

# A Place of Refuge

**DIRECTIONS:** Use context clues to fill in the blanks in the paragraph.

Many of the \_\_\_\_\_ colonies in North America were \_\_\_\_\_ in the seventeenth century by



## WORD BANK

plantations    original  
 refuge    settled  
 motivations  
 prosper    dominant  
 commercial

British men and women who were looking for a religious \_\_\_\_\_. In their own country, they were unable to practice their religion in the way they wanted to. The New England colonies, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland were established as “\_\_\_\_\_ of religion,” meaning that the colonists “planted” their religion here in American soil like a seed that they expected would take root and continue to provide for them year after year. Though some settlers who came to the colonies had other \_\_\_\_\_, most of those who left Europe for The New World wanted nothing more than to worship God in the way they thought was correct. The endless possibility of the American wilderness gave them hope that God's plan for his churches could be fully realized here. Religious freedom was a \_\_\_\_\_ force in all of the colonies. Even those like Virginia, which had many \_\_\_\_\_ interests, were led by men and women who worked very hard to see that their churches would prosper.