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by José Ángel García Landa

(University of Zaragoza, Spain)

**Thomas Paine** (1737-1809)

(British political theorist and revolutionary activist, Quaker background, became Deist and anti-Christian skeptic; ideologue of American Revolution and propounder of rights of Man, influenced by French revolutionaries, member of the French Convention, died in destitution in America, rejected for his views on religion)

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