



Sanctuary

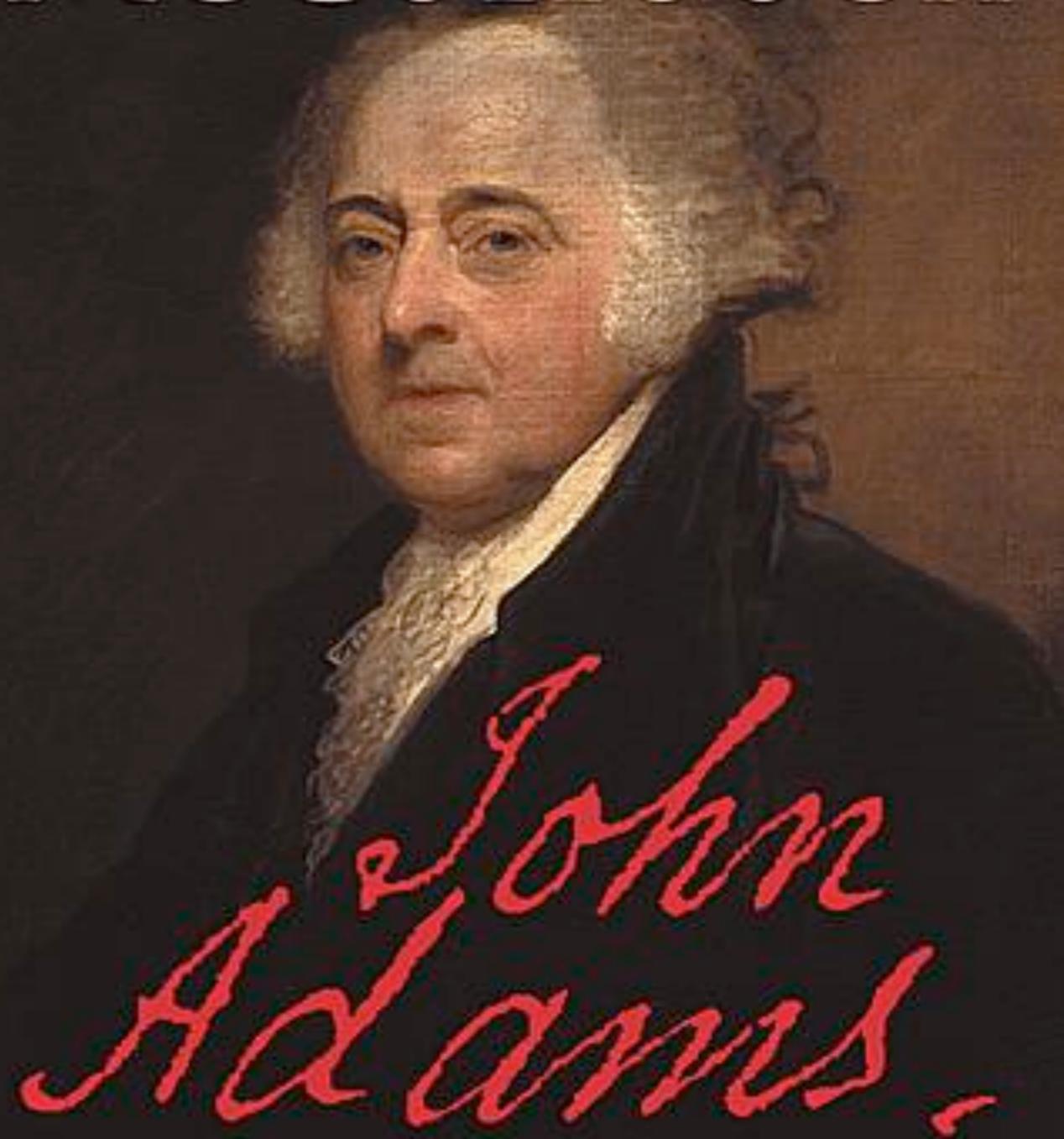
YOU ARE AWESOME, O
GOD, IN YOUR
SANCTUARY; THE GOD
OF ISRAEL GIVES
POWER AND STRENGTH
TO HIS PEOPLE. PRAISE
BE TO GOD!

- PSALMS 68:35

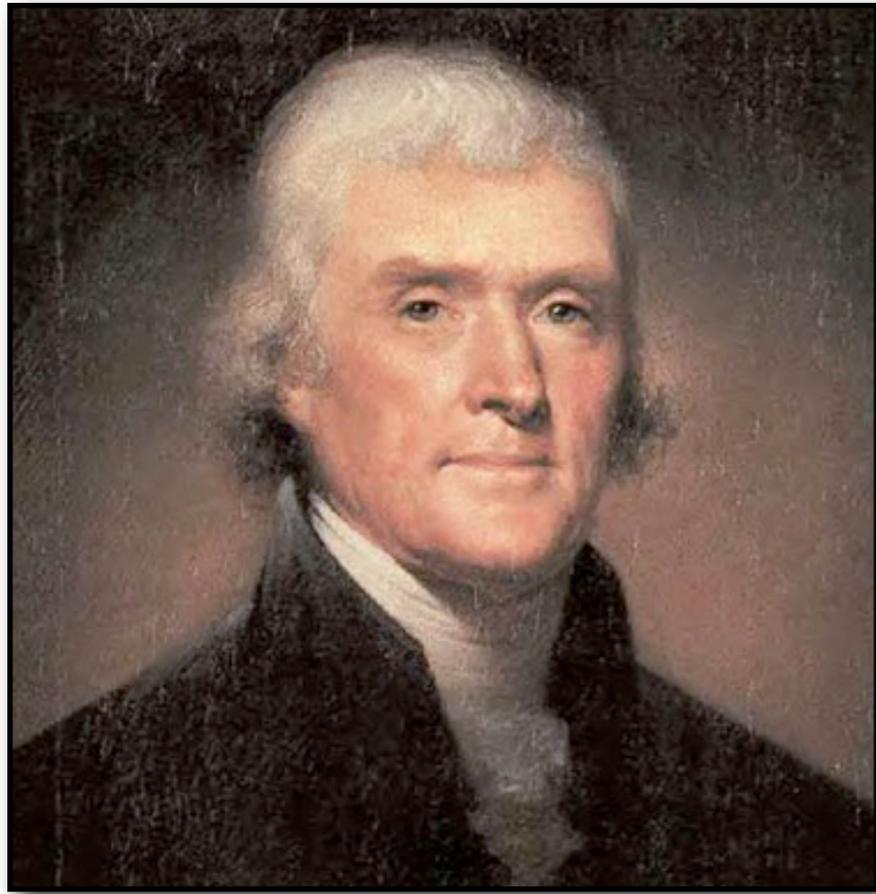
Welcome to
Sierra Community Church

WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE

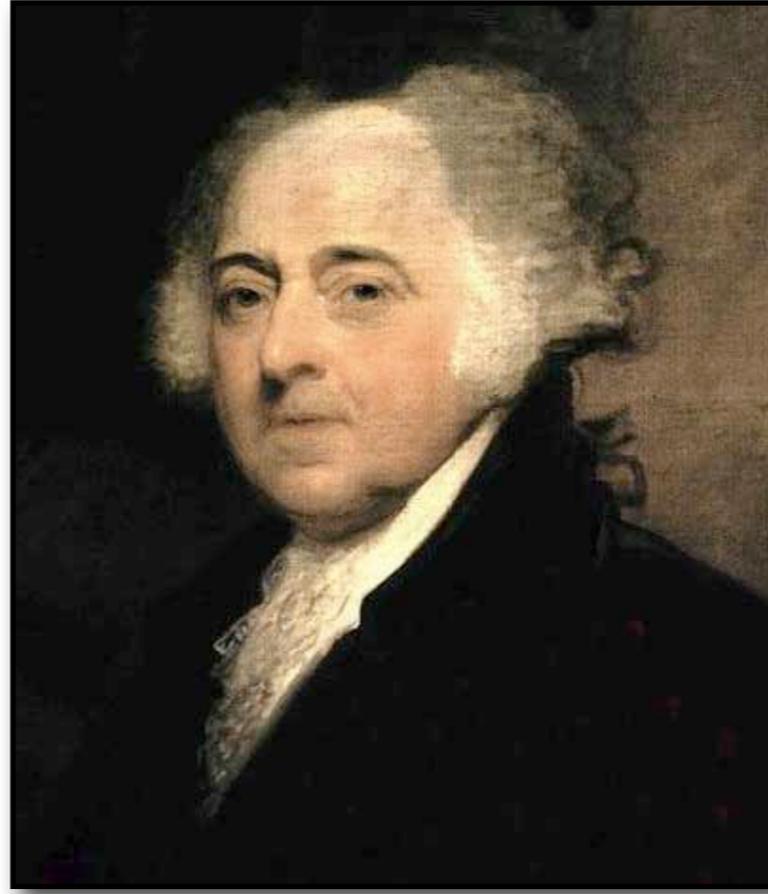
DAVID McCULLOUGH



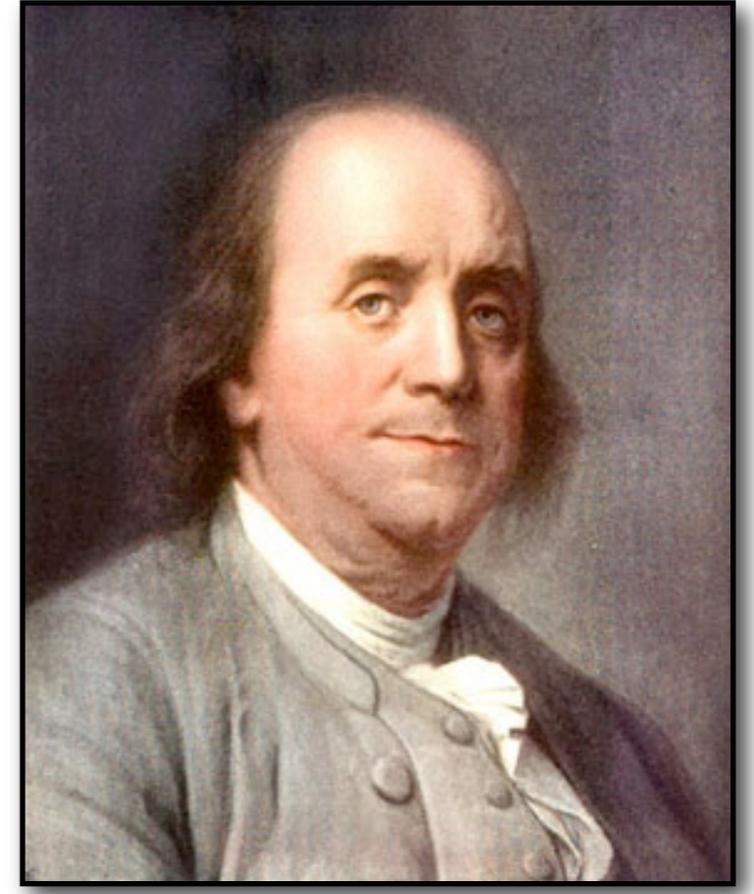
"A masterwork of storytelling." —Walter Isaacson, *Time*



**Thomas
Jefferson**

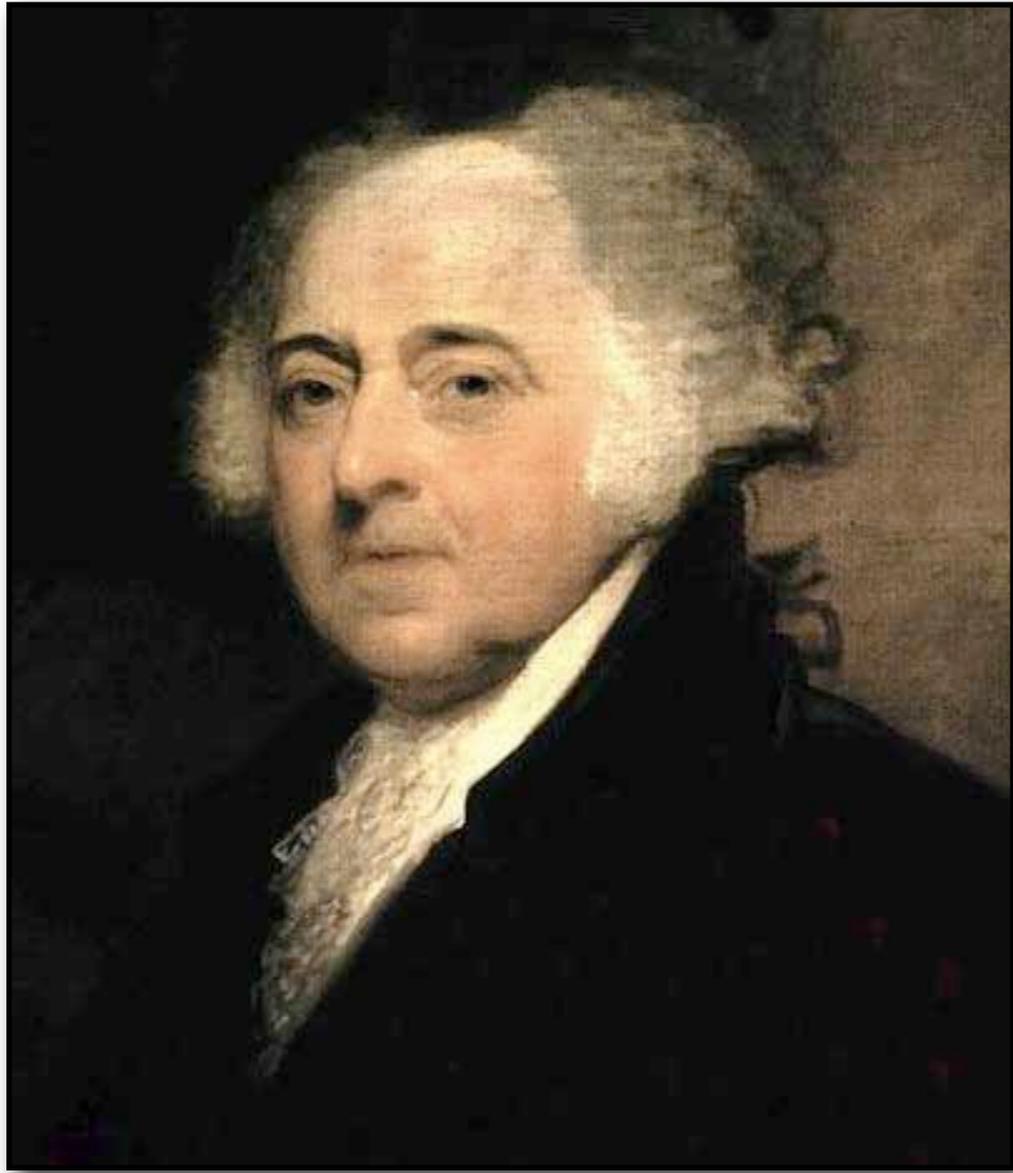


**John
Adams**

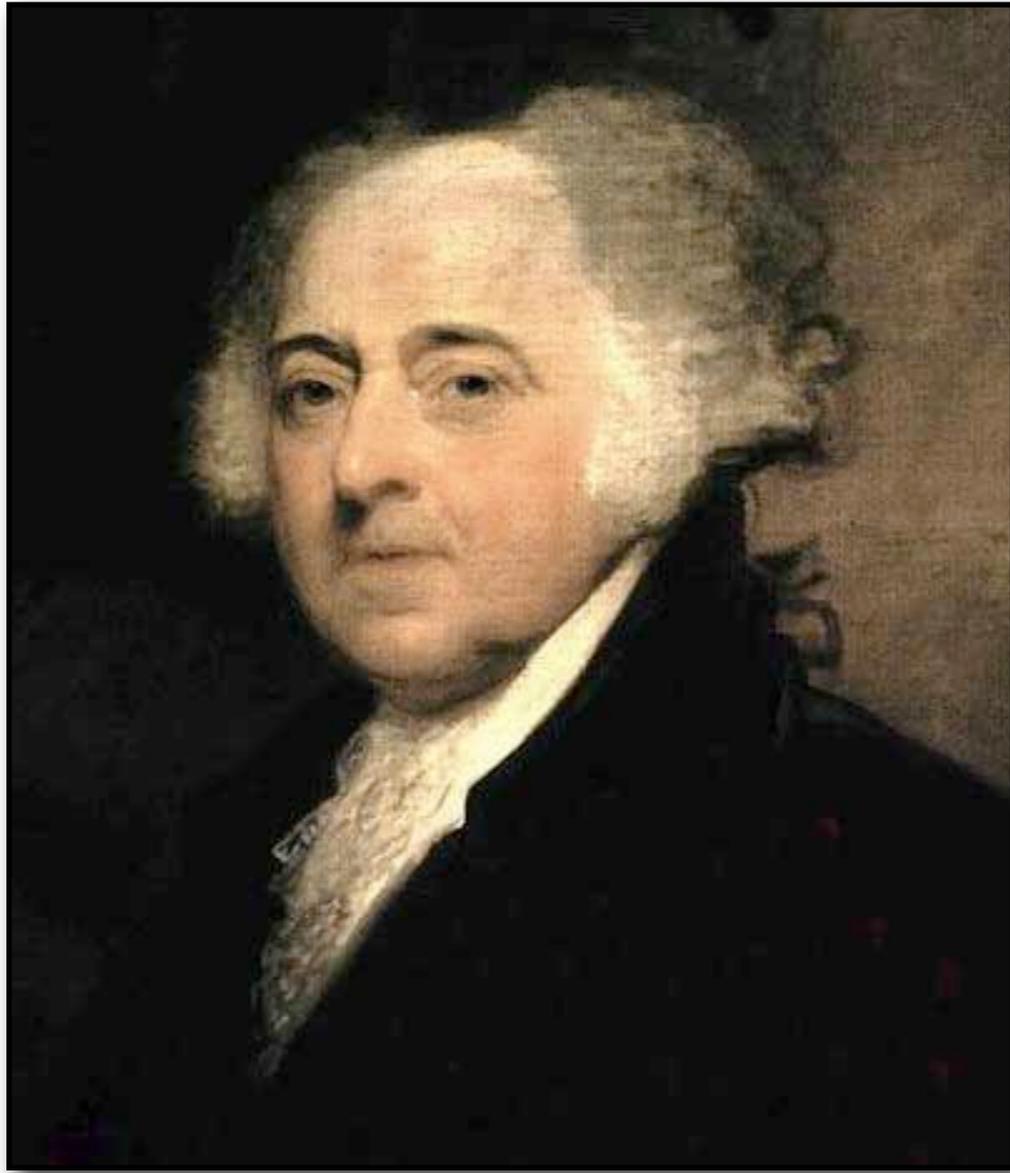


**Benjamin
Franklin**

Envoys to France 1777



**John
Adams**



**John
Adams**



**Russell
Crowe**

Ambassadors

*2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's **ambassadors**, as though God were making his appeal through us.*

Servant

*Romans 1:1 Paul, a **servant** of Christ Jesus*

*Ephesians 3:7 I became a **servant** of this gospel*

*Titus 1:1 Paul, a **servant** of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ*

δουλος = *Doulos*

Giving up his rights

1. a slave

2. one who gives himself up to another's will those whose service is used by Christ in extending and advancing his cause among men.

Devoted to another to the *disregard of one's own interests.*

2 Corinthians 11:22-29

*2 Corinthians 11:22-29 Are they Hebrews?
So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are
they Abraham's descendants? So am I. 23
Are they servants of Christ? (I am out of
my mind to talk like this.) I am more.*

I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. ²⁴ Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned,

three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, 26 I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city,

*in danger in the country, in danger at sea;
and in danger from false brothers. 27 I
have labored and toiled and have often
gone without sleep; I have known hunger
and thirst and have often gone without
food; I have been cold and naked.*

28 Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?

I. We should expect hardship-

2 Timothy 3:12 *In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus **will be persecuted***

Philippians 1:29 *For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, **but also to suffer for him***

John 16:33 *In this world **you will have trouble**. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”*

1 Peter 4:12 *Dear friends, **do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering**, as though something strange were happening to you*

2. Suffering is a good thing!

Romans 5:3 *Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that **suffering produces perseverance***

2Timothy 1:8 *So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in **suffering for the gospel***

1Peter 1:6 & 7 *In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to **suffer grief in all kinds of trials**.⁷ These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.*

3. Contentment

Philippians 4:11&12 *I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be **content** whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being **content** in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.*



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