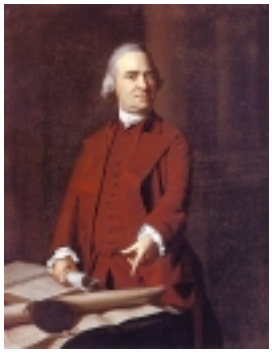

"Among the natural rights of the colonists are these: First a right to life, secondly to liberty, and thirdly to property; together with the right to defend them in the best manner they can. ...

If men, through fear, fraud, or mistake, should in terms renounce or give up any essential natural right, the eternal law of reason and the grand end of society would absolutely vacate such renunciation. The right to freedom being the gift of God Almighty, it is not in the power of man to alienate this gift and voluntarily become a slave." (*The Rights of the Colonists*, November 20, 1772)

Samuel Adams was a patriot, statesman and political philosopher. He was an instigator of the Boston Tea Party and became the fourth Governor of Massachusetts.