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Reformation  
& Revival



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\*Ahlstrom, Sydney E. *A Religious History of the American People*. New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 1972. Ahlstrom, dean of modern church historians, gives a serious treatment of the Second Great Awakening. He covers American revivals very fairly.

\*Alexander, Archibald. *The Log College*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1968 reprint. The log college became Princeton and thus had a major impact upon revival and revival ministry.

Bainton, Roland. *Yale and the Ministry*. New York: Harper, 1957. An important study of the college and its impact upon ministers, thus the awakening.

Blumhofer, Edith and Randall Balmer, eds. *Modern Christian Revivals*. Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 1993. Contributors include noted modern historians such as Balmer, Bebbington, Boles, Carwardine, Rawlyk Blumhofer, and Harrell. An important scholarly collection.

Boles, John B. *The Great Revival, 1787-1805: The Origins of the Southern Evangelical Mind*. Lexington, Kentucky: University of Kentucky Press, 1972. A scholarly record of the subject with major importance for study of the revival in the South.

Burns, James. *Revivals: Their Laws and Leaders*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1960. A useful, general book.

Cairns, Earle E. *An Endless Line of Splendor: Revivals and Their Leaders from the Great Awakening to the Present*. Wheaton: Tyndale, 1986. Now out-of-print, this book is valuable but not very carefully framed theologically.

Conkin, Paul K. *Cane Ridge: America's Pentecost*. Madison,

Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin Press, 1990. Conkin, professor of history at Vanderbilt, tells the story in detail.

\*Cross, Whitney R. *The Burned-over District: The Social and Intellectual History of Enthusiastic Religion in Western New York, 1800-1850*. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 1982. This significant book reveals the truth of what the Finney revivals actually produced in New York. Must reading for serious students of the Second Great Awakening.

Finney, Charles G. *Lectures on Revivals of Religion*. Ed. William G. McLoughlin, Jr. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 1960. This book is extremely important if one is to understand Finney and the development of revivalism in America.

\*Finney, Charles G. *The Memoirs of Charles G. Finney*. Ed. Garth M. Rosell and Richard A. G. Dupuis. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989. This is the complete, restored text of Finney, including annotations by contemporary historians. If you really want to understand Finney and how he interpreted the Second Great Awakening, from a considerably biased standpoint, you must have *this* edition.

Finney, Charles G. *Systematic Theology: The Complete and Newly Expanded 1878 Edition*. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1994. You can understand how unscriptural Finney's views were, and how dangerous as well, only when you read his theology. This is neither systematic nor theological writing, in the classical sense.

Gaustad, Edwin S. *A Religious History of America*. New York: Harper & Row, 1974. Uses first hand sources with solid historical treatment.

Hambrick-Stowe, Charles E. *Charles G. Finney and the Spirit of American Evangelicalism*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1966. A highly praised treatment of Finney.

\*Hardman, Keith J. *Charles Grandison Finney, 1792-1875*. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1987. A full work that tells the story of Finney quite well. Serious readers cannot afford to ignore this book.

Hardman, Keith J. *The Spiritual Awakeners*. Chicago: Moody, 1983. A work of popular scholarship that is sympathetic without a theological direction regarding revivalists and their labors.

Hardman, Keith J. *Seasons of Refreshing: Evangelism and Revivals in America*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994. A good overview of the subject that needs the balance of a definitive theological perspective.

Hudson, Winthrop S. *Religion in America: An Historical Account of the Development of American Religious Life*. New York: Scribner's, 1981. A scholarly and important survey.

Johnson, Paul E. *A Shopkeeper's Millennium: Society and Revivals in Rochester, New York, 1815-1837*. New York: Hill & Wang, 1978. This important work is for historians and scholars of the Second Great Awakening.

Keller, Charles R. *The Second Great Awakening in Connecticut*. New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 1942. An important scholarly work now out-of-print.

Lacy, R., Jr. *Revivals in the Midst of the Years*. Richmond: John Knox Press, 1943. An out-of-print volume on Southern Presbyterian revival movements during the Second Great

Awakening. I have found it quite useful.

Loveland, Anne C. *Southern Evangelicals and the Social Order, 1800-1860*. Baton Rouge, Louisiana: Louisiana State University, 1980. A secondary study of the influence of revival.

\*McLoughlin, William G. *Modern Revivalism: Charles Grandison Finney to Billy Graham*. New York: Ronald, 1959. McLoughlin's treatment of revival is important but definitely not always favorable. This is an important book but, sadly, out-of-print.

McLoughlin, William G. *Revivals, Awakening, and Reform*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1978. Once again, an important out-of-print volume.

\*Murray, Iain H. *Revival and Revivalism: The Making and Marring of American Evangelicalism, 1750-1858*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1994. Simply *the* best book on the Second Great Awakening in America. A model for serious discussion of the topic. Regardless of what critics have said this is a fair, evenhanded treatment.

\*Nettleton, Asahel. *Asahel Nettleton: Sermons from the Second Great Awakening*. Ames, Iowa: International Outreach, 1995. Available from P.O. Box 1286, Ames, Iowa 50014. This new work includes an excellent introduction by Thomas J. Nettles, and provides clearest evidence that effective revival evangelists also preached doctrinally with clarity and power.

\*Orr, J. Edwin. *The Second Evangelical Awakening in America*. London: Marshall, Morgan & Scott, 1952. Orr is considered the best popular historian and advocate of awaken-

ings in our lifetime. Sometimes his advocacy hinders him but he is an important resource.

Orr, J. Edwin. *The Second Evangelical Awakening in Britain*. London: Marshall, Morgan & Scott, 1949. A useful parallel volume to the above title.

\*Porter, Ebenezer. *Letters on Revival*. Brooklyn, New York: Linde Publications, 1992 reprint. Write to Kurt Kinde, 4407 4th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11220. This reprinted work incorporates the letters of a leading pastor in the Second Great Awakening, published initially in 1832. One of the finest sources of material from the era itself, this modern edition has an added 141 pages of supplemental material.

\*Roberts, Richard Owen. *Revival*. Wheaton, Illinois: Richard Owen Roberts Publishers, 1982. An important work with good bibliography.

Smith, Timothy L. *Revivalism and Social Reform: American Protestantism on the Eve of the Civil War*. New York: Abingdon, 1957. A seminal work highly recommended by scholars for good reason.

\*Sprague, William B. *Lectures on Revival*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1958. This is still the classic volume on the subject of revival.

Sweet, William Warren. *The Story of Religion in America*. New York: Harper, 1950. A widely used textbook for several decades.

\*Sweet, William Warren. *Revivalism in America*. New York: Scribner's, 1942. An important study for students.

Thomas, George M. *Revivalism and Cultural Change*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1989. Thomas examines the revivalist tradition from a sociocultural perspective. Focus is upon where some of our ideas of change come from in revival.

\*Thornbury, J. F. *God Sent Revival: The Story of Asahel Nettleton and the Second Great Awakening*. Darlington, England: Evangelical Press, 1977. The best treatment of the life of America's most important evangelist during the early Second Great Awakening.

\*Tyler, Bennett. *Memoir of the Life and Character of Rev. Asahel Nettleton*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, reprint. The best nineteenth-century study of Nettleton, from the pen of his dear friend Tyler.

\*Tyler, Bennett. *New England Revivals*. Wheaton, Illinois: Richard Owen Roberts Publishers, 1980 reprint. I have used and quoted from this book for fifteen years. I prize it above all other anecdotal, first-person accounts of the early Second Great Awakening, i.e., before Finney and the New Measures.

Weisberger, Bernard A. *They Gathered at the River: The Story of the Great Revivalists and Their Impact Upon Religion in America*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1958. Looks at revivals and revivalists from 1800 to 1910. An accurate but sometimes sarcastic tone towards revival, some of which is sadly necessary.

Editor

\*Highly Recommended