

13 - 2022-01-11

PRAYER

BIBLE - Proverbs 6:12-19

QUIZ - LA PRUEBA

Q: Who was the Texas woman who led other Texian women and children in Bible reading and prayer while hiding from Indians in a thicket near her home?

A: Mrs. Mossie Millard

Q: Who was the first person known publicly to have professed faith in Christ in Texas?

A: Lydia Allcorn

Q: Who was the most active and widely known Baptist preacher in the 1830s in Texas?

A: Z.N. Morrell

Q: The first Sunday School in Texas, organized by Thomas Pilgrim at San Filepe in 1829---was it legal or illegal according to the colonization laws at the time?

A: illegal

Q: In what colonial town was the first-ever Baptist church in Texas organized?

A: Washington

ASSIGNMENT

Re-read Yoakum chapter 20

Study class notes

Study timeline

TIMELINE

1528 De Vaca lands at Galveston Island

1541 Coronado enters Texas panhandle from west

1542 De Soto expedition enters Texas from northeast

1685 La Salle lands at Matagorda Bay

1718 San Antonio mission, presidio, and villa are established

1803 Louisiana Purchase is made

1819 Eastern border of Texas established at Sabine River

1821 Moses Austin receives a grant to form a colony in Texas

1824 Mexican federal constitution is passed

1825 Baptist minister Joseph Bays begins preaching in Texas

1827 Coahuila y Texas state constitution is passed

1829 Lydia Allcorn makes the first known public profession of faith in Christ

1830 Bustamente takes power and pursues a narrow policy toward Texas

1832 First Texian Consultation meets at San Felipe

1832 Santa Anna restores constitutionally-elected President Pedraza

1833 Santa Anna becomes president of Mexico under the 1824 constitution

1833 Second Texas Consultation proposes statehood for Texas and sends Austin as its delegate to Mexico City

LESSON

Yoakum p. 317

Kennedy---himself an Englishman---speaking of the failure of this colony [Beales and Grant], says it supplied

further evidence of the superiority of the Anglo-Americans in forming colonies. The North Americans are the only people who, in defiance of all obstacles, have struck the roots of civilization deep in the soil of Texas. Even as I trace these lines, I reflect upon their progress with renewed wonder and admiration. They are indeed the organized conquerors of the wild, uniting in themselves the threefold attributes of husbandmen, lawgivers, and soldiers.

1834

Yoakum p. 317-318

The year 1834 was occupied in Mexico changing the form of government from that of a republican confederation of states to a purely national government, controlled by a single man...

January-April 1834

State legislature met, and passed several laws favorable to Texas,

-one establishing rangers

-one providing that "no person should be molested for political and religious opinions, provided the public order was not disturbed"

Most of the progress made by legislative action was not, then, put into effect.

May 1834

Santa Anna pronunciamento and plan at Cuernavaca

1. certain laws passed by the current Cortez should be declared void
2. the Cortez should be dismissed, and another convened with power to form a new constitution
3. Santa Anna should be sustained in carrying the plan into execution

June 1834

State government declared against the plan of Cuernavaca

-that he should not permit the troops of the standing army to be introduced into the state under any pretence

-plans were made for another session of the legislature, and for organizing the militia to defend defend the constitutional federal system of government

July 1834

State government withdrew opposition to Santa Anna's plan and declared in favor of it.

Late summer and fall of 1834

Rival towns Monclova and Saltillo went to civil war over who was the right state government.

This turmoil led to the elections not being held as specified in the constitution

Yoakum: "the government under the constitution was in fact destroyed."

January - Mexican national congress met, under the plan of Cuernavaca

-number of militia one soldier for each five hundred inhabitants, and disarming the remainder. Yoakum:

This arbitrary decree was a sufficient justification of Texas for her subsequent acts. Every one who knows the Texans, or who had heard of them, would naturally conclude that they never would submit to be disarmed. Any government that would attempt to disarm its people is despotic; and any people that would submit to it deserve to be slaves!

March

national Cortez was considering statehood for Texas; Austin wrote, March 15th, that the Cortez and President Santa Anna were expected to decide in favor of statehood

Yoakum: Santa Anna was “temporizing with Texas, through Austin,” on the question of statehood, “until he could get the country occupied with his troops.”

Coahila y Texas government sold off large tracts of Texas land illegally

April

State government issued apology regarding land deal, and made several promises to Texas regarding colonization, Indian relations, a college, schools, and several other things. Yoakum:

Thus were the hopes of the Texans flattered, while they were robbed of their fair domain; and thus did the legislature render itself worthy to be driven from its halls . . .

Santa Anna led army to Zacatecas; routed Zacatecans in battle; the state was utterly subdued, largely in one two-hour battle (May 10th)

Santa Anna ordered General Cos (his brother-in-law) to march on Monclova and disperse the state legislature. Governor called out the militia to defend the government, but, Yoakum:

the public mind of the state, especially in Texas, was so thoroughly convinced of the selfishness and corruption of that body, that the stirring appeals of his excellency could not arouse them.

State government of Coahila y Texas closed 21st of April, Yoakum:

It fell by the hands of a tyrant, but unpitied by the people.

May

Committees of safety began to form in all the municipalities
not in reference to split from Mexico, but safety from Indians
soon they were active

Summer

Santa Anna had control of the clergy, the army, and the congress; he had become nearly omnipotent; all but Texas were in subjugation; he planned and began to fill Texas with military forces little by little

NOTE ON MILITIA

Yoakum:

The people of that department [Texas] were now without a government; and it devolved on them, either to establish a system of their own, or submit to the will of Santa Anna. From their character, the latter could not be expected. The national decree, dissolving the civic militia, exposed the country to the constant depredations of the Indians, who had already become very troublesome and dangerous. As an instance of this, early in 1835, an Italian and several Mexicans, engaged in transporting goods, were attacked in the morning by about seventy Indians, on the road, fifteen miles west of Gonzales. The merchants, forming a breastwork of their goods, continued the fight till evening. But gradually their numbers were thinned by the fire of their adversaries, till they were no longer able to defend their position. An assault was then made on the survivors by the savages, and every one was butchered and scalped. Such a scene, on the great thoroughfare of the country, was sufficient to prove the necessity of an organized militia, and that militia well armed.

Webster 1828

The militia of a country are the able bodied men organized into companies, regiments and brigades, with officers of all grades, and required by law to attend military exercises on certain days only, but at other times left to pursue their usual occupations.

Yoakum: "early in 1835" twenty Mexican troops were stationed at Anahuac. William B. Travis led force of Texans, who attacked and drove them off.

Santa Anna appointed General Cos to have both military and civil authority over Coahila y Texas

June

Cos despatched messages to military commander at Anahuac regarding plans to bring several strong Mexican military forces into Texas; the courier was intercepted by Texans, and the papers read.

Two parties formed in Texas: war party and peace party

July

peace party sent to military that if troops were sent in great numbers to Texas for any purpose, it would result in civil war

letter William Travis to Jim Bowie

the people are much divided here. The peace party . . . are the strongest . . . Unless we could be united, had we not better be quiet, and settle down for a while? There is now no doubt but that a central government will be established. What will Texas do in that case? Dr. J.H.C. Miller, and Chambers, from Gonzales, are, I believe, for unqualified submission. I do not know the minds of the people upon the subject; but if they had a bold and determined leader, I am inclined to think they would kick against it . . . General Cos writes that he wants to be at peace with us; and he appears to be disposed to cajole and soothe us. Ugartachea does the same . . . God know what we are to do!

August

several leaders, including Travis and Zavala, were ordered by Santa Anna, Cos, and Ugartachea, to be surrendered for trial for disturbing order; this excited a war spirit in Texas

Cos wrote letter

The plans of the revolutionists of Texas are well known . . . and it is quite useless . . . to cover them with a hypocritical adherence to the federal constitution. The constitution by which all Mexicans may be governed is the constitution which the colonists of Texas must obey, no matter on what principles it may be formed.

Sam Houston introduced resolutions in San Augustine declaring adherence to the constitution of 1824, denouncing the moves by Santa Anna against the state government, and raising and organizing the militia

Yoakum:

By the month of August it was clearly understood that the federal constitution was to be destroyed. . . The doctrine had already gone forth that the authority of the national Congress was unlimited---that it could do anything which Santa Anna desired. it was further understood that the president was to hold his office for eight years . . . The troops were to be in that department [Texas] by the time of the change in the form of government, fixed for October. Customhouses were to be established and defended. All those who had immigrated into Texas from the United States, since the law of April 6, 1830, were to be driven from the country. A number of proscribed, of which a long list was preserved, were to be arrested and tried . . . The slaves were to be freed, and introduced to citizenship. The empresarios were to be dismissed from the functions, and future immigrants supplied from Mexico. This appears to have been the future designed for Texas .