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JONATHAN EDWARDS:
An Anniversary Celebration

A Quarterly for Church Leadership

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2. To promote the cause of *revival* and spiritual awakening through prayer and the provision of resources to aid Christian leaders.

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The conviction of the staff and editors of the *Reformation & Revival Journal* is that awakening, of the kind seen in the First Great Awakening in America, wedded to the doctrinal concerns of the historic Protestant Reformation as expressed in the terms *sola scriptura*, *sola gratia*, and *sola fide*, is needed in our generation.

The views expressed in this publication should be considered as the personal opinions of the authors and are not to be taken as an official editorial perspective.

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INTRODUCTION



John H. Armstrong

No American, at least in the area of Christian theology and philosophy, retains the interest in Church history and intellectual life as does the Northampton Congregational minister, Jonathan Edwards. This year we mark the 300TH anniversary of his birth. A number of conferences and publications have been planned to honor the man that most people only know as the preacher of America's most famous sermon: "Sinners in the Hands of An Angry God." Not only did Edwards contribute much more than this well-known sermon but most of what he contributed was of a far better sort than this sermon. You will soon discover, if you read and understand him, that Edwards spoke far more of the love of God than of his wrath. He spoke far more of the believer delighting in God than of the believer doubting whether or not he was among the elect. It has been said that old myths die slow deaths. In Edwards' case they die *very* slowly since he is very often misunderstood in the household of his supposed friends.

Welcome to an issue that brings not only insight into the life and thought of a great man but more importantly, a better understanding of what it means to truly delight in the beauty and glory of Christ. A good-sized dose of Jonathan Edwards might contribute a great deal to a modern reformation.