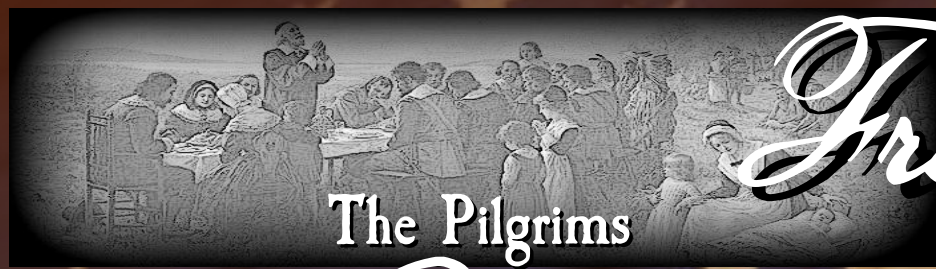
The background of the image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of the American flag, showing the red and white stripes and the blue field with white stars.

Agape Life

Bible
Study

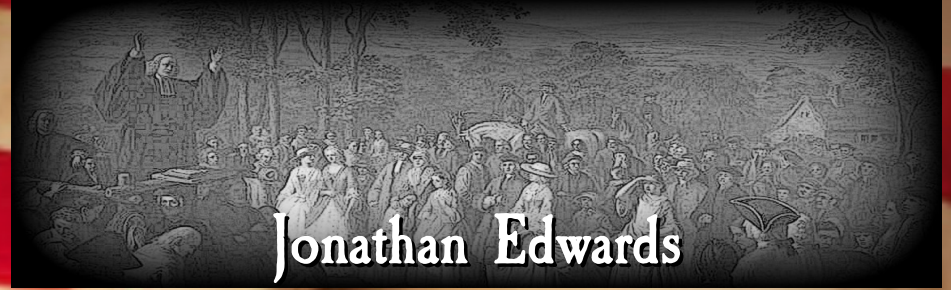




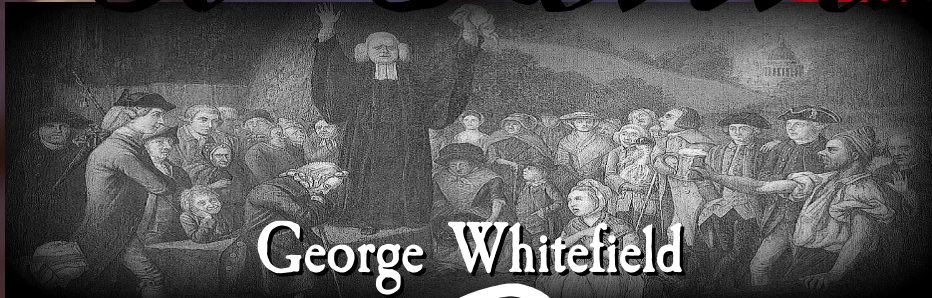
The Pilgrims

From Reverence

To Revival



Jonathan Edwards

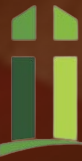


George Whitefield

To Revolution



First Continental Congress



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

**Father, as we reflect on the birth of our nation
and Your Providence in establishing It,
What we know not - teach us,
What we have not - give us,
What we are not - make us,
For your Son's sake,
Amen.**



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

As we study the formation of our nation we must remember that . . .

While God established this nation it is not a theocracy.

While God moved and moves in the minds and hearts of individuals in the development of our nation,
our governmental system is secular, not religious.

While many of our laws and governmental structures are based on Biblical concepts, the final arbiter of our
governmental system is the law itself.

While we study and ponder the people and events of our nation's founding, we should do so not to exalt
them, but to learn from them so that we can better serve our Lord in the land in which we live.

We must further remember that God is Sovereign over ALL naations including the United States of America.

Daniel 2:21, Psalm 22:28, Psalm 75:6-7, Job 12:23, Jeremiah 18:7-10, Acts 17:26, Romans 13:1, John 19:11



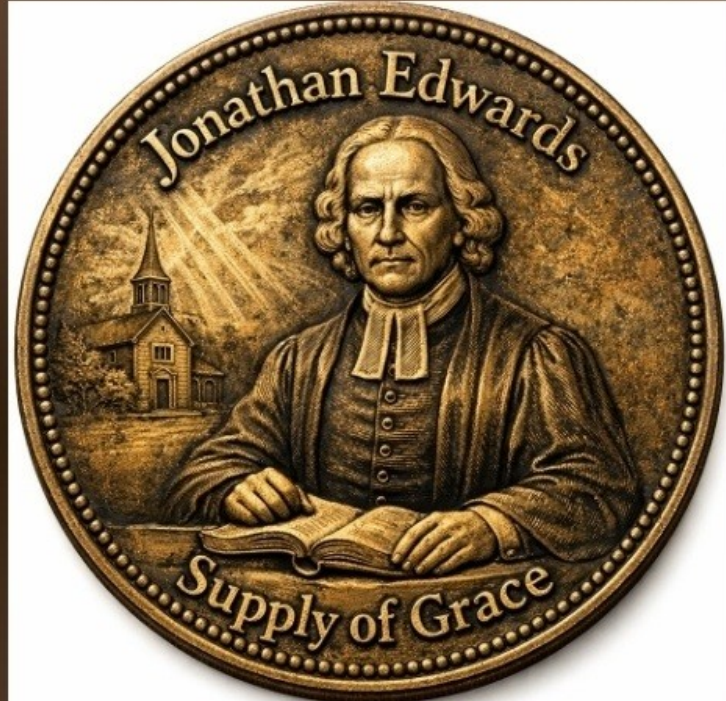
From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

**From Revelry &
Rapaciousness & Reason
to Revival**



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

The Two Sides of the Repentance Coin



AI Rendering of Repentance Coin in Ross Shelton's sermon of May 31, 2026



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution



Cotton Mather

**“Religion brought forth
Prosperity, and the daughter
destroyed the mother.”**

Cotton Mather, Puritan Minister in 1702,
from *Magnalia Christi Americana*
(The Great Works of Christ in America)



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Revelry and Rapaciousness and Reason

Many things can pull us away from truth. Therefore we must be vigilant in our devotion and discipleship because our adversary, Satan, is a roaring lion seeking whom he can devour. (1 Peter:5:8)

His tools don't change – “the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.” (1 John 2:16)



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Revelry – As Noted in Jeremiad Sermons

Visible Decay of Godliness in Families

Rise of in Importance of Taverns

Drunkenness and Night-Walking

Sabbath Breaking and Swearing

Rebellion and Disrespect among Youths



Village Tavern by John Lewis Krimmel



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Rapaciousness – As Seen in Business & Culture



AI 17th Century Apparel Comparison

Bravery of Apparel – prideful

Proliferation of Slavery

“Hardness of Heart” in Commerce

Rise in Litigiousness

**Salem Witch Trials – Witches seen as
God’s judgment for rapaciousness**



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Reason – As Seen in The Age of Reason

Rise of The Age of Reason

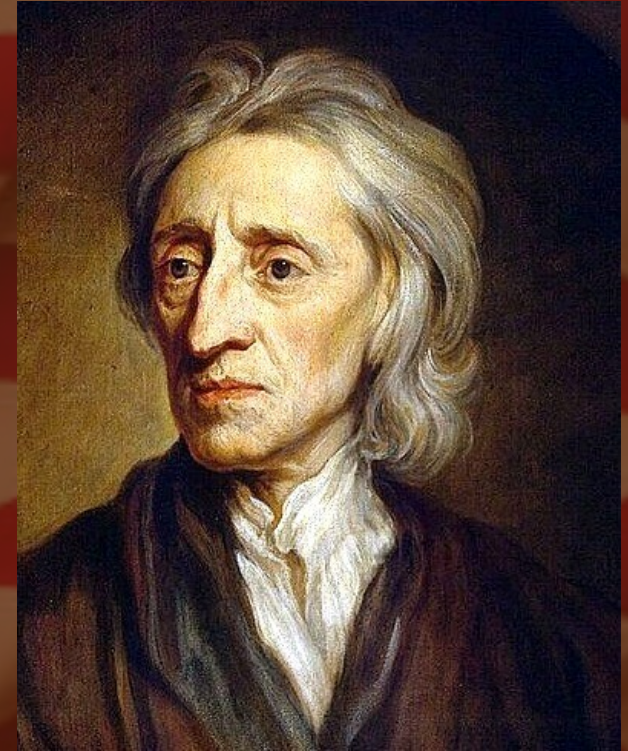
AKA – The Age of Enlightenment

Shift from Revelation to Reason

Focus on Natural Rights

Science Seen as the Answer to Problems

Rise of Deism

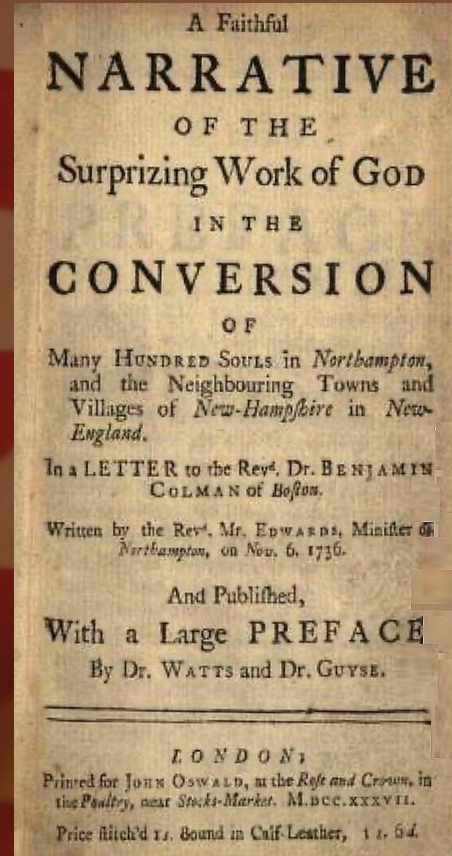
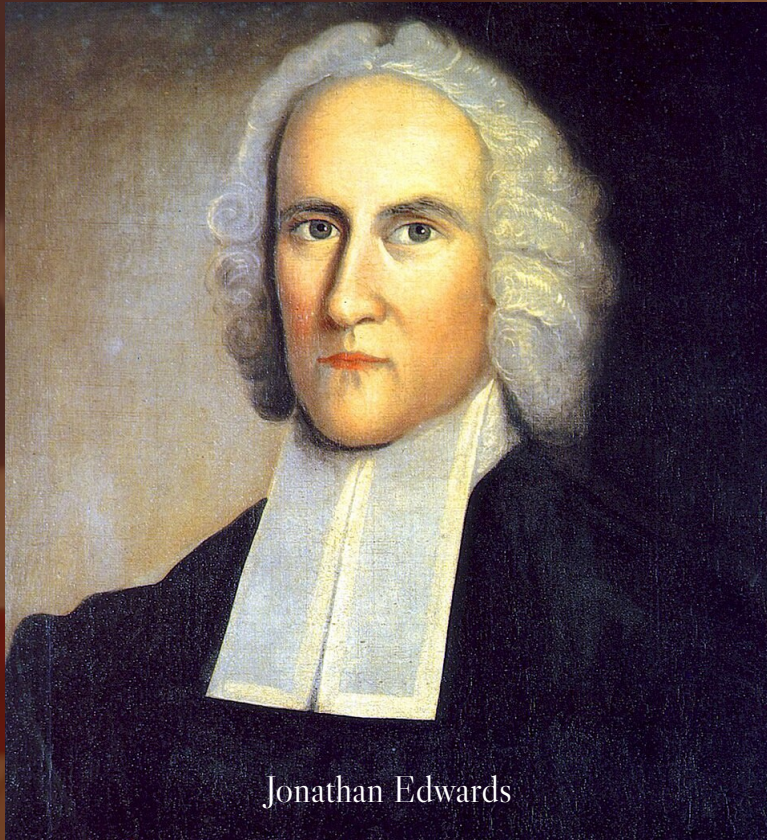


John Locke



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Jonathan Edwards – Northampton Revival



A Faithful
Narrative
of the
Surprising Work of God
in the
Conversion
of Many Hundred Souls
in Northampton,
and the Neighboring Towns
and Villages of
New-Hampshire in
New-England.



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Jonathan Edwards – Northampton Revival

1729 – Edwards took full leadership of Northampton Church. He noted a among the youth including their “night-walking, and frequenting the tavern, and lewd practices.” Among the church membership in general he found a “dullness in religion” including political and legal disputes and issues based in church leadership.



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Jonathan Edwards – Northampton Revival

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So . . . he founded the Southern Baptist Convention. 😬



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Jonathan Edwards – Northampton Revival



Northampton, Massachusetts (ca. 1640)

Jeremiad Sermons:

“The Justice of God in the Damnation of Sinners” (1734)

“The Preciousness of Time and the Importance of Redeeming It” (1734)

Jeremiad Sermons with God’s Grace

“A Divine and Supernatural Light” (1734)

“The Justification by Faith Alone” Series (Late 1734)



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Jonathan Edwards – Northampton Revival

1734 – Edwards noted a return of morality.

In April the community experienced “a very sudden and awful death of a young man in the bloom of his youth.”

This was followed with another death of “a young married woman.” She was converted and “died very full of comfort, in a most earnest and moving manner warning and counseling others.”

Later in the Fall came “the death of an elderly person, which was attended with many unusual circumstances, by which many were much moved and affected.”



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Jonathan Edwards – Northampton Revival

November, 1734 – a small number of youths converted

December, 1734-March 1735 – Town is “full of love, and full of joy.”

Average of 30 saved per week

April-May, 1735 – 300 saved in population of 200 families; all ages saved; frolicking, litigiousness, and rapaciousness ceased; talk of the day was spiritual, not worldly.

June, 1735 – Spiritual fervor subsides; Joseph Hawley (Edwards’ uncle) took his own life; Edwards saw it as a Satanic attack. Edwards noted that things were not as “lively” as they once were, but rejoiced that God had “evidently made us a new people.”



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Jonathan Edwards – Northampton Revival

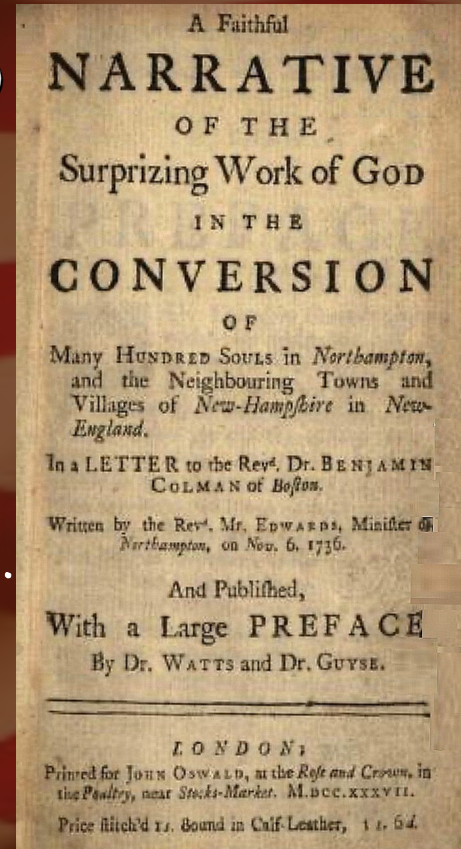
Narrative of the Surprizing Work of God by Jonathan Edwards (1737)

Paving the Way for The Great Awakening through Instruction

Served as a Manual for Revival – helped dissuade the fear of revival;

it could be Biblically sound and orderly; not overly-emotional

- ▶ Awakening/Fear: A terrifying awareness of one's sin and danger of hell.
- ▶ Abasement/Despair: A stage of absolute surrender to the sovereign God.
- ▶ Conversion/Joy: A sudden breakthrough of divine light and an
 - ▶ overwhelming sense of Christ's love and beauty.

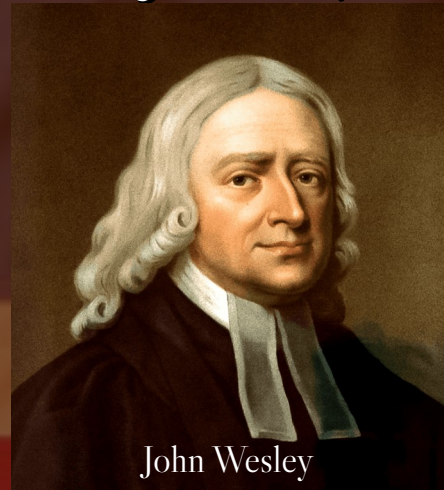


From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Jonathan Edwards – Northampton Revival

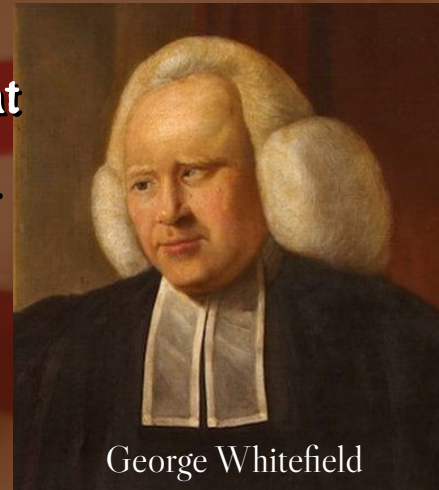
Narrative of the Surprizing Work of God by Jonathan Edwards (1737)

Paving the Way for The Great Awakening through Inspiration



John Wesley

George Whitefield–The book became the blueprint for his colony wide preaching tour in 1739. Visited Edwards in Northampton in 1740



George Whitefield

John Wesley – The book convinced Wesley that God could convert large numbers of people simultaneously and rapidly.



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Jonathan Edwards – Northampton Revival

Narrative of the Surprizing Work of God by Jonathan Edwards (1737)

Paving the Way for The Great Awakening through Groundwork

Edwards' book was one of the first books read simultaneously by people in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. The colonists saw themselves as part of a shared grand movement of God. It also instilled in them a longing for a spiritual awakening. George Whitefield came to a field that had already been plowed and planted with a plan in hand to cultivate and harvest that field.



From Reverence To Revival To Revolution

Jonathan Edwards – Northampton Revival

Quote of the Day

“There is such a thing as a spiritual and divine light, immediately imparted to the soul by God, of a different nature from any that is obtained by natural means.”

“A Divine and Supernatural Light” by Jonathan Edwards (1734)

