

1734 AD – ‘JONATHON EDWARDS REVIVAL: 1ST GREAT AWAKENING’

“And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.” (Jer. 18 v 4)

EVENTS IN 1734 AD¹

In December 1734, the first revival of historic significance in America broke out.

In Northampton, Massachusetts, a young Jonathan **Edwards** was pastor. (See our paper [1732 AD](#)). After months of fruitless labor, he reported five or six people converted--one a young woman. He wrote: "*[She] had been one of the greatest company-keepers in the whole town.*" He feared her conversion would douse the flame, but quite the opposite took place. Three hundred souls converted in six months--in a town of only 1,100 people!

The news spread like wildfire, and similar revivals broke out in over 100 towns.

The revival of **Edwards** lasted six months then died down. Possible reasons the revival died down: a rash of local suicides in Northampton sobered the population; rejection of Edwards within the congregation. Edwards was eventually fired. By 1758 he was out of the ministry. Shortly after he took a position as president of a college, **Edwards** died age 55 of smallpox.

IMPACT OF THE REVIVAL

Edwards' initial affiliation inside **Protestantism** was **Congregational**. His colonial followers later distinguished themselves from other Congregationalists as "New Lights" (endorsing the Great Awakening), as opposed to "Old Lights" (non-revivalists).

Revival preaching changed the character of American religion forever, and began a new movement which we now call 'evangelicalism'. The old **Puritan** obsession with codes of morality was replaced by a heart religion of worship of Jesus Christ.

The revivals increased church membership and fervor, but it caused divisions in denominations throughout the colonies and in Britain. Some ministers objected to the enthusiasm of the Awakening, such as the excessive emotional outbursts of new converts.

¹ <http://patrickmorley.com/blog/2015/6/23/a-brief-history-of-spiritual-revival-and-awakening-in-america>

PROPHECY OF JEREMIAH 18 V 4

“And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.” (Jeremiah 18 v 4)

We will be bold to suggest the prophecy here does not pertain to the conversion of the individual, but to transformation within the Protestant movement.

Lutheranism broke away from the **Catholic Church**. It was a schism that caused the 30 Years War in Europe. Lutheranism dispensed with the authority of the Pope of Rome, but it retained a church-state allegiance. **Lutheranism** dispensed with many theological errors of **Catholic** teaching, but it retained the practice of ordained priests. (See our paper [1516 AD](#)).

The **Pietists** and the **Moravians** broke away from the **Lutherans**. (See our papers [1635 AD](#) and [1727 AD](#)). The revival at Herrnhutt was proof that God blessed the exodus of the saints from the sister religions of **Catholicism** (older sister) and **Lutheranism** (younger sister).

The **Church of England** was the illegitimate daughter of the **Roman Church**. **Puritanism** broke away from the **Church of England** because it did not go far enough in reforming the **Roman Church**. (See our papers [1559 AD](#), [1630 AD](#), [1662 AD](#) and [1676 AD](#)).

Quakerism broke away from **Puritanism** and experienced an ‘inner voice’ witness of conversion. (See our papers [1644 AD](#) and [1647 AD](#)). Early **Quakers** were spiritual giants.

‘so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it’

The revival in America continued the work of the Holy Spirit on another continent. The revivals were marvellous, but incomplete. Transformation in the hearts of men was accomplished, but transformation in the religious institutions was not accomplished.

The revival teaching of **Edwards** began an exodus from **Puritan** style congregations to **Evangelical** style congregations. It did not succeed in reforming the Congregational church – which is a deeply flawed institutional invention of man (See our paper [1581 AD](#)).

Clay speaks of the unredeemed nature of man, or of a religious enclave. The testimony of the prophecy of Jeremiah in connection with this revival is that while people were saved, congregationalism was not changed. The movement quickly hardened into a clay vessel of a different shape: **Evangelicalism**: merely another religion among many in America.

SPIRITUAL NUMBER ANALYSIS

For a mind that has wisdom please read on. See truth from another perspective.

PART ONE

Chapter **18** of Jeremiah is the **87th** chapter of The Prophets.

The spiritual number **87** means 'Saints Assembly'

There is only one true 'Saints Assembly' and that is the congregation of believers that gathers in the spirit in the Heavenly Jerusalem where Christ sits on the throne of God.

To participate in the assembly that is in Heaven there are two requirements: first, be born again by the Spirit of God; second, be free from man's religion.

A wife can't have two husbands. Jesus is Lord of the free Christians, i.e. those who are not part of public religions that meet in sanctuaries of wood and stone. Believers who submit to religious authority have made their priest / professional minister their husband and have set aside the lordship of Christ. Jesus has all authority and He is the exclusive Head of the Church.

A priest or professional minister is ordained by hands of other men – regardless of whether they are **Protestants** or **Catholics**. Therefore, their authority comes from men, not from God.

PART TWO

Jeremiah **18 v 4** is the **19,389th** verse in the whole Bible starting at Gen **1 v 1**.

The number **19,389 = 23 x 843**

The spiritual meaning of **23** is 'Death'

The spiritual meaning of **843** is 'Temple of Satan'

Religion is the 'Temple of Satan'. It stands in mockery to the Cross of Christ, which removes the obligation of Christians to fulfill religious requirements.

There are no 'good' religions and 'bad' religions. All religions are of the Devil and lead to spiritual 'Death'. **Edwards'** revival was short lived. Now we know why. He did not lead the newly saved saints out of religion. He kept them in religion. The Spirit's fire was quenched.

PART THREE

Jeremiah **18 v 4** is the **1734th** verse of The Prophets starting at Isaiah **1 v 1**.

The number **1734** = **6 x 289**

The spiritual meaning of **6** is 'Flesh'

The spiritual meaning of **289** is 'Give Glory to God!'

What is religion in a nutshell? It is the 'Flesh' attempting to 'Give Glory to God' by following moral laws and standards established by men. Come to church at such and such a time. Sit in the pew silently. Give money to the church. Build more temples of wood and stone to imprison more parishioners. Useless!

When the lips confess 'Jesus is Lord' and the heart believes that God raised him from the dead, this can only happen when a person has the Spirit of God in their heart.

The born-again believer worships in the spirit – through a communion with the Holy Spirit – a union that is invisible to the outside world.

The relation of a born-again believer to God is one-to-one, a direct communion without any human intercessor on earth. All religious attempts to insert priests over Christians is sin.

The Spiritual Man makes sacrifices to God by listening to the witness of the Holy Spirit in his heart and obeying God's voice. This gives glory to God and honors Jesus Christ.

The revival in 1734 saw many men, women, and children born-again. But it faded away because of the sin of religion. There was evidence of new sprouts of spiritual life – but soon they were stifled as if in a dark dungeon, where the Light of Truth shining in their hearts was suppressed by man's religion.