

Heitzenrater, Wesley and the People Called Methodists, Pp. 117-162
Wesley Advocates **17 September 2017**

The Revival Begins

Chapter 3 discusses what revival? What particular groups does RPH address?

Again, what is *sola fide*? How is this notion critical to the Reformation? How does the idea figure in Luther's thought? In Wesley's?

What is antinomianism? Why does Wesley reject this practice entirely? Why, ultimately, does Wesley reject the doctrine of predestination?

What theological and practical differences result in conflict between Whitefield and Wesley?

How does Moravian "stillness" conflict with Wesley's theology? Why did Charles refer to this "stillness" as a "dumb show"?

What caused the split in the Fetter Lane Society? How large was this group at the time of the split? Who were the principal leaders?

Why and how did Wesley acquire the Foundery on City Road? How did the Foundery Society draw from the Fetter Lane Society? What did the Methodists use this property for? Ultimately what happened to Wesley's connection to the Fetter Lane Society?

How did lay preaching become essential to the Methodists? How did itinerancy develop?

Describe the "select bands" and the "penitential bands." How were these groups organized? Who oversaw them? Who were the stewards? What was the significance of the "penny a week" contributions?

Throughout this period, John Wesley continued to draw his stipend as a fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford. Why? To what end?

What was the doctrine of "irresistible grace"? How did Wesley and Whitefield disagree? Did Whitefield ally chiefly with Moravians or Calvinists? Why was his position on predestination particularly dangerous from JW's point of view?

Describe the class tickets Wesley distributed. How did these tickets distinguish amongst various levels of believers?

What was the orphan-house in Georgia Whitefield supported? Where was Wesley's Orphan-House? How was it supported?

How did Methodists minister to prisoners, even to those condemned to death?

Why did Methodists preach "charity sermons"?

Note that by 1744 or so, the United Society in London involved about 2000 members, many of them extremely poor. How did Wesley and other leaders minister to the poor amongst them? What were the *ars moriendi*?

What is especially important about JW's *Character of a Methodist* published in 1742? At the heart of a Methodist lies what essential?

What is the basis for JW's *Earnest Appeal to Men of Reason and Religion*? How do the "natural senses" differ from the "spiritual senses"? How are these senses involved in holy living?

Throughout the revival, JW and CW insist that Methodists return believers to the "rubrics and canons" of the C of E with "scrupulous exactness." How so?

How is JW involved in "risings" protesting his beliefs and preaching? Why were the tin miners of Cornwall called "the mob of Methodism"? Why and how did the Wesleys protest any association with the Jacobites and Bonnie Prince Charlie?

Wesley returns again and again to key themes of repentance, justification, faith, and backsliding. What do these terms mean for him? For contemporary Methodists as differentiated from Calvinists and Moravians and Catholics and Lutherans?

After reading Luther's commentary on Galatians, Wesley finds the Moravians errant in following Luther's emphasis on the ills of good works—clarify and discuss these points of view.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne becomes a third point of ministry (with Bristol in the southwest and London in the southeast) for Methodism. How does Wesley acquire property there? What happens to those believers he finds "counterfeit"? Of what sins are they accused, tried, found guilty?

What are the "General Rules" for joining and continuing in a Methodist society?

Why and how did Wesley acquire the West Street Chapel (his third London property)? ? How does JW manage to purchase a property essentially for celebrating the Sacraments—with the blessing of the Bishop of London?

When and where did the Methodists hold the first Conference? Who attended? What issues of doctrine, discipline, practice did Wesley address? What did the Conference achieve?

RPH calls the 1744 Conference a watershed. What issues of doctrine, discipline, practice did Wesley address? What did the Conference achieve?

Please review the *1744 Rules of a Helper* on page 160. Your responses?