

## Chapter 3, Lesson 4 Conquest of the Americas (pgs 104 – 109)

### Cortes Conquers the Aztecs

**Main idea:** Spanish soldiers conquered the Aztecs in present-day Mexico.

#### Hernan Cortes & the Aztecs

- led an expedition carrying horses, weapons and 500+ conquistadors to Mexico in 1519 with a goal to find wealth and fame.
- convinced enemies of the Aztecs to help him defeat the Aztecs. Malinche (Indian woman) gave advice on how to conquer them.
- Tenochtitlan - Aztec capital - large and impressive
- Aztec leader Moctezuma welcomed Cortes but Cortes jailed him. Aztecs drove Spanish out.
- Cortes returned with guns, horses and steel armor. Aztecs were weakened with disease (from the Spanish) and Cortes gained control of the Aztec empire.
- By 1535 Spain claimed all of Mexico - named it New Spain

### Exploring North America

**Main idea:** Spanish explorers went to the southern parts of the present-day United States looking for gold.

#### Juan Ponce de León

- first conquistador to reach present-day U.S.
- claimed present-day FL for Spain in 1513
- looking for a fountain of youth that would make old people young(legend)

#### Legend

- a story handed down from earlier times

**Hernando de Soto**

- first European to reach the Mississippi River
- enslaved many Native Americans

**Francisco Vásquez de Coronado**

- Conquistador who led an expedition into North America looking for cities of gold (1540)

**In the lands north of Mexico, the Spanish hoped to find:**

- gold, cities of gold and the fountain of youth (legends)

**Spanish conquistadors faced many obstacles:**

- bad weather, long distances, starvation

## Chapter 3, Lesson 5 New Spain (pgs 110 – 115)

### New Spain Grows

**Main idea:** The Spanish increased the size of New Spain and spread their rule in North America.

**Spanish government / Spanish rulers**

- the Spanish government made the former Aztec Empire in Mexico a colony by 1535
- Spanish settlers started towns, farmed lands and built mines
- Priests accompanied Spanish explorers to spread Christianity and create missions

**Presidios**

- forts built to protect Spanish claims from explorers from other countries

### Conquistadors/Leaders in New Spain

- Pedro Menendez de Aviles - started settlement in St. Augustine, FL. Went north to GA where settlers tried to convert Native Americans to Catholicism. Also forced them to build roads and grow crops
- Juan de Onate - settled present-day New Mexico. Santa Fe became the capital of that region of New Spain (1610).
- Junipero Serra - priest who led expedition to California

### Life in New Spain

**Main idea:** Spanish settlers and Native Americans lived together, but not always peacefully.

### New Spain and American Native Americans

- Conquistadors didn't find gold but did find silver and rich soil - build haciendas
- Hacienda owners forced Native Americans to farm the land, often without pay. Many died from being overworked.
- Priests tried to convert Native Americans to Catholicism
- Some Native Americans learned to speak Spanish and learned European farming methods

### New Spain and Slaves

- The Spanish replaced Native Americans with African slaves.
- Most were brought to Caribbean sugar plantations

### Mistreatment of American Native Americans

- Bartolome de las Casa (Spanish priest) spoke out against mistreatment of Native Americans
- de las Casa convinced Spanish king to make laws to protect them
- Pueblo leader named Pope led a revolt against the Spanish in New Mexico. Kept the Spanish out until 1692 but they returned and conquered the Pueblo again.

## Important Ideas

