winslow, 100; Walker, 157).   
  
 c) **Waban: How do we believe what eyes cannot see?**   
 **Eliot**: When you see a big wigwam, do you think the raccoons built   
 it, or the foxes, or that it built itself? Certainly not. Look at the   
 house of this great world. Look at the sun, the moon, the stars,   
 Doesn't it look as though a very powerful, wise Being built it? We   
 can't see Him with our eyes, but look at his work." (Winslow, 93).   
  
 2A. **Second meeting: Fortnite back: sermon on good news** – Keep the Ten   
 commandments, repent of your sins, pray to God and believe in Jesus   
 Christ, escape hell and get to heaven (Nov. 12, 1646)  
  
 1) **Questions**: (Winslow, 103)  
 How comes it to pass that sea water is salt and land water fresh?  
 (in Francis as well, p. 57)   
 Why are strawberries sweet and cranberries sour? (Adams, 88)  
 **Whither do our little children go when they die, they have not   
 sinned? (**Adams, 132)  
 Many other Indian questions listed in Adams (pp. 145-148 and   
 155-58)  
 **Why did not God kill the Devil, that made all men so bad, God  
 having all power?** (Francis, 93) – origin of evil/theodicy question  
  
 2) **Emphasis on prayer**. Hence "Praying Indians"   
 Did they keep the Sabbath? For Indians the easiest test of all.   
 "We never work on any day if we can help it," and Indian is   
 reported to have answered. (Winslow, 104)

3) **Haunting question:** Why has no white man ever told us this before?   
 Why did you wait to tell us? There being no answer   
 John Eliot said simply, "I am sorry." (Winslow, 105).   
 **Haunting Question an old Powaw** (priest type): "Why, seeing the   
 English had been in the land twenty-seven years, they had never   
 taught the Indians to know God till now? (Adams, 131)

4) **Sad question from an old man** near death: asked whether it was not   
 too late for such an old man as he, who was near death, to repent or   
 seek after God (Adams, 88) – Eliot and his friends told him about   
 the laborer who was hired in the 11th hour.

5) "**An old Indian had an unruly, disobedient son**. He asked, 'What   
 should one do with him, in case of obstinacy and disobedience, and   
 that will not hear God's word, though his father command him, nor   
 will not forsake his drunkenness, though his father forbid him."   
 (Adams 113)   
  
 5) **Sunshine response:** Indian hanging his head in sorrow "finally broke   
 out saying "Me little know Jesus Christ, or me should seek him   
 better." **Mr. Eliot** comforted him by telling him that as it is early   
 dawn at first when there is but little light, but the sun rises to perfect   
 day, so it would be with him and his people with regard to a   
 knowledge of the favor of God if they would seek Him."   
 (Adams, 90)   
  
 6) "What shall we say to some Indians who say to us, **What do you get by   
 praying to God and believing in Jesus Christ?** You go naked still,   
 and are as poor as we. Our corn is as good as yours; and we take   
 more pleasure than you; if we saw that you got any thing by praying   
 to God, we would do so." **Mr. E. answered to** them on this point as   
 follows: "First, God gives two sorts of good things; 1. Little things,   
 which he showed by his little finger, ('for they use and delight in   
 demonstrations;') 2. Great things, (holding up his thumb). The little   
 mercies he said are riches, clothes, food, sack, houses, cattle, and   
 pleasures, all which serve the body for the little while, and in this life   
 only. The great mercies are wisdom, the knowledge of God, Christ,   
 eternal life, repentance and faith; these are for the soul, and eternity."   
 (Adams, 133f; Francis also, 79f)  
  
 7) **A Wife's Question:** **Wampas' wife asked**: "When my husband prays, if   
 I say nothing, and yet my heart goes along with what he says, do I   
 pray? … she learned to spin and one year after the 1647 visit "she   
 was attacked with an illness, in which she suffered much and which   
 proved fatal. When Mr. Eliot visited her, and prayed with her, she   
 told him, that "she still loved God, though he made her sick, and was   
 resolved to pray to him so long as she lived…she was willing   
 to die, and believe she should go to leave and live happy with God   
 and Christ there." She was the first adult that had died among the   
 Indians since Eliot began his mission." (Francis, 87)   
  
 Francis (p. 83) follows up with this story: "**Tahattawan, a sachem   
 at Concord,** with some of his people, went to Nonantum and heard   
 Mr. Eliot preach. Having learned that this project was secretly   
 opposed by many of his people, he summoned his chief men around   
 him, and assured them that what the English were doing was for   
 their good. "for," said he, "what have you gained, while you have   
 lived under the power of the higher sachems, after the Indian   
 fashion? They only sought to get what they could from you, and   
 exacted at their pleasure your kettles, your skins, and your wampum.   
 But the English, you see, do no such things; they seek only your   
 welfare, and, instead of taking from you, they give to you." (In   
 Cleare Sun-shine of the Gospel, p. 2)

**Sachem problem:** whatever they might acquire was at the mercy of   
 the sachems, felt no desire to gain any thing more than a bare   
 sufficiency for present subsistence. Wherever Christianity was   
 introduced among them, it had a tendency to abolish, or greatly   
 mitigate, this state of servitude and oppression. The people learned   
 in some rude degree to understand their rights." (Francis, 155)   
  
 Eliot's analysis after Indian visits: "It is very likely if ever the Lord   
 convert any of these natives, they will mourn for sin exceedingly,   
 and consequently love Christ dearly;" (Adams, 92)  
   
 3A. **Third meeting (Nov. 26, 1646) theme: temptations of the devil**  
 they believe in good god and evil god so this made better  
 sense to them than previous messages. (Winslow, 107)

1) **Wampas brought his children** to Eliot in Roxbury wanting to offer  
 his children so they could be educated (Winslow, 108; cf. Francis,   
 60)  
 He began catechizing their children:   
 **Example of Catechism:**   
 1) Who made you and all the world. Ans. God  
 2) Who do you think should save you and redeem you from sin and   
 hell? Ans. Jesus Christ  
 3) How many commandments hath God given you to keep? Ans. 10  
 (Adams, 86)   
  
 2) **Waban the leader**: ten commandments **assessed fines for his 10 rules:**  
 3. For wife beating, including only one serious offence, the   
 offender shall have his hands tied behind him, and be carried to the   
 place of justice to be severely punished. (Winslow, 108f)  
 7. All those men that weare long locks shall pay 5 shillings.   
 Adams give a more extensive list (Adams 109f)  
  
 Combination of civilization and Christianity (Winslow, 108f)

4A. **Fourth meeting (Dec. 9, 1646)** The Indians offered all their children to be educated by the English but   
 said they could pay nothing (Winslow, 109) – Eliot big on catechizing   
 children.   
  
 Winter set in: "Meanwhile through snow and ice and winter cold, John   
 Eliot continued in alternate weeks to mount his horse and tread the rugged   
 trail through the woods to Waban's cabin where more and more Indians   
 waited." (Winslow, 110)   
  
 They looked upon the success of the Gospel among the Indians as a   
 fulfillment in part of the promise of God the Father to the Son, "Ask of me,   
 and I will give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost   
 parts of the earth for thy possession." (Ps. 2) (Adams, 101)  
  
 5A. **Cutshamakin (first sachem Eliot preached to) had a rebellious son**.   
 (Francis, 171)  
 Eliot and John Wilson   
 teaching the boy the catechism rebuked him because he would not say   
 honor your "mother" but always substituted "father". They rebuked the boy.   
 "On the next lecture day, therefore, they exhorted **Cutshamakin** to prepare   
 the way for his son's reformation by **confessing his own sins,** of which,   
 they knew, the number was neither few nor light. Being thus faithfully   
 admonished, he honestly acknowledged and bitterly lamented his   
 offences….At last the boy yielded, made the most humble confession, and,   
 taking his father's hand, entreated his forgiveness. His humiliation   
 overcame his parents so much, that they wept aloud…" (Francis, 72f)  
 Cutshamakin told Eliot the sachems were upset with him because they  
 were losing the accustomed revenues, should such settlements be   
 encouraged. (Francis, 75; story found in detail in Cleare Sunshine, pp. 31ff  
 my pp. 51ff – very touching detail)

**9. Support for Eliot's Indian's missionary work  
   
 1A.** Visitors March 3 1647 Thomas Shepard of Cambridge (pastor d. 1649);   
 Mr. John Wilson of Boston (pastor d. 1667); Mr Dunster, president of   
 Harvard College [think Indian College later on] and other visit   
 Nonantum/Newton (Franics, 86)  
  
 **Eliot's friendship network**:   
 **3 Mentors**   
 1) Thomas Hooker (father of Conneticut)- Little Baddow school  
 2) Thomas Mayhew also working with the Indians on Matha's   
 Vineyard;  
 3) Thomas Welde minister of Roxbury (d. 1661)]  
  
 **3 Companions:**   
 1) Thomas Shephard (Cambridge pastor; d. 1649)  
 2) Daniel Gookin over the Indian villages (d. 1687) both these guys   
 seen on the Memorial at Newton.   
 3) John Wilson pastor of Boston also a good traveling friend.   
  
 **In England 3 supporters**:   
 1) Edward Winslow published and raised money for Eliot;  
 2) Richard Baxter corresponded with him with a lot of spiritual   
 encouragement; and   
 3) Robert Boyle over the Society for the Propagating of the Gospel   
 very supportive**.**  
  
 2A. **Cambridge (May, 1647) six months after Waban's wigwam**. Indians,  
 "women and children were taken to one of the sessions as a congregation.  
 John Eliot preached to them in Algonquian, catechized the children  
 and held the usual question period after the sermon. This public   
 exhibition impressed the clergy…" (Winslow, 111)  
  
 2A. July 19, 1649 (6 months after the execution of Charles I) the Long   
 Parliament incorporated the "President and **Society for the Propagation  
 of the Gospel in New England**" with power to hold lands to the years   
 value of £2000. Collected money = £11,430 (amazing sum) (Walker 159f)  
 Eliot received £50 for his salary from them (1658) and £190 was paid  
 for the education of 9 young Indian men at Roxbury. **Robert Boyle** will  
 be a strong Eliot supporter at the head of this organization.

3A. **Eliot's Missions philosophy:** "Mr. Eliot's care for the Indians was not   
 confined to religious teaching. It was his favorite and well-known opinion,   
 that no permanent good effect could be produced by efforts for their   
 spiritual welfare, unless civilization and social improvement should precede   
 or accompany such efforts." (Francis 67)

2A. **Backed by England: Edward Winslow** took the news back to England  
 and pushed for support  
  
 1) "Just as Edward Winslow's sailing, he secured the   
 hastily written manuscript telling of the first four meetings at Waban's  
 wigwam. On shipboard he put them in shape for printing and immediately   
 on his arrival in London had them published". … addressed to Lords and   
 Commons. "The tract was entitled **"The Day-Breaking, if not the Sun   
 Rising of the Gospell with the Indians in New England."** (Winslow,   
 112).  
 cf. Malachi 1:11 "From the rising of the sun to the going down of   
 the same, thy name shall be great among the Indians." (Francis, 107)  
  
 2) Three months later he received the manuscript of a second report of   
 Indian conversions: **The Clear Sun-Shine of the Gospel Breaking forth   
 upon the Indians in New-England."** John Eliot's long letter also included  
 "The finger of God is here." Thomas Shepard also corroborated the stories.  
 The Indians have utterly forsaken their powwows  
 They catechize their own children.   
 They have set up morning and evening prayers in their wigwams  
 They keep the Sabbath and punish those who profane it.   
 (Winslow, 113)

**Indian questions:** What was the first sin of the devil?  
 Whether the devil or man was made first?   
 Why didn't God give all men good hearts?   
 If a man were enclosed in iron a foot thick and thrown into  
 the fire, what would become of his soul? Could it   
 get out or not?   
 Whither do little children goe when they dye, seeing they  
 have not sinned?  
 What do English men think of Mr. Eliot who comes among  
 wicked Indians to teach them? (Winslow, 114)

Edward Winslow's design was to get a bill through Parliament that  
 would insure the continuance of John Eliot's work.   
 (Winslow, 114)

3) **Third tract April 1649: The Glorious Progress of the Gospel   
 amongst the Indians in New England,** 3 letters by John   
 Eliot and one from Thomas Mayhew Jr. missionary on   
 Martha's Vineyard.

4) Second bill on July 27, **1649 "An Act for the promoting and   
 propagating the Gospel of Jesus Christ in New England."**  
 Corporation of 16 people. Raised money house to house  
 in England to support Eliot's work, lasted 120 years.   
 FIRST Protestant Missionary Society. (Winslow, 117)  
  
 "intelligent **persistence of Edward Winslow** at the outset in getting  
 the bill drafted and then keeping the interest in it alive…without   
 its sponsorship, the missionary work of John Eliot among his   
 neighboring Indians might have ended at its beginning."   
 (Winslow, 117)  
   
 5) **Results of Winslow's work:** The first year £ 12,000 were   
 collected and invested, and by 1660, it was £15,000. As   
 disbursed by the commissioners, through the years, the   
 income from this fund founded schools for the Indians,   
 clothed Indian children, provided tools and implements as   
 they were requested, paid the sums allowed to native teachers,   
 added small stipends to the native assistants in the missionary   
 work of the Mayhew family on the Cape as well as John   
 Eliot's. **One of the largest expenditures was the printing of   
 the Indian Bible."** As well as Eliot's other translations   
 (Winslow, 118f) The brick building at Harvard, known as  
 the Indian College, later the printing office, was built and   
 equipped out of it and Indian tuition paid.   
   
 **Eliot** kept poor records and poor answers to business   
 questions, they rebuked him but doubled his salary honoring   
 his zeal to **£50 annually**. (Winslow, 119)   
  
 2A. **Robert Boyle**, governor of the Society for the Propagation of the   
 Gospel (1661-1689) caught Eliot's vision and really personally   
 helped Eliot. Those three in England encouraged and made Eliot's   
 vision a reality: **Richard Baxter, Edward Winslow and Robert   
 Boyle. Eliot's supporters in England.   
  
 3A.** Hope that Indian converts might breathe life into the dead Anglican  
 church. "Let these poor Indians stand up incentives to us, as the   
 Apostle set up the Gentiles a provocation to the Jews; who knows   
 but God gave life to New England to quicken Old, and hath warmed   
 them that they might heat us; raised them from the dead, that they   
 might recover us from that consumption, and those sad decays which   
 are come upon us." (Adams 105)  
  
 4A. Eliot's quote concerning missions: "There is no need of miraculous   
 or extraordinary gifts in seeking the salvation of the most depraved   
 of the human family." (Adams, 277).

**10. Natick [means: place of hills] (The First Praying Indian Town, 1650) – Winslow,   
 122. (Adams, 178; Francis 162ff.) [map and church, rock videos]**  
 1A. Rapid growth around Boston pushing outward. King's grant of land first   
 step in settlement. Civil right with the obligation to settle and cultivate  
 the land (Winslow, 123) Nonantum/Newton proved unsuitable so Natick  
 by the Charles River was chosen (Walker, 161)

Indians could no longer rove over the land, hunting, fishing. Fences  
 and concept of English "ownership" of land foreign to the Indians.  
 Sawmills and cornmills polluted the rivers spoiling the fishing.   
 (Winslow, 123)  
  
 Many Indians in the country were desirous of hearing the Gospel, but they   
 would not remove into the neighborhood of the English, 'because they had   
 no tools or skill, or heart to fence their grounds." (Adams 142)   
  
 2A. Approval of Natick 6,000 acres including Wellesley, Needham granted by   
 the General Court. Waban had requested land from Eliot at the first  
 meeting at his wigwam (1646) 🡪 1650 Thomas Waban signs for the land  
 (Winslow, 125) Adams said about 100 Indians gathered at Natick (p. 186)  
   
 1) **River weir**: two stone walls converging as a V. At the open point they  
 placed a widemeshed cage or basket made of twigs fastened to   
 hoops that caught fish swimming down stream… called an   
 Eelpot 🡪 in Eliot's Bible ("lattice" couldn't find Algonquin word  
 so his translator told him "Eelpot" later Eliot just used the English  
 word "lattice" with the Indian ending to the word. (Winslow, 125;   
 Francis, 236) 🡪 latticeut (English word with Indian ending,   
 E.g. cassettim (Hebrew)  
  
 2) The Indians built **a footbridge** 80' across the Charles River and 9' high.   
 Lasted longer than the English bridges over the Charles (they were   
 really proud of that. Built a fort, meeting house at the center of town,   
 place for Eliot to stay overnight and a school room.   
  
 3) **Town governance**: Eliot goes back to Exod. 18 Jethro's advice to   
 Moses one man over 10, 50, and 100 to judge matters. (Winslow,   
 127; Walker 161)   
 Got to try out on the Indians what failed in England in his recanting  
 over his work **"The Christian Commonwealth."** 🡪 **"Communion   
 of Churches"**  
 Totherswamp (elderly) over the 100 and Waban over 50. (Aug. 6,   
 1651) (Winslow, 128)   
   
 4) Eliot's covenant written up and they pledged to it (Sept. 1651) (Winslow,   
 128f) "God shall rule over us, (Isa. 33, 22). The Lord is our Judge;   
 the Lord is our Law giver; the Lord is our King; his Booke, that shall   
 guide us and direct us in the Way. O Jehovah, teach us wisdom…   
 Send thy spirit into our Hearts, and let it teach us. Lord take us to be   
 thy People, and let us take thee to be our God." (Winslow, 129)

**KEY:** Eliot's friendliness had won them,… they trusted him.   
 (Winslow, 129)   
  
5) **Two anecdotal stories**:   
  
 a) **Justice Waban** on Sabbath: one occasion gave an order to kill a   
 **raccoon** to supply food for his unexpected Sunday guest. He had   
 broken the Sabbath. … even he not above the law. (Winslow, 130;   
 also Francis, 96)  
  
 b) Totherswamp (ruler of 100's) law against drunkenness. 3 men got   
 drunk and then realized they were in trouble so they got   
 **Totherswamp's 11 year-old son drunk** figuring they would be   
 spared punishment. No, they were put in stocks and then whipped.   
 Totherswamp put his son briefly in stocks and took him to the school  
 where he was whipped. "Apparently the Indians were deeply   
 impressed by their ruler's sense of duty." (Winslow, 131)   
  
 **Adams tells of Eliot's self-reflection on this incident**: "I could   
 read nothing in it but displeasure, I began to doubt about   
 our intended work: I knew not what to doe, the blacknesse  
 of the sins, and the Persons reflected on, may my very heart   
 faile me: For one of the offendors (though least in the   
 offence) was he that **hath been my Interpreter**, whom I have   
 used in Translating a good part of the Holy Scriptures; and in   
 that respect I saw much of Satans venome. (Adam, 224)

**3A. Comment on improvement of life of women:** "A great   
 improvement was soon visible among them in their treatment of   
 their wives." (Adams, 129) Wife beating was outlawed among them   
 (Adams, 129f) Movement away from polygamy. (Adams 137,   
 Francis 100)   
  
 Francis notes a woman who said "Before my husband prayed, he   
 was very angry and froward; but, since he began to pray he has not   
 been so much angry, but only a little." (Francis, 88)   
   
 Wampas on some trivial occasion, in a fit of passion, beat his wife.   
 This brutal treatment of their females had formerly been, as is usual   
 among savage tribes, very common, and passed without notice. But   
 since they had received Christianity, they had learned to consider it   
 as a great offence, and the transgressor in such cases was exposed to   
 a fine. Wampas was made to stand up, and answer for his fault   
 before the public meeting. (Francis, 97f)  
  
 4A. **Governor John Endicott** governor of the colony (1651) preached in   
 in Natick. "He had been greatly pleased at what he had seen. "The   
 Foundation is laid," he wrote, "and such a one that I verily believe the   
 Gates of Hell shall never prevaile against." (Winslow, 132) Endicott   
 impressed with their industry and ingenuity: fort, meetinghouse, bridge.   
 Eliot 47 in 1651. Endicott said: "Truly, I account this one of the best   
 journeys I have made these many years." (Francis, 176)

**3A.** **Founding of the church at Natick: Confessions**: Tears of Repentance   
 tract (church at Natick founded 1660 ten years after the village formed  
 – 50 Indians by 1674 (Walker 161).   
  
 They would have a Day of asking Questions or a Day of Examination:  
 when the Indians would answer questions and declare their confessions  
 (Adams, 195)   
  
 1) **Confessions of each Indian documented by Eliot.**   
 **Totherswamp** (elder of 100's) "I confess I deserve Hell, I cannot deliver   
 my self, but I give my Soul and my Flesh to Christ, and I trust my soul  
 with him for he is my Redeemer, and I desire to call upon him while I   
 live." (Winslow, 150, Adams, 195ff); Waban's confession proved   
 unsatisfactory. Adams gives it at length-beautiful   
  
 2) **Monequassun**, the Natick schoolmaster, confessed that when he had   
 first heard instructions, he had laughed at them and scorned praying to God.   
 Later, when he felt differently, he had been very unwilling to move to   
 Natick, but he had come. He also found it very hard to cut off his hair, but   
 he had done that too." (Winslow, 151; Adams, 205f again Adams gives   
 lengthy confession from "Tears of Repentance")   
 These confessions found in "Tears of Repentance" published in England

3) **Robin Speene**: I see God is angry with me for all my sins, and he hath  
 afflicted me by the death of my children, and I fear God is still   
 angry…I remember my Pawwawing [for he was a Pawwaw] my lust,   
 my gaming, and all my sins; I know them by the Commandements of   
 God, and God heareth and seeth them all; I cannot deliver my self   
 from sin, therefore I do need Christ, because of all my sins, I desire   
 pardon, and I believe that God calls all to come to Christ, and that he   
 delivereth us from sin." (Adams, 212) Touching story of his child  
 making a confession on the verge of death (Adams, 221f)   
 Father Robin comments: He could not tell whether the sorrow for   
 the death of his child, or the joy for its faith were greater, when it   
 died. (Adams, 221f)  
  
 Francis notes (190): In some of the confessions…One   
 acknowledged, that he first became a praying Indian, not because he   
 understood or cared for religion, but because he loved the English,   
 and wished them to love him."

4) 3 years later after more instruction they would have a "Day of Asking  
 Questions" designed to show what they knew about the things of   
 religion (Winslow, 153) 5 years he trained them using his Logic  
 Primer; Eliot published "A Further Account of the Progresse of the   
 Gospel amongst the Indians of New England." Documenting  
 samples of Indian "Exercises" (Winslow, 155)

5) 1660 fourteen years after first preaching in Waban's wigwam (1646)   
 the Church at Natick was founded. (Winslow, 156)   
   
 4A. Eliot's **Sciatic and Lameness**: At this time: Eliot suffering from sciatica   
 where upon he became lame in leg for the rest of his life (ca. 56   
 years of age). (Winslow, 157)  
   
 1650's three of his sons trained at Harvard ready for work among the   
 Indians. All of his sons would die before him except one. Sadness  
 yet to come.   
   
 5A. Others recognizing Eliot's gifts: "Mr. Eliot excels any other of   
 the English, who in the Indian language about common matters excel   
 him," (Adams, 114)—in 1647   
 General Court at Boston, May 26,m 1647: Mr. Shepard speaks of his   
 brother Eliot as a man "whom, in other respects, but especially for   
 his unweariednesse in this work of God, going up and down among   
 them, and doing them good, I think we can never love nor honor   
 enough." (Adams, 125)  
  
 6A. "In 1670, the number of men and women in full communion at Natick,  
 was between forty and fifty, and more than three hundred and fifty  
 had renounced their savage practices and open sins, and gave heed   
 to instructions of the Gospel." (Adams, 239)  
  
  
**11. More Indian Towns: Natick model scaled up** to 14 in total (7 old, 7 new)

The Sudbury, Concord, Lancaster, Medford, and Dedham Indians had all in   
 a few years received the Gospel from Nonantum [Newton]. In   
 visiting that interesting spot we cannot but say, "From you sounded   
 out the word of the Lord." (Adams, 176)  
   
 1670's about 1100 Indians brought into Christianity under Eliot's influence  
 (Winslow, 160)   
 Massachusetts Colony known as the **7 Old Praying Indian Towns:**   
 Wamesit (Chelmsford),   
 Nashobah (Littleton),  
 Okkokonimesit (Marlborough),   
 Hassannamesit (Grafton),   
 Makunkokoag (Hopkinton),  
 Natick (Natick), and   
 Punkapog or Pakomit (Stoughton). (Francis, 181)  
  
 **Daniel Gookin, was superintendent** of all these Indian towns in 1656.   
 all 14 planted by 1674. Became very good friend of Eliot (vid. Newton   
 image)  
 "On Sunday the Indians assemble twice at the beat of the drum, and walk   
 solemnly to the meetinghouse, dressed in their English best. On the bare   
 benches inside the men sit on one side, the women on the other, precisely as   
 in English practice, …We see Waban, now grown old, paid a tribute for his   
 prudence and piety. "I do not know of any Indian that excels him," Gookin   
 adds. (Winslow, 161) – my discovery of Waban Township by Wellesley.   
   
 1) Pakenit or Punkapoag (**modern Canton**) next after Natick (Neponset   
 Mill one of Eliot's first preaching posts. Made clapboards, shingles   
 from cedar successful town. **John Eliot's son (John Eliot, Jr.)   
 preached there until his death** in 1668. (Benge/Pickowicz, 156;   
 vid. Cogley, 145 on the other villages) 14 miles S of Boston  
   
 2) Hassanamsasitt (place of small stones) now Grafton, 38 miles from   
 Boston. 8,000 acres granted for 60 Indians. It was from there that   
 **Printer James**, invaluable in the printing of the Indian Bible, lived.   
 (Winslow, 162)   
 3) Nashoban now Littleton, 25 miles from Boston, 8,000 acres made cider  
 problem with drunkenness

1674 Eliot and Gookin visit all 7 new Praying Towns (1650-1675 these  
 14 Praying Indian towns settled and begun.

**Next Time: Session #3: Eliot Bible (1663)   
– King Philip's War (1675) – Rebuilding and End (1690)**

**Session #3: Eliot Bible (1663)   
– King Philip's War (1675) – Rebuilding and   
 End (1690)  
  
Review:   
 Session #1:** Why Eliot: Significance, Widford Birth (1604), Naiseing childhood, Cambridge, Hooker, Boston, Roxbury Church (1643)  
 **Session #2:** Waban's Wigwam (1646) to Natick and 14 Praying   
 Indian Villages (1674) **12. The Indian Bible: First Bible printed in America (Francis, 226)**  
  
 1A. Vision:   
 1) **Letter to Edward Winslow** (England in July 8, 1649) Eliot expressed   
 the intense desire "to translate some parts of the Scriptures" for the   
 Indians…I look at it, as a sacred and holy work, to be regarded with   
 much fear, care, and reverence." (Francis, 218)  
  
 2) **Eliot** **Wrote Thomas Thorowgood in June 18, 1653.**   
 "I have had a great longing desire (if it be the will of God) taught our Indian   
 language might be sanctified by the translation of the holy Scriptures into   
 it…but I fear it will not be obtained in my days. I cannot stick to the work   
 because of my necessary attendance to my ministrie in Roxbury, and   
 among the Indians at sundry places…" (Winslow, 138)  
  
 Having done a catechism, and a grammar not at 45 years of age worked   
 for 12 years on his Bible. (Adams, 239)

2A. **Indian question: How do I get to heaven?** Answer "Pray; read the Bible"  
 but no Bible in their language and they couldn't read. (Winslow, 137)   
   
 3A. **Initial translations:** Catechism, Lord's prayer, Ten Commandments made  
 with the help of **Cockenoe** (his Indian translator helper)  
  
 4A. In 1649, three years after his first sermon at Waban's Eliot writes Edward  
 Winslow in London the **urgent need for Indian schools**.   
 "I do very much desire (he added) to translate some parts of the Scriptures   
 into their language, and to print some Primer in their language wherein to   
 initiate and teach them to read….Such a thing will be troublesome and   
 charageable, and I have not means of my own for it." (Winslow, 138)  
   
 1654 Catechism translated, 1658: Psalms done, 1661 the NT was done,   
 Bible first edition 1663. (Walker, 163)  
  
 5A. **Cost of printing a problem**: "1658: he wrote, "The whole book of God is   
 translated into their own language; it wanteth but revising, transcribing, and   
 printing. Oh, that the Lord would so move, that by some means or other it   
 may be printed." (Winslow, 141) – printing machine sent over.   
  
 1) Adams records: He was determined that the Indians should have the   
 word of God in their own tongue, and the work drew near to its   
 accomplishment. But how could it ever be printed? He slender   
 salary could not pay for it; ..In a letter to England in 1651, he says,   
 with much sorrow, "I have no hope to see the Bible printed in my   
 days." The Society for Propagating the Gospel came to his help. In   
 September, 1661, the New Testament in the Indian tongue was   
 published at Cambridge. Three years after this, the Old Testament   
 was added, and the whole Bible, with a Catechism and the Psalms of   
 David in metre, was thus given to the Aborigines of this desert, in   
 their own tongue, in forty years after the settlement of the country. It   
 was the first Bible printed on this Continent. It was printed at   
 Cambridge, by Samuel Green and Marmaduke Johnson. A copy   
 handsomely bound, was sent to King Charles II., and the Rev.   
 Richard Baxter says of it, "Such a work and fruit of a plantation was   
 never before presented unto a king." Two hundred copies, in plain   
 and strong leather, were immediately put in circulation for the use of   
 the Indians. … Eliot's joy when went to Natick and saw the Bible in   
 their hands …like Simeon Nunc Dimittis "Now, Lord, lettest thou   
 thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation."   
 (Adams, 241f) Mather says he wrote the whole thing with one pen.   
 (Adams, 243)   
  
 2) **Printing**:   
 Society for the Propagation of the Gospel paid the cost of printing  
 at Cambridge MA by Samuel Green the only printer in New   
 England. His press brought over in 1628. New press sent in 1654 for   
 the printing of Eliot's work. Engaged Marmaduke Johnson, a   
 London printer, to come over on a 3 year contract. (Winslow, 145)  
 one hundred reams of paper were also sent, 1,500 copies of NT  
 printed and 1,000 whole Bibles (1663) (Benge/Pickowicz, 155)

In 1658 Eliot wrote the treasurer of the Society for the Propagation of the   
 Gospel in New England:   
 **"I shall not trouble you with anything at present save this one business of   
 moment, touching the printing of the bible in the Indian language…that   
 yourselves might be moved to hire some honest young man, who hath skill   
 to compose, (and the more skill in other parts of the work, the better) send   
 him over as your servant , pay him there to his content, or engage payment,   
 let him serve you here in New-England at the press in Harvard College, and   
 work under the College printer, in impressing the Bible in the Indian   
 language, and with him send a convenient stock of paper to begin withal."   
 (Benge/Pickowicz, 155).**

**"**In the course of a thousand years since Ulfilas (c. 311-383) constructed   
 the Gothic alphabet, Eliot was the only missionary to devise a new alphabet   
 from an unwritten language for thepurpose of teaching and preaching the   
 Scriptures" (Benge/Pickowicz, 156)

6A. Dr. Trumbull, in Pub. Narragansett Club writes of the Eliot Bible (Walker,   
 163):   
 "a marvellous triumph of scholarship; achieved in the face of difficulties   
 which might well have appeared insurmountable. It may be doubted if, in   
 the two centuries which have elapsed since the Indian Bible was printed,   
 any translation of the sacred volume has been made from the English to a   
 foreign tongue of more literal accuracy and completeness. If a different   
 impression has been popularly received, slight study of the Indian text will   
 suffice to remove it."

7A. KJV 1611; King 54 scholars in 7 years after Rainholds' suggestion to the   
king it was done. … Now a little less than 50 years later, John Eliot purposed to translate it from English into a savage language (Winslow, 139) His full Bible completed in 1663 (first edition) He did in 14 years  
 what 54 men had done in 7 (KJV). Amazing persistence and self-discipline.

8A. **Translation Issues**:

**1) Cultural issues:** Lord's prayer:   
 1) Our Father, who art in heaven," father relationship to deity very   
 odd to them. "Kingdom come" they frequently asked "what is the   
 kingdom of heaven?" and Why must we forgive our enemies? As the   
 Indians feel no such desire (Winslow, 92)   
  
 2) Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want" "The care of sheep and   
 the whole panorama of shepherd life has no relation with Indian   
 experience." (Winslow, 92)   
  
  
  
 2) **Difficulty of the Language**: Cotton Mather perhaps in jest said:  
 commenting on Babel "he once put some demons upon their skill in   
 the tongues, and found that though they could manage to understand   
 Latin, Greek, and Hebrew very well, they were utterly baffled by the   
 speech of the American natives." …Mr. Eliot must have found his   
 task any thing but easy or inviting.(Francis, 42f)   
  
 3) **Lattice**: "when in all his searching and inquiring he could not find   
 an Algonquian word as suitable equivalent for the word he was   
 translating, he kept the English word of the KJV. Judges 5:28   
 "looking out the window and crying through mishanttooan papashpe,   
 an eelpot, instead of the lattice. … Fortunately, he was skeptical of   
 this hopeful synonym, and he let the mother of Sisera cry through   
 the English "lattice." (Winslow 140)  
 later Eliot just used the English word "lattice" with the Indian ending   
 to the word. (Winslow, 125; Francis, 236) 🡪 latticeut   
 (English word with Indian ending, E.g. cassettim (Hebrew)

4) **10 Bridesmaids** in Mat 25:1-12 🡪 chastity is a male virtue to the   
 Indians so he had 10 chaste young men go out with the lamps 5 with   
 oil 5 without. (Winslow, 141)

5) Very long words: sometimes filling a whole line: (Adams, 77)   
 "our loves" = noowoomantammoorkanunornash  
**Our question= Kummogkodonnattootummooetiteaongannunnarash.** "Instead of having separate words for pronouns and adjectives, the   
 noun or verb expresses them by adding syllables to itself."   
 (Adams, 78)   
  
 6) Nouns not male/female but animate (og endings for pl.)/inanimate   
 (ash ending for pl.)  
 7) Use of "**Jehovah**" for "Lord" and other English words come in  
  
 8) **No substantive verb**: is, was, become; so hard to render "I AM"  
  
7A. 1500 copies of NT printed separately. OT/NT and Psalms in meter  
 **1000 copies in 1663 printed**. Mostly destroyed in King's Philip's   
 war in 1675/6. (Winslow, 142)  
  
8A. **Completed in 1663 was the first Bible to be printed in America** (Winslow, 145) 26 copies bound and sent to England. 2 for King   
 James, One was given to Dr. John Rainholds who made the original   
 suggestion for the KJV in 1604. (Winslow, 145) rest distributed to   
 Indians  
   
 **Robert Boyle of the London Society for the Propagation of the   
 Gospel gave the copy to King James**. Wrote to John Winthrop   
 describing the occasion (Winslow, 146 gives "" of letter)  
  
 In 1966 copy of Eliot's Bible sold for $43,000.   
  
10A. **Second edition (1685 printed by Samuel Green)** considerable   
 debate (third edition not needed because the Indians spoke English   
 by then) (Winslow, 142) Printer James or James Printer, as he was   
 known as, also helped on the Indian side. (Francis, 232f)  
 Second edition: couldn't raise the money so Eliot took 40 lbs of   
 his own money to get it started (around back, later had to apologize)  
  
 **Apology Letter to Mr. Boyle:** My age makes me importunate. I   
 shall depart joyfully, may I but leave the Bible among them; for it is   
 the word of life." …"I desire to see it done before I die, and I am so   
 deep in years, that I cannot expect to live long; and sundry say, if I   
 do not procure it printed while I live, it is not within the prospect of   
 human reason, whether ever, or when, or how, it may be   
 accomplished." (Francis, 230)  
  
11A. **The Indians love the OT stories**. Named their kids OT names.   
 OT help bridge the cultures (Winslow, 143) as the supporters wanted  
 only to pay for printing the NT   
  
 12A. **Opposition and Eliot's person struggles:**   
 "It is worthy of remark, that Eliot makes no severe comment on this   
 sharp opposition." He lamented and regarded it with compassion   
 (Francis, 157)   
  
 1) "Though the long process of translating these 1180 pages in the   
 first edition, John Eliot had little encouragement from his own   
 countrymen of New England. Some doubted his ability to make the   
 translation. **More doubted the ability of the Indians to   
 understand** what he had translated. Still more grew all but   
 completely skeptical of Indian sincerity in conversion. Hugh Peter,   
 minister at Salem, did great damage to the cause by calling the   
 whole missionary scheme a hoax and alleged Indian conversions a   
 mere cheat." (Winslow, 144).  
  
 2) **Faced opposition from the settlers** who didn't trust the Indians.  
 Faced opposition from sachems and powwows. In one case   
 he said to a sachem: "I am engaged in the work of God, and God is   
 with me. I fear not all the sachems in the country. I shall go on in my   
 work, and do you touch me if you dare." Spirit of a martyr (Francis,   
 157f)   
   
 Vid. Francis tribute below (pp. 240-241)

13A. Eliot's other works: (Walker, 164)   
 Translated Baxter's Call to the Unconverted (1664)  
 Bishop Bayly's Practice of Piety (1665)  
 Indian Grammar Begun (1666)   
 Indian Primer (1669)   
 Shephard's Sincere Convert (1989) at 85 a year before his death

**13. King's Philip's war (1675-76)  
  
 1A. Pequot struggle in 1637** did not result in the Indian race being stereotyped  
 (Walker, 152)  1A. **1670's Eliot and Daniel Gookin visit all 14 Praying Indian villages**  
 "But instead of that harvest, in the following year came the war with King   
 Philip, after which John Eliot's work of more than thirty years lay in ruins."   
 (Winslow, 166) – Mayhew's work on Martha's Vineyard went on well   
 not really impacted by King Philip's war. Mayhew's work discussed in   
 Adams pp. 163ff.

2A. Winslow said, putting King Philip's war in context: "one remembers also   
 the devastation suffered by the English, **which in proportion to the New   
 England population at that time exceeded that of any other war in our   
 history**. The list of larger towns almost totally destroyed includes thirteen.   
 … Whole families wiped out. (Winslow, 167f)   
 Philip was chief of Wampanoag's formerly named: Metacom   
 (vid. Benge/Pickowicz, 158f)  
 "King Philip's War was the deadliest blood bath to occur in seventeenth-  
 century New England, and it is often considered to be the most important   
 war in the history of American colonization." (Benge/Pickowicz, 159)

3A. First year of war Indians ambushed English. Later English adopted that   
 method as well finally winning as it had looked like the English were going  
 to be totally annihilated. 1776 tide changed as they used Indian help.  
  
 4A. **Praying Indians: not trusted by Indians, and certainly not by settlers**.  
 late 1675 taken to Deer Island **[Show Images; map]**   
 Saved them from settlers and Indian-hating whites.   
  
 5A. **Murder of Sassamon**, a Praying Indian of Natick sparked the outbreak.   
 (Winslow, 169) He was a promising student who grew up in Natick. Had   
 been enrolled at Harvard. Helped Eliot in the translation work and became  
 a schoolmaster. He warned the governor that war was coming the next   
 day his body found underneath the ice near his home. 3 murderers arrested  
 ordered hanged by jury in Plymouth Colony. Now King Philip had pretext   
 for war the murder of three men of his tribe for the murder of Sassamon.   
 (Winslow, 171)  
  
 His murder did not really cause the war as the two sides  
 were destined for conflict. Indians roaming, hunting, fishing no   
 boundaries. English put up fences, farmers…   
   
 6A. **Indians lumped together**. Deprived of guns, scarcity of food resulted.   
 Exiled to Deer Island because of clamor of English settlers (Winslow, 172f)  
 Thirty Indians roped together brought to Eliot's home in Roxbury. The   
 settlers there asked they might be released so they could be killed.   
 He refused.   
   
 7A. **Exile to Deer Island**: [Images, map, Deer Island videos] Oct. 13, 1675   
 Order came exiling Indians of Natick to Deer Island.   
 "None of the Indians shall presume to goe off the said islande voluntarily,   
 upon paine of death, and it shall be lawfull for the English to destroy those   
 that they shall find straggling off from the said places of their   
 confinement." (Winslow, 173)   
  
 "Mr. Eliot met them at the Pines [on the Charles River] and endeavored to   
 soothe and cheer them. He was then seventy years old."  
  
 1) Captain Prentiss marched 200 Indians of Natick to the Charles River   
 when 3 boats waiting at "Pines". Eliot was there and prayed with   
 and for them. (Winslow, 174) – Bibles and books left for the most   
 part.   
  
 2) No shelter (until they built wigwams). Already 500 Indians there when   
 Natick Indians arrived. Winter was hard (snow deep up to   
 shoulders…) (Winslow, 174)   
 Eliot and his friends visited them, and found them patient and meek,   
 exhibiting the true influence of the Gospel in a satisfactory degree.   
 But they were exposed to want and suffering of various kinds.   
 (Adams, 252)   
  
 3) Eliot and Gookin visited them several times during the winter.  
 Boating out to Deer Island in small boat with Daniel Gookin.   
 **Collison with English boat which they claimed was "accident"   
 (on** purpose). John was thrown into the water and had to be pulled   
 out.   
  
 4) Captain Tom (Natick Indian) accused of being at one of the battles  
 was condemned to be hanged. Eliot told them he was speaking the  
 truth when he denied it was he. "On the ladder he lifted up his  
 hands and said I did never lift up hand against the English, nor was I at   
 Sudbury." (Winslow, 175) … **Eliot, because he sided with the Indians,  
 Drew great criticism. –Hadji lover**   
  
 **He objected strongly to selling of captive Indians into West Indian   
 slavery.**   
  
 5) Change in Ethos: Some of the soldiers started using Praying Indians in   
 larger numbers and started winning (1676). They then started   
 making a distinction between the warring factions and the Praying   
 Indians. (Winslow, 176)

6) **King Philip killed at Mount Hope on August 12, 1676** which was the   
 beginning of the end of that war.   
  
 After the war Indians given over to drunkenness in the younger generation.  
 "The success of the prewar years would not be repeated." (Winslow, 177)  
  
 7) 14 towns devastated (fire, theft, shambles). Natick was rebuilt as one of   
 4 places Praying Indians could go by 1684. (Adams, 254)   
 After the war, four of the towns—Natick, Hassanamisco,   
 Chabanakongkomun, and Punkapog—became, until Plymouth and   
 the islands were added in 1692, the only Indian villages in the Bay   
 Colony.  
 Eliot persuaded Natick to ordain their own minister a native   
 American named: Daniel Tokkohwompait in 1683 (vid inside Eliot   
 church of Natick). (Benge/Pickowicz, 159)  
 **In March 1684 Tokkohwompait wrote to Eliot expressing his   
 gratitude:**  "You are now grown aged. God hath made you to us   
 and our nation a spiritual father, we are inexpressibly engaged to you   
 for your farther constant indefatigable labors, and us as well in our   
 adversity as prosperity, for about forty years making known to us the   
 glad tidings of salvation of Jesus Christ." (Benge/Packowicz, p.   
 160)

8) **Tewksbury Indians fled** into the wilderness when asked to return they   
 responded: "We are not sorry for what we leave behind, but we are   
 sorry that the English have driven us from praying to God, and from   
 our leader. We did begin to understand a little of praying to God."   
 (Adams, 252)  
  
 9) **But the efforts to Christianize the Indians were never resumed with   
 the interest and zeal which were formerly felt**. (Adams, 253)   
  
**14. Starting over**  
 1A. **Eliot now 72 and failing strength. Never got over his sciatica and   
 lameness**. Wrote Robert Boyle "I am lamed, and quite disabled." He was   
 sole pastor at Roxbury now (Thomas Welde died 1674).

2A. **Facing the loss of most of the Indian Bibles as a result of the war**. He   
 pleads for another edition of the Bible: "In letter after letter to Robert   
 Boyle he lamented the loss and pled that another edition be printed. "My   
 age makes me importunate. I shall depart joyfully, may I but leave the   
 bible among them, for it is the word of life; and there be some godly souls   
 among them, that live thereby." (Winslow, 180).   
  
 English response: You have English schools among them. Let them read   
 the Bible in English henceforth.  
 **Richard Baxter even doubted the need** looking into the distant future but:   
 "If the old man die first, it is a great doubt whether any will ever   
 perform it. Because it may be useful." Defending Eliot.  
  
 3A. They would only print the NT and Psalms + 1000 English Bible sent.   
 Printer James at Cambridge went to work as before. Eliot rode back  
 and forth to Cambridge to oversee it   
   
 4A. **Sneakily:** He got £40 from a friend and ordered Printer James to go ahead   
 with the OT.   
 1) This order was without permission or authorization of any   
 sort from the London company. Printer James began to set Genesis.  
 When the London company found out about his "hasty venturing" it   
 won their sympathy and support.   
  
 2) Eliot wrote a letter of apology: "First, I pray, that you would please to   
 accept an apology for my haste. Second…that you would please to   
 draw a curtain of love over all my failures, because love will cover a   
 multitude of transgressions."   
  
 3) **Second edition was finished in 1685** ending 9 years of entreaty by   
 Eliot.   
  
 4) **Third edition – no go: 1710 there was talk of a third edition** but the   
 arguments used against it were now 20 years stronger and the project   
 dropped (Winslow, 183)   
  
 "The publication of the second edition in 1685 was not only a triumph for   
 John Eliot; it was also a terminus for the active work of his life." (Winslow   
 183).   
  
  
 **15. Final Days of a life well lived:**   
 1A. On his 80th birthday Nehemiah Walter was ordained as minister at Roxbury.   
 Eliot offered to give up his salary but the towns people refused.   
  
 2A. **His wife Hannah died in 1687**, only his son Joseph, a pastor in Guilford   
 Connecticut would survive his father by 4 years. Hannah his oldest   
 daughter also survived (other four kids all died before him).   
  
 3A. **Story of his living longer and other of the first generation** in   
 heaven wondering where he went (perhaps going the other way)   
 because he tarried so long on earth. (Get this story)   
 Eliot's cheerful humor:   
 "his old acquaintances had been gone to heaven so long before him   
 that he was afraid they would think he was gone the wrong way   
 because he stayed so long behind." Probably referring to John   
 Cotton of Boston and Richard Mather of Dorchester (Walker, 170;   
 Adams, 273, Francis 333) First generation: Richard Mather died at   
 73, Hooker at 61, John Cotton 67, Eliot at 86, John Wilson d. 1667.   
   
 4B. **His own reflections on aging:** "My understanding leaves me, my   
 memory fails me, my utterance fails me; but, I thank God, my   
 charity holds out still." (Walker, 171; quoting Cotton Mather's   
 Magnalia Christi Americana I, 541, it was apparently written to  
 Richard Baxter who said it comforted him (Adams, 265, cf. 274;  
 Francis, 334).   
 **5A. RIP:**  
 Before he died Walker notes 24 Indians had been ordained to the Gospel  
 ministry (Walker, 168)  
 Indian and black children around his chair as he taught them how to read  
 and write. (Walker, 171) Cotton Mather records: "He had long lamented   
 it, with a bleeding and burning passion, that the English used their negroes   
 but as their horses or their oxen, and that so little care was taken about their   
 immortal souls; … (Benge/Pickowicz, 161).   
  
 **86 year old died in 1690: last words: "Welcome Joy**" Samuel Sewall   
 mentions Eliot's burial as May 21, 1690. With about 70 French and   
 200 Indians attending. (Winslow, 186).   
  
 6A. Tomb in Roxbury reads: (Winslow, 186)  
 Here lie the remains of   
 John Eliot  
 Apostle to the Indians  
 Ordained over the First church, Nov. 5, 1632  
 Died May 20, 1690. Aged LXXXVI.   
  
 7A. **The Natick Indian church lasted 26 years** until the death of its Indian  
 preacher Daniel Tokkowampait in 1716. It became English  
  
 The town names have all changed except Natick (Winslow, 187)  
 Walker notes diminishing returns: 1749 there were 166 Indians at Natick  
 20 in 1797 and only one in 1855. (Walker, 169)   
  
**16. Tribute to John Eliot:**   
 1A. **Humility:** **I am but a shrub in the wilderness."** John Eliot wrote to   
 Robert Boyle in 1664. (Winslow, 1888) "My doings! Alas! They   
 have been poor and small and lean doings and I'll be the man who   
 shall throw the first stone at them all."   
 He had hoped that others would build on his foundation.   
  
  
 2A. "**He left behind him the evidences of what one man's dedication can   
 mean…"** (Winslow, 189)   
 Persistence and dedication to his friends (Roxbury/Natick)  
  
 He was not an intellectual. He was not a   
 statesman. He did not enrich the nations art in any direction. He was   
 a very simple man. Simple in his acceptance of the Bible as the   
 word of God Himself, simple in his trust that God prospers and the   
 endeavors of those who believe that He will prosper them, simple in   
 his assumption that all men, even those who are degraded, are God's   
 children. In this simplicity lay his strength." (Winslow, 190) First   
 Generation of colonists… this is a major part of the history of   
 America.   
  
 **3A. Life's work and Legacy:**   
 Streets named after him (in Newton, Jamaica Plains…)   
 Churches named after him (Natick, Lowell…)  
 Schools named after him and Started (Jamaica Plains; Roxbury Latin 1645)  
 Murals: State House, Natick Post Office   
 Signs commemorating his work: Natick, Deer Island …  
 Carved in stone: Congregational Library/Archive, Canton   
 **Character and what he did simply amazing!**  
 First Printed book in America: The Bay Psalm Book  
 Oldest Continuous H. S.: Roxbury Latin School (1645)  
 Harvard Indian College (help found it) – First brick building at   
 Harvard  
 First intentionally integrated school [Indians, blacks, whites]:   
 Jamaica Plains  
 First Printed Bible in America: 1663   
 First Translation of the Bible into an Algonquian Language (1663)  
 First Grammar of the Indian language (1666)   
 Helped founding of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel  
 in England  
 Recorded the confessions and lives of many Native Americas in   
 the 1600's.   
   
  
 **4A. Concluding Tributes:   
  
 1) When we take that old dark volume into our hands**, we understand not the   
 words in which it is written; but it has another and beautiful meaning which we do   
 understand. It is a symbol of the affection, which a devoted man cherished for the   
 soul of his fellow-man; it is the expression of a benevolence, which fainted   
 in no effort to give light to those who sat in darkness. (Francis, 241)  
  
 It has been said, probably without exaggeration, that Mr. Eliot was the most   
 successful missionary that ever preached the Gospel to the Indians. (Francis, 301)

**2) Francis Tribute: (Francis, 240f)**

We justly admire the moral courage, the spirit of self-sacrifice, which sustained Eliot in the tasks of preaching, visiting, and instruc­tion, never deterred …, never daunted by the fierce threats …, never moved by exposure to storms, cold, and   
the various forms of physical suffer­ing. But, when we represent him to our minds,   
as laboring at his translation of the Scriptures in the silence of his study,   
year after year, in the freshness of the morning hour and by the taper of midnight, wearied but not disheart­ened; continually perplexed with the almost unmanageable phraseology of the dialect …, yet always patient to discover how it might be made to represent truly the meaning of the sacred books; doing this chap­ter by chapter, verse by verse, without a wish to give over the toil; cherishing for a long time only a faint hope of publication, yet still wil­ling to believe, that God in his good provi­dence would finally send the means of giving the printed word of life to those for whom he toiled and prayed, --we cannot but feel that we witness a more trying task, a more surprise­ing labor, than any presented by the stirring and active duties of his ministry among the natives.   
 It was a long, heavy, hard work, wrought out by the silent but wasting efforts of mental toil, and relieved by no immediately animating excitement. It was truly a labor of love.   
  
3) Mr. Everett: (Convers, )  
 \* “Since the death of the Apostle Paul,” says Mr. Ever-  
­ett, “a nobler, truer, and warmer spirit, than John Eliot, never lived; and taking the state of the country, the nar­rowness of the means, the rudeness of the age, into con­sideration, the history of the Christian church does not contain an example of resolute, untiring, successful labor, superior to that of translating the entire Scriptures into the language of the native tribes of Massachusetts; a labor   
performed, not in the flush of youth, nor within the luxuri­ous abodes of academic ease, but under the constant bur­den of his duties as a minister and a preacher, and at a time of life when the spirits begin to flag.” -- EVERETT'S

4) Francis, 301

that judicious modes of civilization and of social improvement must proceed   
 simulta­neously with such simple forms of religious in­struction, as are adapted to   
 the mental condi­tion of the catechumens. There were errors and mistakes in Mr.   
 Eliot's manner of proceed­ing, as there have been in all similar enter­prises; but, on   
 the whole, there are few, if any, better models of missionary effort, than   
 that which his history presents. It has been said, probably without exaggeration,   
 that Mr. Eliot was the most successful missionary that ever preached the Gospel to   
 the Indians.   
  
 5) From The cleare Sun-shine of the Gospel, Thomas Shepard, 1648 p. 23f.   
 (my 43f) – how much Eliot was regarded by people of his own day   
 Thomas Shepard – minister of the Cambridge church, MA

24 *The cleare Sun-shine of the Gospel,*

wherein they may see a little of the Spirit of this man   
 of God, whom in other respects, but especially for his   
 unweariednesse in this work of God, going up and   
 down among them and doing them good, I think we   
 can never love nor honour enough.