

## #1 What Is A Revolution?

What is a revolution?

Is it a year, the earth's 365 day orbital jig around the sun? Every time it passes through four seasons, the earth comes back altered, aged-changed. Is a revolution a day? Can a revolution take place with a simple rotation? Ancient astronomers considered a rotation a revolution. Each time the earth rotates on its axis it makes a mini-revolution.

The Random House Unabridged Dictionary defines revolution as "a sudden, complete or marked change in something." Whether you measure a revolution by a day or a year, something happens during a revolution—a revolution means change.

One of the America's most esteemed patriots asked a similar question. "What do we mean by the American Revolution? Do we mean the American war?" John Adams asked in a letter to a friend nearly forty years after the war's final shot was fired.

Adams knew the answer. He was an eyewitness to it. He understood that the American Revolution was not merely overthrowing the king's government by force. The American Revolution began long before the first musket fired. "The Revolution was in the minds and hearts of the people; a change in their religious sentiments, of their duties and obligations," Adams explained.

The American Revolution was not simply a war. It was a transformation of the colonist's hearts and souls. For a few, the change came more slowly, after a longtime wrestling in their hearts over their allegiances, beliefs, and capabilities. Those who couldn't change their allegiance emigrated to England. But those who could change were forever transformed.

"This radical change in the principles, opinions, sentiments, and affections of the people was the real American Revolution," Adams wrote.

To skeptics this radical change was merely a rebellion. Those who would rebel against one government would always rebel, no matter who was in charge. But to true believers, this was not a rebellion. It was a revolution, one that would transform a monarchy into a republic, colonies into states, Englishmen and

Englishwomen into American Patriots. A nation ruled by a king emerged as a nation governed by a constitution of the people. What does revolution mean to you? Perhaps it's a sudden change. Perhaps it's a more complete change, an obvious overthrow. As you discover the stories, sparks, and spirit of the American revolution, perhaps they will ignite a revolution in your heart, one that inspires your patriotism and nurtures your soul, one rotation at a time.

Ecclesiastes 1:4-5, "One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever. 5: The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he arose."

#### PRAYER

God revolutionize my heart as you desire, one day at a time.

Taken from "The Revolutionary War Battlefields and Blessings" by J ANE H AMPTION COOK and sold by RMJC Publications