

A Faithful Narrative of the Surprising Work of God

Jonathan Edwards

About this time began the great noise, in this part of the country, about Arminianism, which seemed to appear with a very threatening aspect upon the interest of religion here. The friends of vital piety trembled for fear of the issue; but it seemed, contrary to their fear, strongly to be overruled, for the promoting of religion. Many who looked on themselves as in a Christless condition, seemed to be awakened by it, with fear that God was about to withdraw from the land . . . and that then their opportunity for obtaining salvation would be past. . . . They seemed, with much concern and engagedness of mind, to inquire what was indeed the way in which they must come to be accepted with God.

. . . And then it was, in the latter part of December, that the Spirit of God began extraordinarily to set in and wonderfully to work among us; and there were, very suddenly, one after another, five or six persons who were to all appearance savingly converted, and some of them wrought upon in a very remarkable manner. . . . God made it, I suppose, the greatest occasion of awakening to others. . . . Those who were wont to be the vainest and loosest, and those who had been disposed to think and speak lightly of vital and experimental religion, were now generally subject to great awakenings.

A complete copy of this sermon can be found online at
http://books.google.com/books?id=xnhIAAAAMAAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q=December&f=false.