



Volume 20

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**America's Revolution (68) – The Bishop's
Palace – I**

Lead: In the 1700s the United States broke from England. No colony in history had done that before. This series examines America's Revolution.

Intro: *A Moment in Time with Dan Roberts*

Content: In 1770 Lord North became King George III's First Minister. He was a gentle soul with a determination to tamp down on colonial disputes. His government

quickly repealed all of the Townshend revenue acts, leaving only a tax on tea and the Declaratory Act to remind the colonies that Parliament was determined to retain its right to extract revenues. This ushered in a period which some at the time called a “pause in politics,” with no giant issue animating colonial anger and resistance. That is until there was one. That was the issue of religion.

It very important to remember that many of Britain’s North American colonies were originally populated in the 1600s by those fleeing what they perceived as religious persecution by the Stuart monarchy and its allies in the Church of England. Those dissenters who remained at home tossed up a Civil War over religious and constitutional issues in the 1640s and 1650s. Many of those sharing these same concerns migrated to America. Fear and agitation over religious

freedom never went away, and whenever it appeared that Anglicans had ambitions to spread their approach to religion and power to the colonies, many Americans, Presbyterians, Baptists, Lutherans, and the Reformed Dutch, resisted these efforts so as to protect colonial religious freedom. Next time: a pitiful little college.

At the University of Richmond's School of Professional and Continuing Studies, I'm Dan Roberts.

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