

aboard the ship *Mayflower* after it was anchored in waters off Cape Cod in what is now Massachusetts, was an unofficial agreement for governance made by these English migrants.

We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign lord, King James, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, etc., having undertaken, for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith, and honor of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia, do by these presents solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God and one of another, *covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic*, for our better ordering and preservation, and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof, to enact, constitute, and frame such *just and equal laws*, ordinances, Acts, *constitutions*, and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most *meet and convenient for the general good* of the colony; *unto which we promise all due submission and obedience*. In witness whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names, at Cape Cod, the 11th day of November, in the year of the reign of our sovereign lord, King James, of England, France, and Ireland the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth, Anno Domini, 1620.

Albert Stickney, *Democratic Government: A Study of Politics* (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1885), 162.

PRACTICING Historical Thinking

Identify: What justification does Bradford provide for the formation of this government?

Analyze: In what ways is this document a declaration of independence, and in what ways does it declare its allegiance to Great Britain?

Evaluate: What does the organization of this document tell us about the values of the signatories?

DOCUMENT 2.4 | JOHN WINTHROP, "A Model of Christian Charity" 1630

John Winthrop (1587–1649) led the first wave of English Protestant "Puritans" to New England a decade after William Bradford and his Separatists. On board the ship *Arbella*, Winthrop, who served as the first governor of New England, gave this sermon as a way to situate Puritan New England within the framework of God's plan.

Now the only way to . . . provide for our posterity . . . is to follow the counsel of Micah, to do justly, to love mercy, to walk humbly with our God. For this end,