# The Great Awakening

## Introduction
- In the 1740s the number of religious groups expanded through a series of schisms that followed a religious revival.
- The Great Awakening touched off in 1740 by a traveling English ship.

## George Whitefield
- 27 at the time
- Performed a technique of teaching that dramatized bad after lives to convince his listeners to “conversion”

## Gilbert Tennent
- Also used George Whitefield’s technique

## Johnathan Edwards
- Inspired a local revival in 1735
- Most talented theologian in America
-Preached a stricter Calvinism
- His theology commanded respect in Europe and America

## Disagreement
- Many ministers thought that the new method of teaching provoked more hysteria than holiness
- Many were offended by the seemingly random outcries and shrieks of ALLELUJIA during a mass

## Taking Sides
- Old Light vs. New Light
- Against revival (old) or for it (new)
- The Old lights went to the path that led to Unitarianism, Universalism and deism, which had little need for Christ.
- New lights undermined their ministers in a different way. They believed that a minister could not bring salvation unless he himself was saved. To ensure their safety, the congregation could interrogate a minister and declare him unregenerate at any time.