

TURNING POINTS IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY: Learning to spot key moments/movements
#11 THE SECOND GREAT AWAKENING (Paul E. Engle)

I. God worked through Timothy Dwight (1752-1817)

1. Who was he related to? _____
2. What were his early years like? _____
3. What did he do at age 13 and what happened there? _____
4. What happened at age 41? _____
5. What were the students like? _____

6. The new president began to work passionately to address these problems. Within the first year student behavior showed signs of great improvement. What did he do?

a.

b. Debates: What question did he take from the students?

c. Also began a six-month series of sermons on the authority and accuracy of the Bible.

d. Baccalaureate address in 1797: *Nature and Danger of Infidel Philosophy*.

Here is how he described his approach: *"A gentleman once asked me whether I allowed my children to read the books of infidels. I told him yes: for they must become acquainted with them sooner or later, and while I am living I can confute the arguments they use. I should be unwilling to have them find these arguments unawares, with nobody to meet them."*

7. With all this happening it's not surprising that signs of revival began to sweep the campus in 1797. What happened?

8. What hymn did he write? _____

III. GOD WORKED THROUGH THE RISE OF CAMP FIRE MEETINGS

A. What did James McCready ask his church members in Logan County, Kentucky to do in 1797? _____

B. In 1801 revival broke out in some camp meetings in Cane Ridge, Kentucky. It was a gathering of 19,000 to 25,000 frontier people to hear the gospel.

C. How did this idea of outdoor camp meetings begin? Some suggest they were influenced by English and Scottish immigrants in the South. Back in Great Britain they experienced 4-day-long (From Thursday to Sunday) gatherings called communion. What did they do? _____

D. In the western frontier towns there weren't enough people to have a church. So they decided to have occasional gatherings patterned after the 4-day practice they had known in Britain. Over time the emphasis shifted: _____

1. What new techniques were introduced? _____

2. What was the music like? _____

E. Example of Bethel Church Arbor in Midland, NC.

F. One of the leaders in this movement was the evangelist Charles Finney.

a) He said that revival is *"Not a miracle or dependent on a miracle in any sense. It is purely a philosophical result of the right use of the appropriate means."*

b) This was a direct contrast with what Jonathan Edwards believed-- that revival was a miracle sent by a sovereign God, not by human means. Edward was a strong Calvinist and Finney was a strong Arminian.

c) Finney thought revival was _____, whereas Edwards thought revival was _____.

III. WHAT WERE THE LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF THE AWAKENINGS?

A. _____

B. A number of _____

C. _____ expanded to the Native Americans.

D. _____ changed in some churches: How?

Mt. 9:37 *"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest therefore to send out workers into his harvest field."*