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JONATHAN EDWARDS:
An Anniversary Celebration

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A SELECT ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

John H. Armstrong

- Carse, James. *Jonathan Edwards and the Visibility of God*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1967. A helpful study that demonstrates Edwards' belief that God is made known through the works of his people.
- Chai, Leon. *Jonathan Edwards and the Limits of Enlightenment Philosophy*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. Chai argues that Edwards' thought is quite close to Enlightenment rationality and tries to show what these connections mean.
- Cherry, Conrad. *The Theology of Jonathan Edwards: A Reappraisal*. Gloucester, Massachusetts: Peter Smith, 1974. The standard stereotype of Edwards as a hell-fire preacher and a worshiper of a wrathful God is challenged and corrected by this scholarly work.
- Daniel, Stephen. H. *The Philosophy of Jonathan Edwards*. Bloomington, Indiana: University of Indiana Press, 1994. A comprehensive analysis and redefinition of Edwards thought as a philosopher.
- Delattre, Roland André. *Beauty and Sensibility in the Thought of Jonathan Edwards*. New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 1968. Perhaps the best book on the importance of aesthetics in Edwards.
- Edwards, Jonathan. *The Works of Jonathan Edwards*. New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press. This multi-volume series began in 1957 and is projected for completion this year. The volumes include masterful introductions and important historical background. For serious work on Edwards there is no better source. Also included are thou-

sands of pages of material never previously published. The treasure these works provide will undoubtedly allow a new generation of scholars to know and understand Edwards better.

Edwards, Jonathan. *The Works of Jonathan Edwards* (Two Volumes). Revised and corrected by Edward Hickman with a Memoir by Sereno Dwight. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1974 reprint of 1834 edition. This is the older set which was the best we had until the above Yale series. Still a good investment for the ordinary reader, though the type is very small.

Edwards, Jonathan. *Treatise on Grace and Other Posthumously Published Writings Including Observations on the Trinity*. Edited with an Introduction by Paul Helm. Cambridge, England: James Clarke, 1971. The essay by Helm is very helpful and this work on the Trinity one of Edwards' most important contributions to theology.

Fiering, Norman. *Jonathan Edwards's Moral Thought in Its British Context*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina, 1981. A controversial work that is important for the scholarly debate about Edwards and the will.

Guelzo, Allen C. *Edwards on the Will: A Century of American Theological Debate*. Middletown, Connecticut: Wesleyan University Press, 1987. Guelzo demonstrates Edwards' importance for the generations that followed and how they debated sin and the bondage of the human will.

*Hatch, Nathan O. and Harry S. Stout, editors. *Jonathan Edwards and the American Experience*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988. The Billy Graham Center at Wheaton College (Illinois) has hosted a number of first-rate academic conferences over the past several decades. One of the very best was an event in the late 1980s devoted to the life and work of Jonathan Edwards. This volume contains the extremely important essays from that gathering. Highly recommended.

Holbrook, Clyde A. *The Ethics of Jonathan Edwards: Morality and Aesthetics*. Ann Arbor, Michigan: University of Michigan Press, 1973. For Edwards the way to live was to root one's life profoundly in the conviction of God's centrality, power and beauty. Holbrook shows what this meant for the great ethicist.

Holmes, Stephen R. *God of Grace and God of Glory: An Account of the Theology of Jonathan Edwards*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001. A recent introduction to Edwards and his thought. Its particular usefulness relates to Edwards' Trinitarian views.

*Jenson, Robert W. *America's Theologian: A Recommendation of Jonathan Edwards*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988. This is a highly original and most useful volume by the Lutheran theologian Robert Jenson. This is a gem often overlooked by students of Edwards.

*Kinnach, Wilson H., Kenneth P. Minkema, Jr. and Douglas A. Sweeney, editors. *The Sermons of Jonathan Edwards: A Reader*. New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 1999. For all who are coming to Edwards for the first time, or who know only a little about his work, this is a great place to begin reading his sermons.

Lee, Sang Hyun and Allen C. Guelzo, editors. *Edwards in Our Time: Jonathan Edwards and the Shaping of American Religion*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999. A set of essays that illuminate both theological and ethical themes in Edwardsian thought and make connections to our own age. This is an innovative and useful book.

Lee, Sang Hyun. *The Philosophical Theology of Jonathan Edwards*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1988. Along with the Daniels volume above, this is the best work on Edwards' philosophy.

*Marsden, George M. *Jonathan Edwards: A Life*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003. By far the finest critical biography of Edwards to date. Marsden presents an Edwards who is multifaceted and human.

- *McClymond, Michael J. *Encounters with God: An Approach to the Theology of Jonathan Edwards*. New York: Oxford University Press. An important recent work.
- *McDermott, Gerald R. *Jonathan Edwards Confronts the Gods: Christian Theology, Enlightenment Religion, and Non-Christian Faiths*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000. This seminal volume is an important, albeit controversial, work. Serious Edwards readers need to wrestle with it.
- *McDermott, Gerald R. *One Holy and Happy Society: The Public Theology of Jonathan Edwards*. University Park, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1992. Edwards' social theory, which was profoundly related to his views of salvation and the future, has often been misunderstood. What was his place in eighteenth-century life and thought? McDermott provides the best answer we have in print.
- McGiffert, Arthur Cushman, Jr. *Jonathan Edwards*. New York: Harper, 1932. McGiffert was one of the most prominent historical theologians of the early twentieth century. This is a valuable work.
- Miller, Perry. *Jonathan Edwards*. Amherst, Massachusetts: The University of Massachusetts Press, 1981. Perry Miller's intellectual biography of Edwards first appeared in 1949 and opened the door to a whole new era in Edwards studies.
- Morimoto, Anri. *Jonathan Edwards and the Catholic Vision of Salvation*. University Park, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1995. Through placing Edwards and his thought into a Roman Catholic context Morimoto shows his importance for the whole Church. This is a surprisingly good book!
- Murray, Iain H. *Jonathan Edwards: A New Biography*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1987. Whatever this volume lacks in scholarship it makes up for in warmth, and thus is one of the best overall depictions of the life of Edwards we have for ordinary readers.

- *Nichols, Stephen J. *Jonathan Edwards: A Guided Tour of His Life*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed Publishing, 2001. A very well-written introduction to Edwards. Highly recommended for those who want to "begin" the journey into his life and thought.
- Nichols, Stephen J., editor. *Jonathan Edwards' Resolutions and Advice to Young Converts*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: Presbyterian & Reformed Publishing, 2001. Who can read Edwards' resolutions, written when he was a young man, and not feel the need to follow Christ more faithfully? In addition to this frequently-republished piece, a letter Edwards wrote to Deborah Hatheway, a new convert, is also included.
- Simonson, Harold. *Jonathan Edwards: Theologian of the Heart*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974. Edwards gave great importance to communication, both spoken and written. Simonson, a professor of English, unfolds this story from the standpoint of communication.
- *Smith, John E., Harry S Stout, and Kenneth P. Minkema, Jr. *A Jonathan Edwards Reader*. New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 1995. Highly recommended for any reader of Edwards who has not, or will not, have the time to get into his huge corpus.
- *Stein, Stephen J., editor. *Jonathan Edwards's Writings: Text, Context, Interpretation*. Bloomington, Indiana: University of Indiana Press, 1996. This is a collection of essays that engages the full range of Edwards' scholarship. All who seek to place Edwards in his historic and cultural context and are serious about his importance today will profit from this outstanding collection.
- Storms, C. Samuel. *Tragedy in Eden: Original Sin in the Theology of Jonathan Edwards*. Lanham, Maryland: University Press of America, 1985. One of the most important theological contributions of Edwards is his doctrine of original sin and human depravity. Storms does a nice job of showing the doctrine's relevance to Christian thought.

Tracy, Patricia J. *Jonathan Edwards, Pastor: Religion and Society in Eighteenth-Century Northampton*. New York: Hill & Wang, 1979. Tracy treats the controversies surrounding Edwards with real insight and adds much to the growing interest in the subject.

Winslow, Ola Elizabeth. *Jonathan Edwards: 1703-1758*. New York: Macmillan, 1940. A standard biography that can be both praised and faulted.

* Highly Recommended