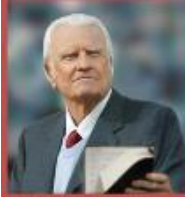


*Before there was...*



Billy Graham



T.D. Jakes



Rick Warren



Joel Osteen

*There was...*



John Wesley



Charles Wesley



George Whitefield



Jonathan Edwards

## 18<sup>th</sup> Century Evangelism in Britain and America

*Presented by Dr. Roshunda Belton from Grambling State University*

**May 16, 2013**

**6:30 PM**

**Lincoln Community Room**



Lincoln Parish  
**Library**

enrich - inspire - educate

*Historical Happenings*

Sponsored in part by the Friends of the Library

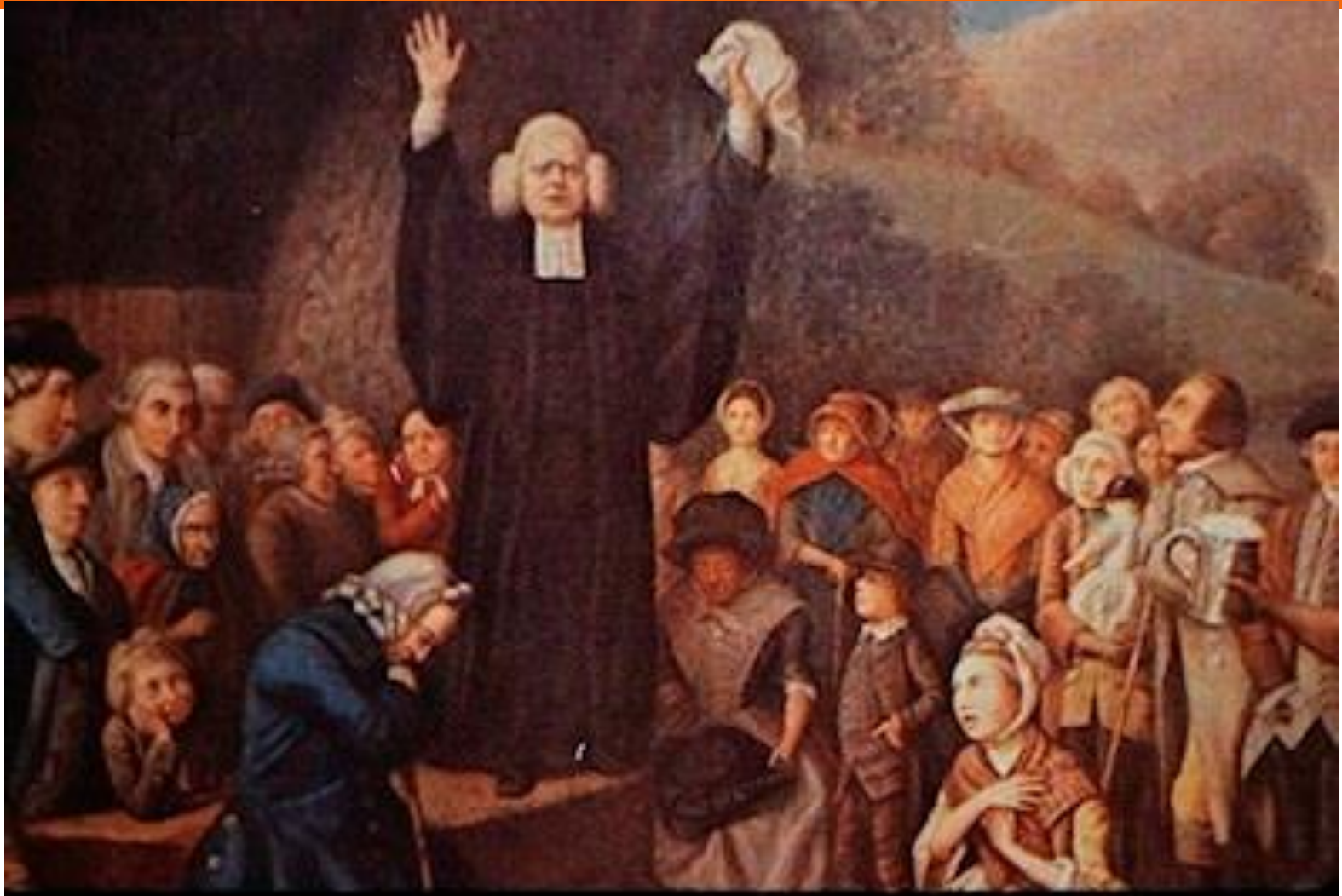
# 18<sup>th</sup> Century Evangelism in Britain and America



Dr. Roshunda L. Belton  
Grambling State University

# The First Great Awakening

## 1730s to 1740s



# What will be discussed...

- ✎ What is *evangelicalism*?
- ✎ Who are the Wesleys?
- ✎ Why a Great Awakening?
- ✎ The importance of Edwards?
- ✎ The influence of Whitefield?
- ✎ Final thoughts.

# What is Evangelicalism?

- ∞ Transliteration of a Greek word that was used in the New Testament to imply glad tidings.
- ∞ Protestant Reformation (1517)
  1. Justification by faith and not human works
  2. Christ as the sole path to salvation
  3. The supreme authority of the Bible
  4. Priesthood of all believers

# Evangelicalism con'd

## ∞ Common emphasis in

1. Biblicism
2. Conversionism
3. Activism
4. Crucicentrism

# Characteristics of Evangelicalism

- ∞ Strong emphasis on piety and pious living
- ∞ If the Holy Spirit was to dwell within, it had to be preached down
  - Evangelical Revivals = Great Awakening
- ∞ Emphasis on social activism

# The Wesleys



**John Wesley  
(1703-1791)**

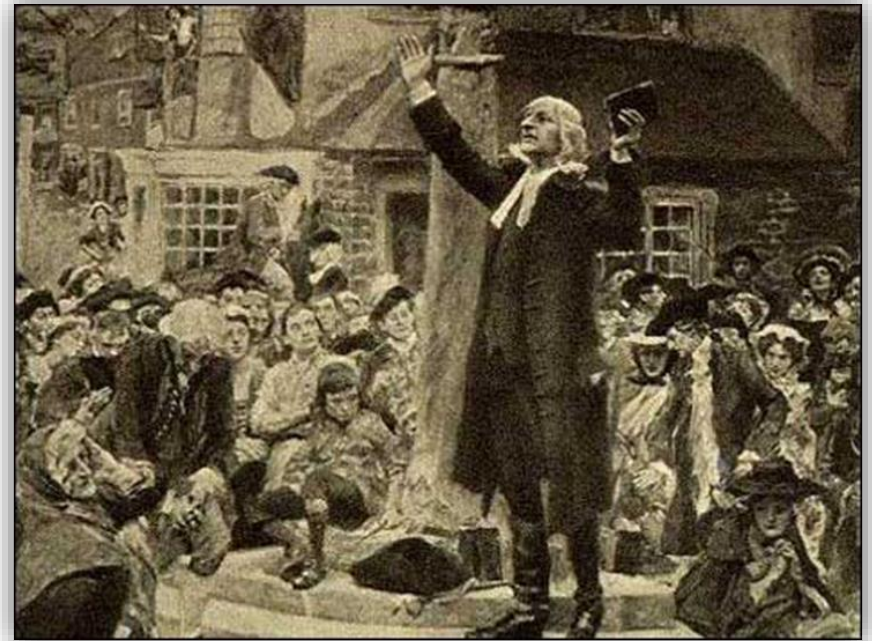


**Charles Wesley  
(1707-1788)**



# The impact of the Wesleys

- ☞ Encouraged prayer and Bible study
- ☞ Promoted missionary activity
- ☞ Opposed drunkenness
- ☞ Abhorred profanity
- ☞ Loathed practice of slavery

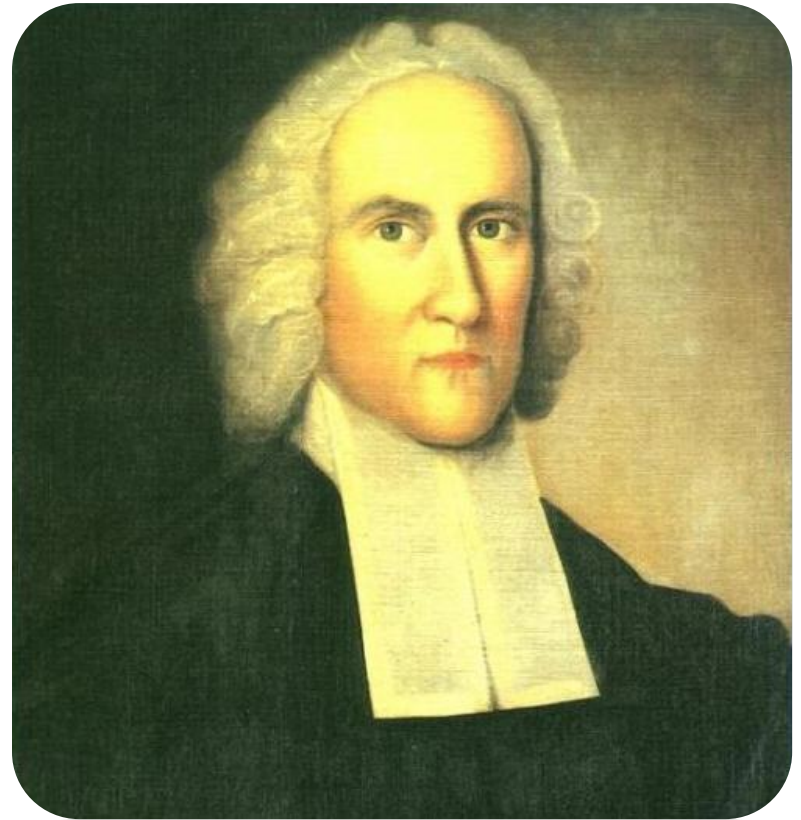


# Why a Revival (Great Awakening)?

- ✎ 1727 New England earthquake
  - Fear that colonists seek material gratification instead of spiritual gratification
- ✎ Dissent in the Church of England
  - Influence of Arminianism

# Jonathan Edwards

- ✎ Born 1703 in Connecticut
- ✎ One of 11 children (all girls)
- ✎ Completed Yale in 1720
- ✎ Fascinated with Newton and Locke
- ✎ 1721 embraced Calvinism
- ✎ 1726 Northampton pastor
- ✎ Married Sarah Pierpont and had 11 children



# Edwards continued

## ∞ Conversion experience

- Not one major experience
- Experienced inner struggle
- Mediated on 1 Timothy 1:17
- Frequently ill as youth

## ∞ Contribution to Great Awakening

- Combined reason and emotion (presented an intellectual approach)
- Utilized theme of tragedy

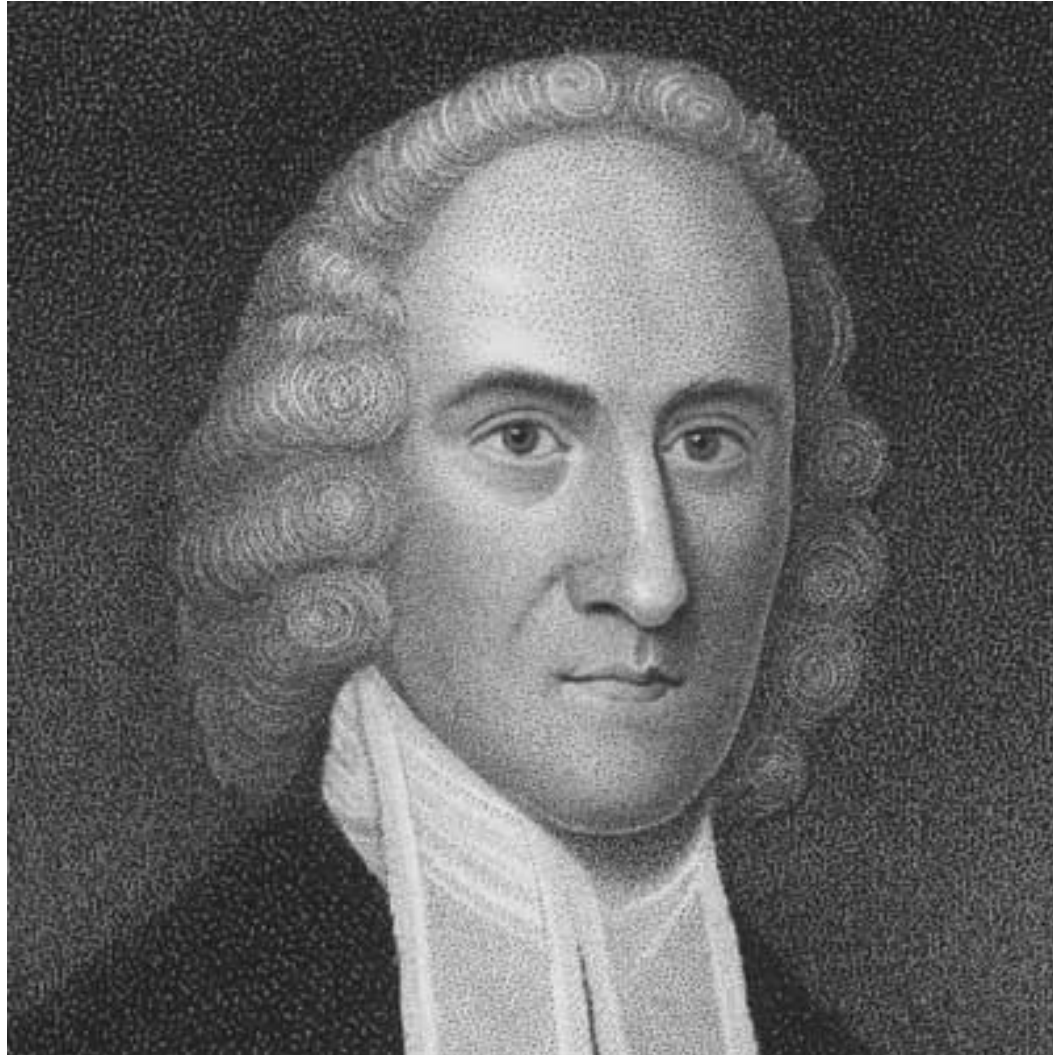
# *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*

- ☞ God angry with world
- ☞ Man on slippery slope
- ☞ Man only saved through God's grace





# Jonathan Edwards



# George Whitefield

- ✎ Born 1714 in Bristol
- ✎ Youngest of 7 children
- ✎ Completed Oxford as a gentleman's assistant
- ✎ Enjoyed drama as a youth
- ✎ Befriended John and Charles Wesley
- ✎ 1736 graduated and ordained



# Whitefield's Conversion Experience

## ☞ Experienced the New Birth

- Personal conversion experience
- His soul merged with God
- The experience occurs first in the heart

## ☞ Signs of the New Birth

1. Prayer
2. Supplication
3. Avoidance of sin
4. Conquest over the world
5. Love for one another including enemies



# Whitefield in the Colonies

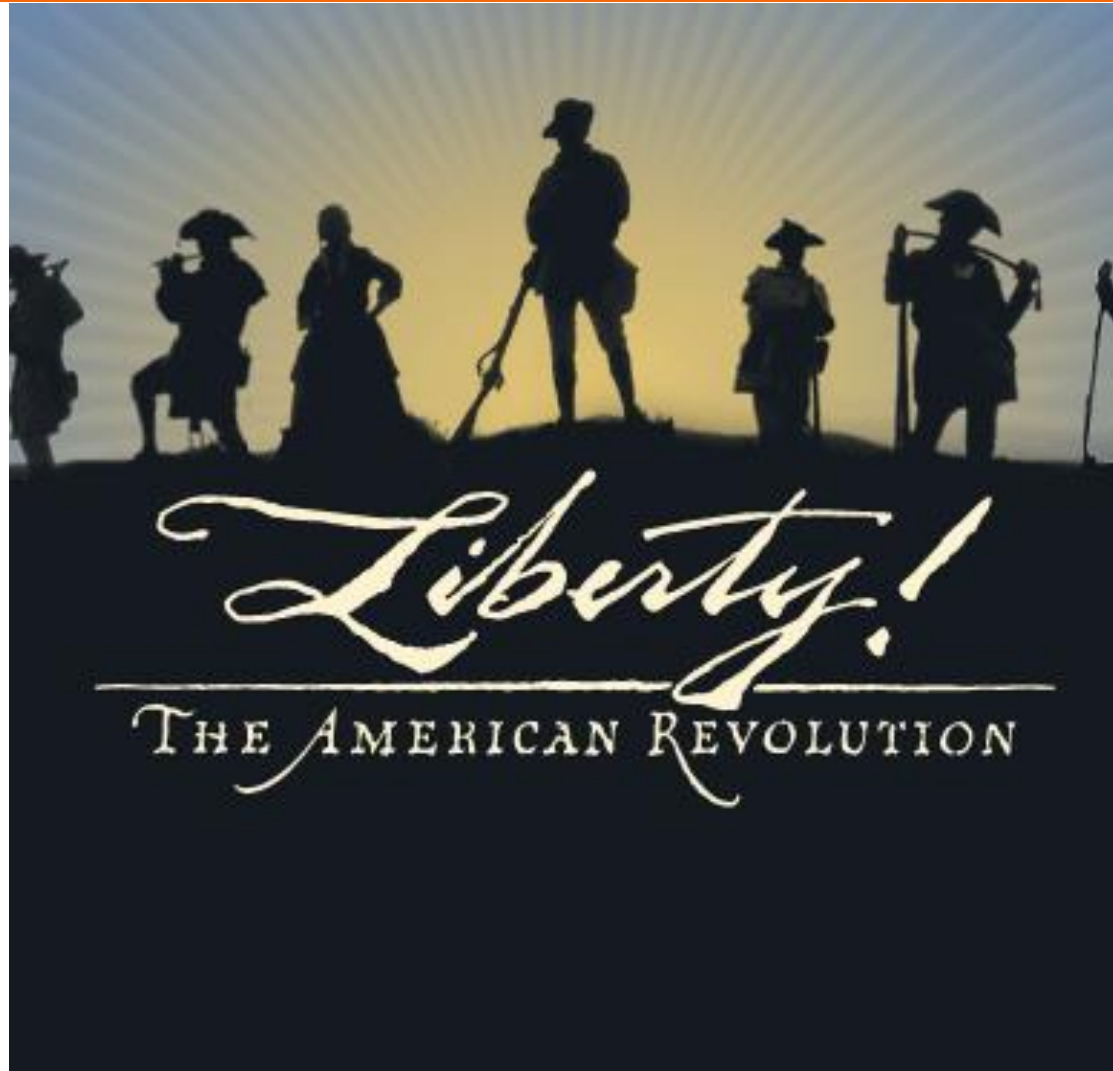
## (a new approach to Anglicanism)

- ✎ 1739 arrived in Colonies
- ✎ De-emphasized head knowledge and emphasized the heart
- ✎ The spirit more important than human reason
- ✎ Method of sermon delivery incorporated expression and tone

# Popularity in the Colonies



# Final Thoughts



# Questions

