THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO

JOHN WESLEY

A leading figure in the Evangelical Revival in eighteenth-century England, John Wesley (1703–1791) is the founding father of Methodism and, by extension, of the holiness and Pentecostal movements. This Cambridge Companion offers a general, comprehensive introduction to Wesley's life and work, and to his theological and ecclesiastical legacy. Written from various disciplinary perspectives, including history, literature, theology, and religious studies, this volume will be an invaluable aid to scholars and students, including those encountering the work and thought of Wesley for the first time.

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Continued after the Index
THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO

JOHN WESLEY

Edited by Randy L. Maddox
_Duke University, Durham, North Carolina_

Jason E. Vickers
_United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio_
FOR

Richard P. Heitzenrater

Exemplary Wesley Scholar and Generous Colleague
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1. **John Wesley, ca. 1784, bust by Enoch Wood.** This bust was crafted at a live setting in 1781 or 1784. Nearly fifty years later, the artist told Adam Clarke that Wesley had thought this likeness “much the best” that anyone had attempted. Clarke himself considered this bust “the only proper likeness of this illustrious man.” Photograph by Richard P. Heitzenrater. *page 2*

2. **Wesleyan Centenary picture, representing the rescue of the Founder of Methodism from the fire at the Parsonage House at Epworth, by Henry Perlee Parker (1840).** Shown as an etching, courtesy of the Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, England. *page 3*


We want to express our appreciation to Dr. Peter Forsaith, Research Fellow at the Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History, Oxford Brookes University, for his assistance in obtaining these illustrations.
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Contributors


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Acknowledgments

The editors wish to thank their colleagues at the Divinity School at Duke University and at United Theological Seminary for encouraging and supporting their work on this project. In addition, we would like to say a special word of appreciation to Julia Abla for creating the index and to Evan Abla for proofreading. Finally, we would be remiss if we did not thank Andrew Beck for sharing and supporting our vision for this volume from the beginning.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1703</td>
<td>born June 28 (June 17 by the Julian calendar then in use) at Epworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1707</td>
<td>brother Charles born December 18 at Epworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1709</td>
<td>rescued from burning parsonage in Epworth, February 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1714–20</td>
<td>student at London’s Charterhouse School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1721–24</td>
<td>student at Christ Church, Oxford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1725</td>
<td>began keeping spiritual journal, while studying for Master’s degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1726</td>
<td>elected Fellow (in Greek) at Lincoln College, Oxford, on March 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1727</td>
<td>awarded Master of Arts degree, February 14 becomes curate at Epworth and Wroot, under father</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1728</td>
<td>ordained Anglican priest on September 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1729</td>
<td>in March Charles initiates small gathering of students at Oxford [first “society”] John called back to duties at Lincoln College in October; became leader of the small student group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1735</td>
<td>father Samuel Wesley Sr. dies on April 25; after April 25, John and Charles Wesley sail for Georgia [under auspices of SPCK], October 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1736</td>
<td>Charles Wesley leaves Georgia in July, returning to England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1737</td>
<td>John Wesley leaves Georgia on December 22, returning to England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1738</td>
<td>experience of assurance at Aldersgate on May 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1739</td>
<td>first “open-air” preaching in Bristol, beginning of Methodist revival; brother Samuel Wesley Jr. dies on November 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1740</td>
<td>starts Kingswood School for coal-miners’ children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1742</td>
<td>mother Susanna Wesley dies on July 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1744</td>
<td>begins annual meetings with traveling preachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1749</td>
<td>Charles Wesley marries Sarah Gwynne on April 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1751</td>
<td>marries Mary Vazeille in February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1760–62</td>
<td>controversies over Christian perfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1763</td>
<td>Model Deed adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1765</td>
<td>sermon “The Scripture Way of Salvation” (his mature position)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1769</td>
<td>sends first lay preachers to North America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1771</td>
<td>issues first set of collected works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1775</td>
<td>questions legitimacy of American colonists’ complaints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1784</td>
<td>“blesses” new American church, sending Sunday Service, Articles, and newly ordained ministers (Thomas Vasey and Richard Whatcoat) with Thomas Coke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1788</td>
<td>brother Charles dies on March 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1791</td>
<td>dies on March 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Abbreviations


