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THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO  
JONATHAN EDWARDS

Long recognized as “America’s theologian,” Jonathan Edwards (1703–58) is seen as instrumental in the Great Awakening of the 1740s that gripped much of New England and that laid the groundwork for an American Protestant religious identity. This *Cambridge Companion* offers a general, comprehensive introduction to Edwards and examines his life and works from various disciplinary perspectives, including history, literature, theology, religious studies, and philosophy. The book consists of sixteen chapters written by leading religious scholars, historians, and literary critics on Edwards’s life, work, and legacy. The *Companion* will be an invaluable aid to teachers and scholars and will be readily accessible to those encountering Edwards for the first time.

STEPHEN J. STEIN taught at Indiana University for thirty-five years before retiring in May 2005. He is the editor of three volumes in the Yale Edition of *The Works of Jonathan Edwards: Apocalyptic Writings* (1977), *Notes on Scripture* (1998), and *The “Blank Bible”* (2006). His volume, *The Shaker Experience in America: A History of the United Society of Believers* (1992), was awarded the Philip Schaff Prize by the American Society of Church History.

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*Thomas A. Schafer*

*Selfless mentor and respected friend*

*With gratitude*

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## Chronology of Jonathan Edwards

- 1703 Born October 5 at East Windsor, Connecticut
- 1716 Begins undergraduate studies in Wethersfield, Connecticut
- 1720 Completes baccalaureate and begins graduate studies at Yale College
- 1721 Experiences conversion at East Windsor  
Begins *Natural Philosophy*
- 1722 Begins "*Miscellanies*"
- 1722–3 Serves Presbyterian congregation in New York City
- 1723 Receives M.A. degree  
Begins "The Mind"
- 1723–4 Serves congregation in Bolton, Connecticut
- 1724 Begins *Notes on Scripture*
- 1724–6 Serves as tutor at Yale College
- 1727 Becomes Assistant Minister in Northampton, Massachusetts  
Marries Sarah Pierpont
- 1729 Becomes Senior Minister at Northampton
- 1730 Begins "Blank Bible"
- 1731 Gives Boston lecture
- 1734–5 Takes part in Connecticut Valley revivals
- 1737 Publishes *Faithful Narrative*
- 1738 Preaches *Charity and Its Fruits* series
- 1739 Preaches *History of Redemption* series
- 1740 Meets George Whitefield in Northampton
- 1740 Writes *Personal Narrative*
- 1741 Preaches *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*  
Presides over awakening in Northampton  
Delivers *Distinguishing Marks* at Yale commencement
- 1743 Publishes *Some Thoughts Concerning the Revival*
- 1744 Responds to "Bad Book" controversy in Northampton
- 1746 Publishes *Religious Affections*
- 1747 Hosts David Brainerd at Edwards's home

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- Publishes *An Humble Attempt*
- 1749 Publishes *Life of Brainerd*  
Publishes *An Humble Inquiry*  
Engages in controversy with Northampton congregation
- 1750 Dismissed as minister at Northampton  
Preaches *Farewell Sermon*
- 1751 Becomes a missionary at Stockbridge, Massachusetts
- 1752 Publishes *Misrepresentations Corrected*
- 1754 Takes charge of Indian schools at Stockbridge  
Experiences lengthy period of ill health  
Publishes *Freedom of the Will*
- 1755 Writes *End of Creation*  
Writes *The Nature of True Virtue*
- 1757 Receives offer of presidency of the College of New Jersey
- 1758 Obtains release from Stockbridge ministry  
Becomes president of the College of New Jersey  
Undergoes inoculation against smallpox  
Dies March 22 from complications

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