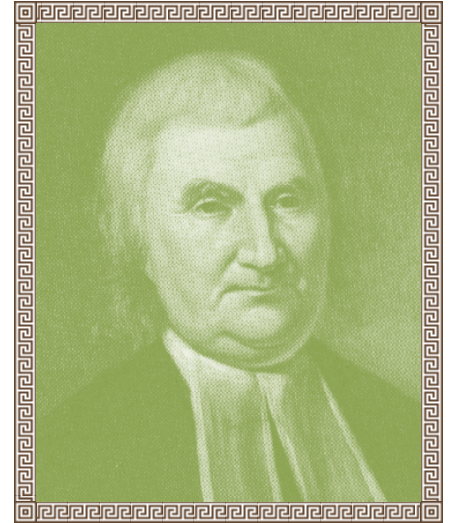


JOHN WITHERSPOON



STATE - New Jersey

AGE - 53 (Born: 2/15/1723)

HOME - Princeton, New Jersey

EDUCATION - School and Colleges in Scotland

FAMILY - 2 Marriages, 12 Children

JOBS BEFORE CONGRESS - Minister, Legislator

WHAT HE IS LIKE - Patriot, Smart, Brave, Bold

WHERE TO FIND HIM IN PHILADELPHIA - Giving a sermon at church.

BEFORE THE CONGRESS John Witherspoon grew up in Scotland where he went to school and college. After college he worked as a minister. When he was 45, John moved to America to become the President of the College of New Jersey (Princeton University). He was very good as president and helped the college to grow. John hated the British and was a leading voice against England. Witherspoon supported fighting with the British and helped get rid of the Royal Governor of New Jersey. The Patriots in New Jersey elected him to the Continental Congress.

AT THE CONGRESS John Witherspoon arrived at the Continental Congress in 1776. On July 2, 1776 he made a speech before Congress in which he said the colonies were "not only ripe for independence but in danger of rotting for not having it!"

DATE OF DEATH 8/21/1798, (55 Years Old)

JOHN WITHERSPOON

CONGRESSIONAL INSTRUCTIONS: You like Thomas Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration of Independence. However, when delegates object to the passage in the Declaration that talks badly of the British People and others object to the passage that is critical of slavery, you agree to take the two passages out of Jefferson's Draft of the Declaration.

FINAL VOTING: When the final vote is called to accept the Declaration of Independence you stand and say: *If we don't get independence now, America will rot! I, John Witherspoon of New Jersey, vote aye for the Declaration of Independence.*

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "John Witherspoon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the bottom.