The Ultimate Guide to the Presidents: "Assume the Position" - 1789-1825

George Washington

00:00-19:45

- 1. What made this new office of president so different in the world?
- 2. The Founding Fathers established strong courts, a strong legislature, but planned for a weak executive. Why?
- 3. Why did the Founding Fathers create the Electoral College?
- 4. Why did Washington create a cabinet of advisors?
- 5. Why was the location of the new nation's capital city controversial?
- 6. Washington wanted to leave the presidency after his first term. Why?
- 7. War broke out in Europe, prompting Washington to respond. What did he choose to do and why do you think he chose that action?
- 8. What precedent did the above proclamation set?
- 9. What significant precedent did Washington set upon leaving office?
- 10. As a general rule, how did the Founding Fathers view political parties?

John Adams

19:45-25:45

- 11. Adams had a great background that made him appear perfect for the presidency. What did he lack?
- 12. What did the Alien & Sedition Acts do? Why were these acts especially problematic?