

*America*

Freedom

1517

Martin Luther wrote the “**Disputation  
on the Power and Efficacy of  
Indulgences,**”

also known as

**“The 95 Theses”**

a list of questions and propositions for debate.

Popular legend has it that on October 31, 1517,  
Luther nailed a copy of his **95 Theses** to the  
door of the Wittenberg Castle church in Germany

After studying the books of Galatians and Romans **Luther** believed that the Bible is the central religious authority and that humans may reach

***Salvation only by their Faith***

and not by their deeds—was to spark the Protestant Reformation

Even though many others over the last 14 centuries believed this, **Martin Luther** sparked off the Reformation.

1598 April

# **Edict of Nantes**

King Henry IV of France

Allowed Christians (Huguenots)

to freely worship

1685 October

## **Edict of Fontainebleau**

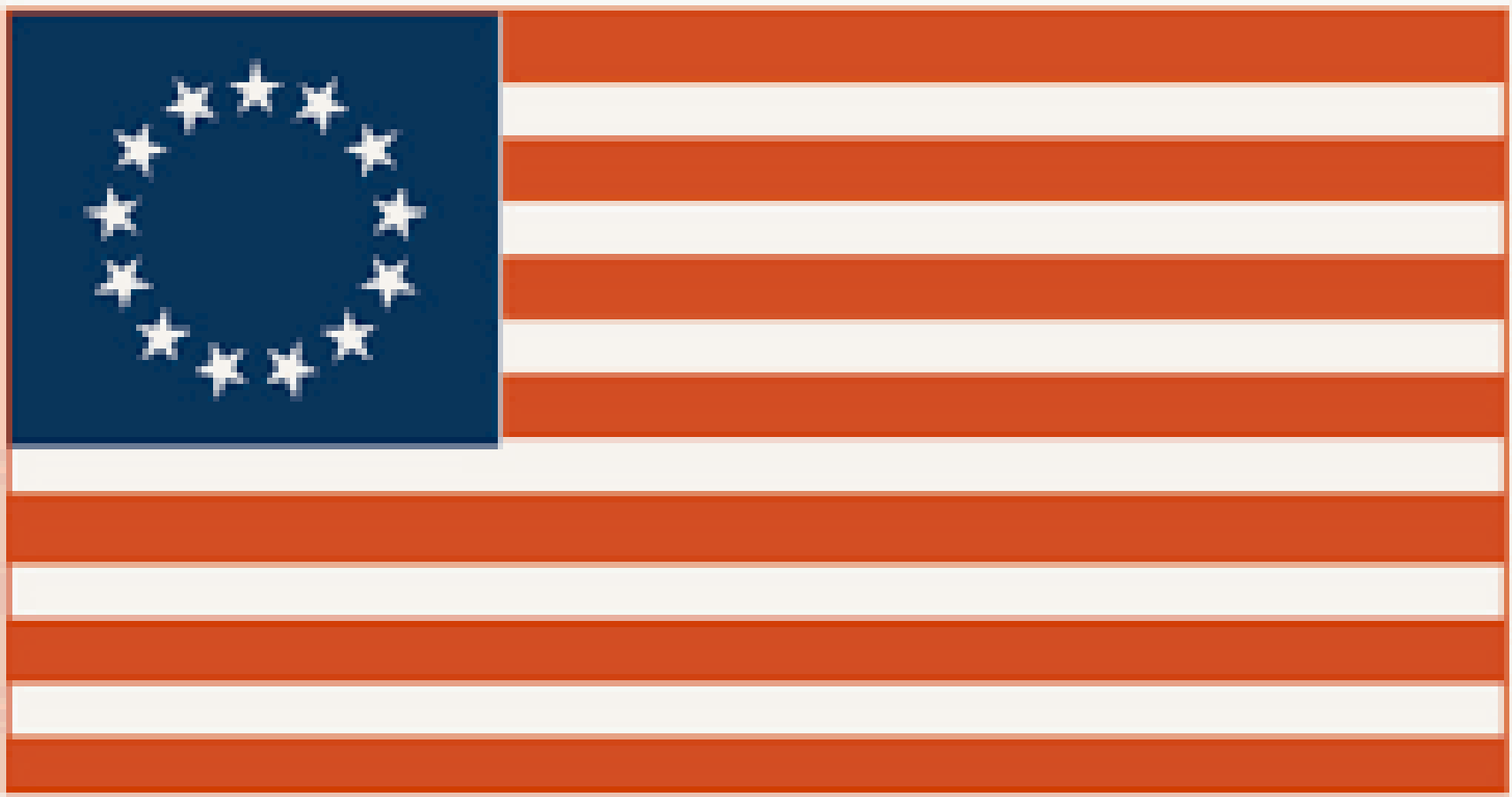
was issued by King Louis IV of France

Revoking the **Edict of Nantes**

Thus taking away the freedom of worship

**what the government gives,  
the government can take away**

The first officially recognized version of the American flag, from 1776, had 13 stars — in a circle.



**BETSY ROSS**  
c. 1776

1776 July 4

Declaration of the United States of America  
which includes these words:

**WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF EVIDENT,  
THAT **ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL,**  
THAT THEY ARE ENDOWED BY THEIR **CREATOR**  
WITH CERTAIN UNALIENABLE RIGHTS  
THAT AMONG THESE ARE  
**LIFE, LIBERTY,**  
**AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS****

Note our founding Fathers believed that all men are created by God.

Secondly God gives certain rights = *unalienable rights*

These are rights not given by the government and  
therefore no government has the right to take them away.



# **Amendment I**

**Congress shall make no law  
respecting an establishment of religion,  
or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,  
or abridging the freedom of speech,  
or of the press,  
or the right of people peaceably to  
assembly, and to petition the Government  
for a redress of grievances**

Our Founding Fathers  
established America  
as a **Republic**  
not a **Democracy**

**Ben Franklin**

in reply to  
what form of government  
we have:

**“YOU HAVE A REPUBLIC,  
IF YOU CAN KEEP IT”**

The movement from  
a **Republic** to a **Democracy**  
occurred over a span of decades

as the Judicial system  
(Supreme Court)

slowly moved us  
from a **Republic** to a **Democracy**.

“Democracy cannot ingest the  
Christian notions of saved and lost

A democratic church must include  
believer and unbeliever”

*...John Dewey*

**“The democracy will cease to exist  
when you take away**

**from those who are willing to work  
and give to those who would not.”**

**A DEMOCRACY WILL END WHEN THE PEOPLE  
REALIZE THEY CAN VOTE THEMSELVES MONEY**

**America**