

Winthrop: Objections to the Plantation in New England

Instructions: Read the ten objections that are raised, which provide more insights into why the Puritans believed they should go to New England. For each of the objections explain the reason in your own words.

Diverse objections which have been made against this Plantation, with their answers and resolutions:

Objection I — We have no warrant to enter upon that land, which has been so long possessed by others.

Objection II — It will be a great wrong to our Church and Country to take away the good people, and we shall lay it the more open to the judgment feared.

Objection III — We have feared a judgment a great while, but yet we are safe. It were better therefore to stay till it comes, and either we may flee then, or if we be overtaken in it we may well content ourselves to suffer with such a Church as ours is.

Objection IV — The ill success of the other Plantations may tell us what will become of this.

Objection V — It is attended with many and great difficulties.

Objection VI - It is a work above the power of the undertakers.

Objection VII — The country affords no natural fortifications.

[Type text]

Objection VIII — The place affords no comfortable means to the first inhabitants, and our breeding here at home has made us unfit for the hardship we are likely to endure there.

Objection IX — We must look to be preserved by miracle if we subsist, and so we shall tempt God.

Objection X — If it succeed ill, it will raise a scandal upon our profession (of our religion).
