

ROOTS

Why We Are What We Are

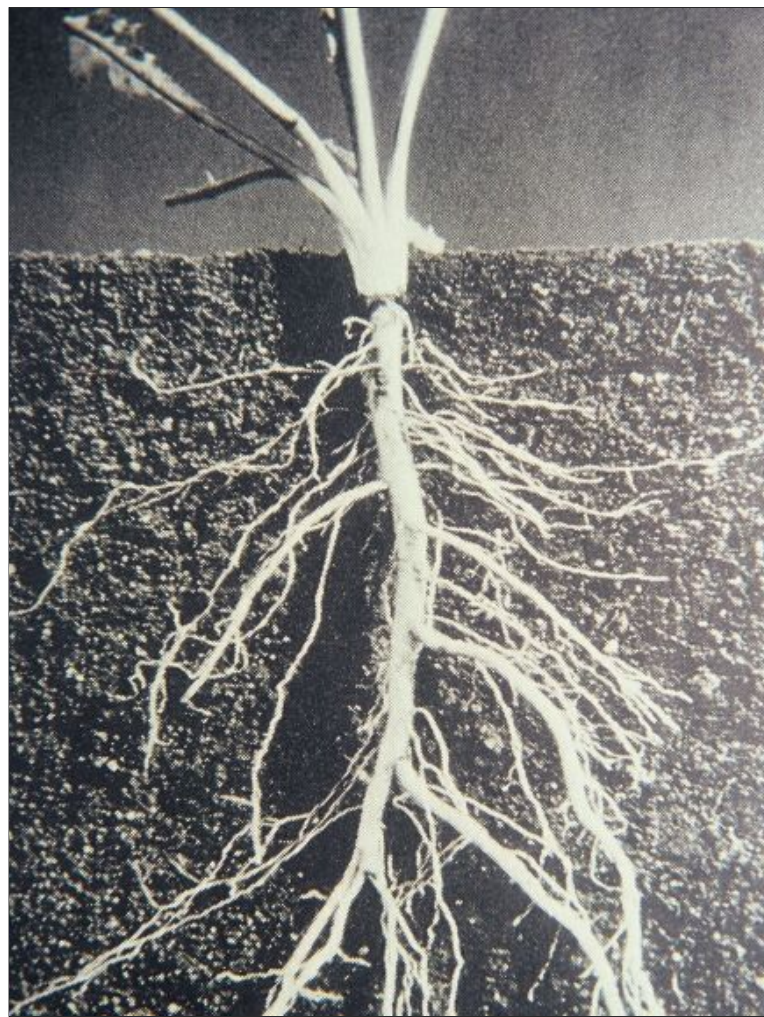




The Trembling Giant or the Pando tree. This grove of aspen trees is located at the Fishlake National Forest in Utah. Looks impressive. What is most impressive is this forest has a single root.

The Concept of
Restoration had
a long, gray
beard long
before
Columbus
discovered
America.





The Taproot provides
the nourishment.

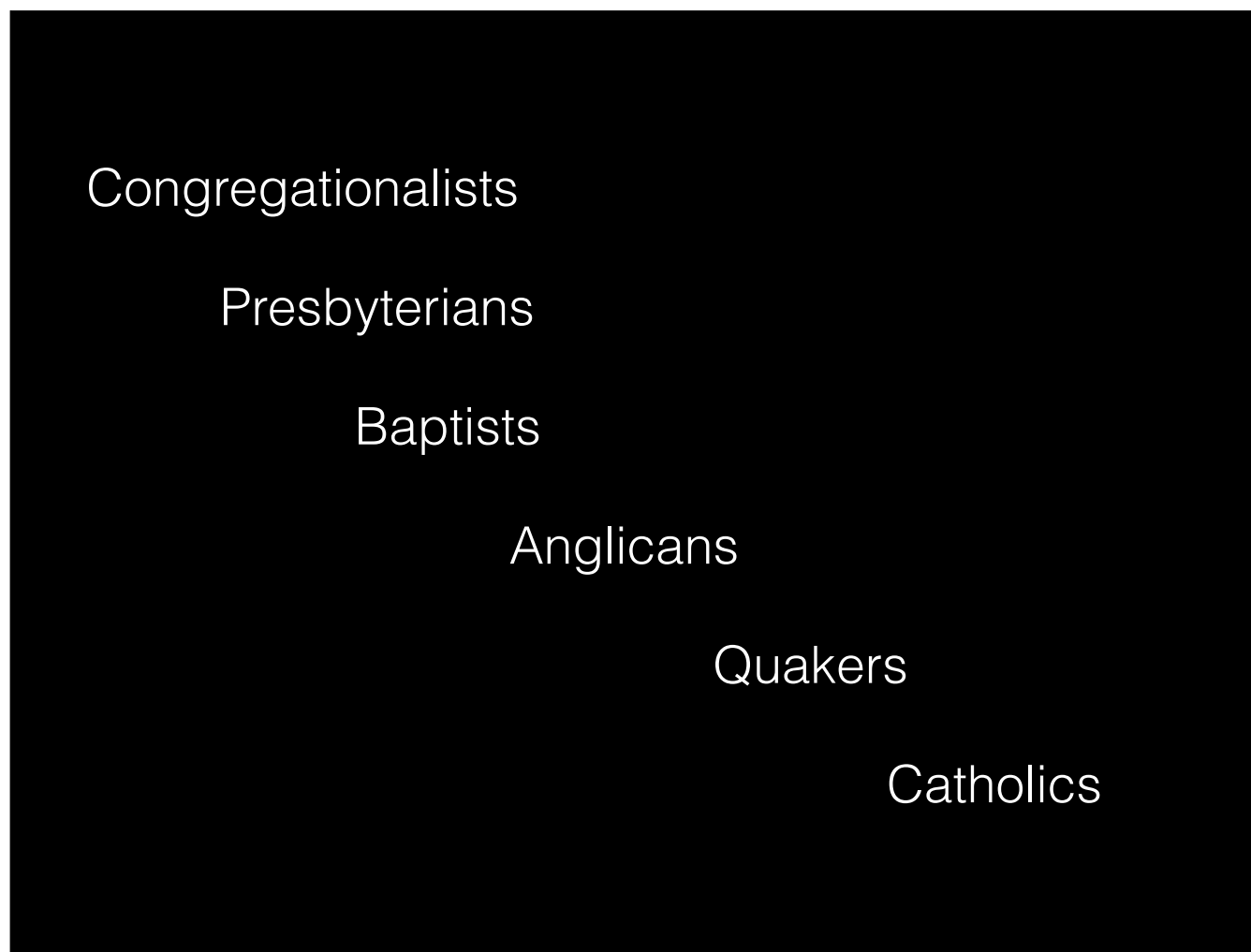




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Religious Freedom



Congregationalists were the Puritans. Goal was to “purify” the church of England. Their primary problem was not doctrinal but organizational. The other part of this group became the Episcopal Church. Tended to be in the Northeast.

Presbyterians were Calvinistic (which we will explore in a moment) but were scattered on the frontier. They emphasized education over evangelism, due to their doctrinal stance.

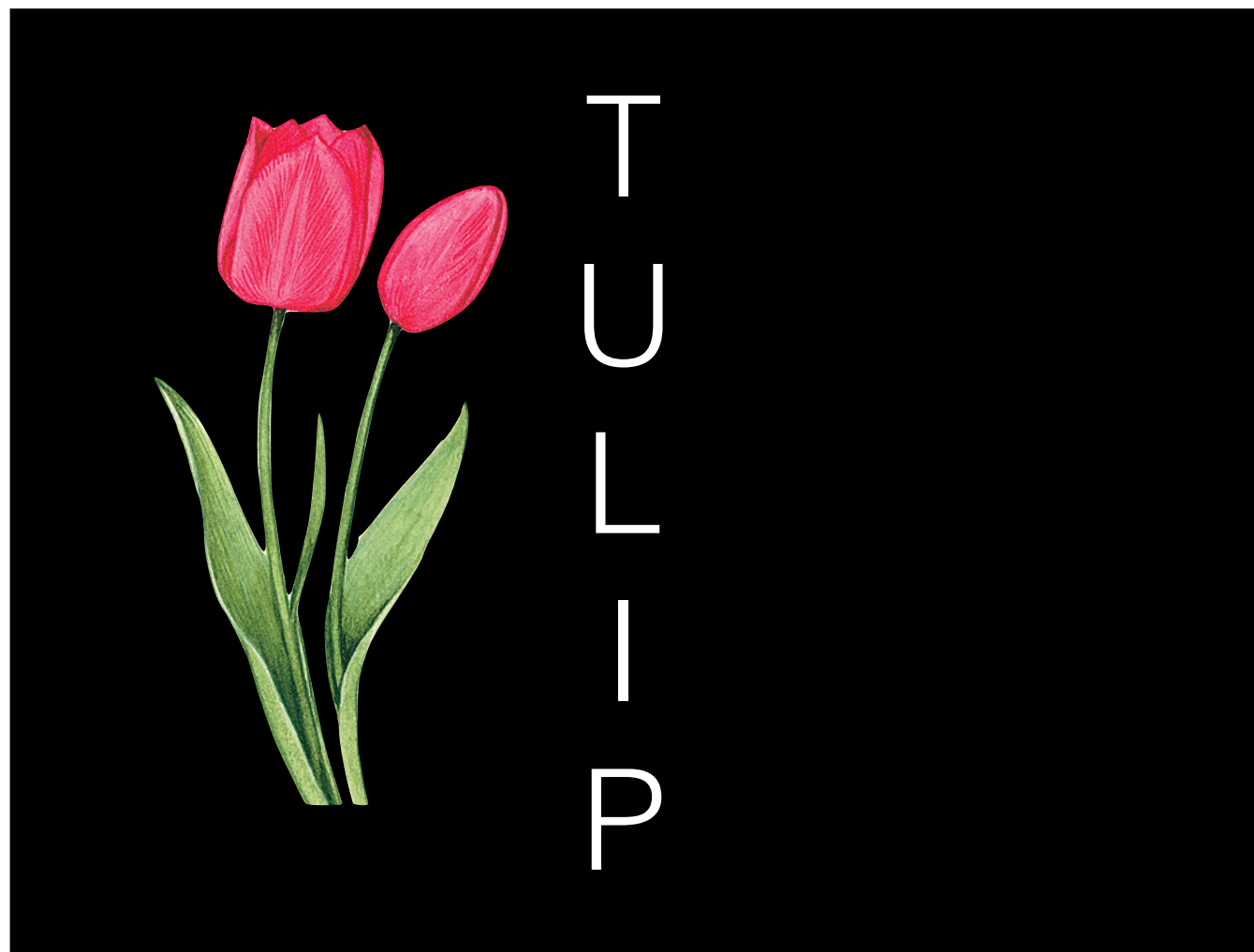
But other groups also were part of the evolving American landscape, each with a different viewpoint.

The Baptist were led by Roger Williams in Providence, Rhode Island. He was an anthropologist who was fascinated with the native peoples in the new world. They believed in religious freedom.

Anglican Church (which would become the Episcopal Church) was in six southern colonies. Most of Virginia were Anglicans, including George Washington.

Quakers settled in Pennsylvania and believed in the “inner light”

Catholics were pretty much located in Maryland.



Calvinism was enunciated by John Calvin in his Institutes of the Christian Religion as part of the Protestant Reformation. Calvin did not originate his ideas but borrowed them from the originator of the concept Augustine in the 4th Century A.D. Can be



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P_{er}severance of the Saints

Implications of Calvinism

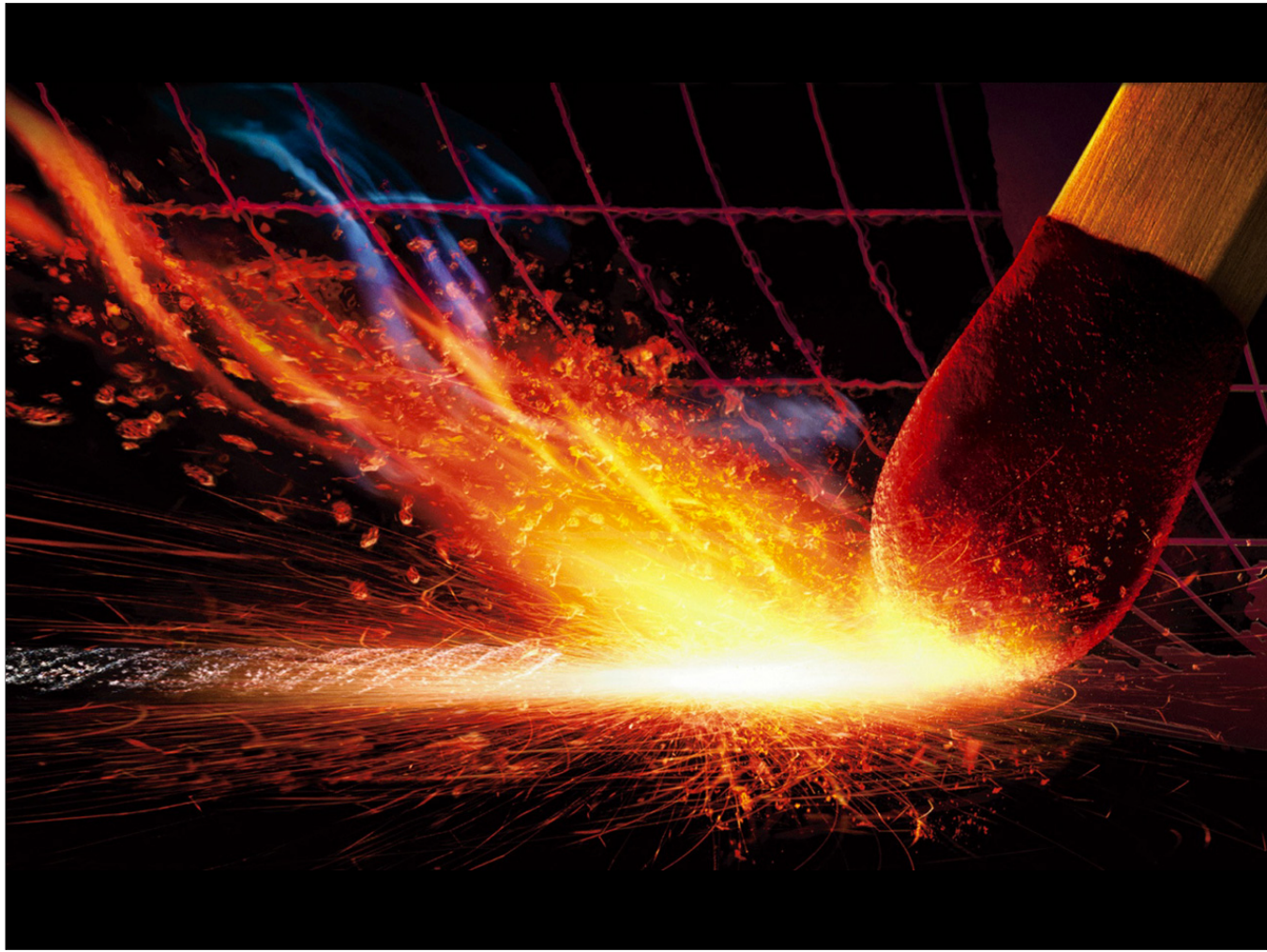
No personal responsibility or “response”

Therefore, there was no reason to preach the gospel because the saved were saved regardless of what they heard or did.

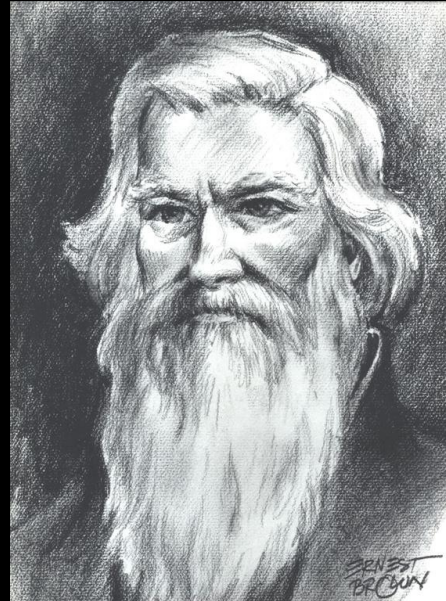


The Great Awakening

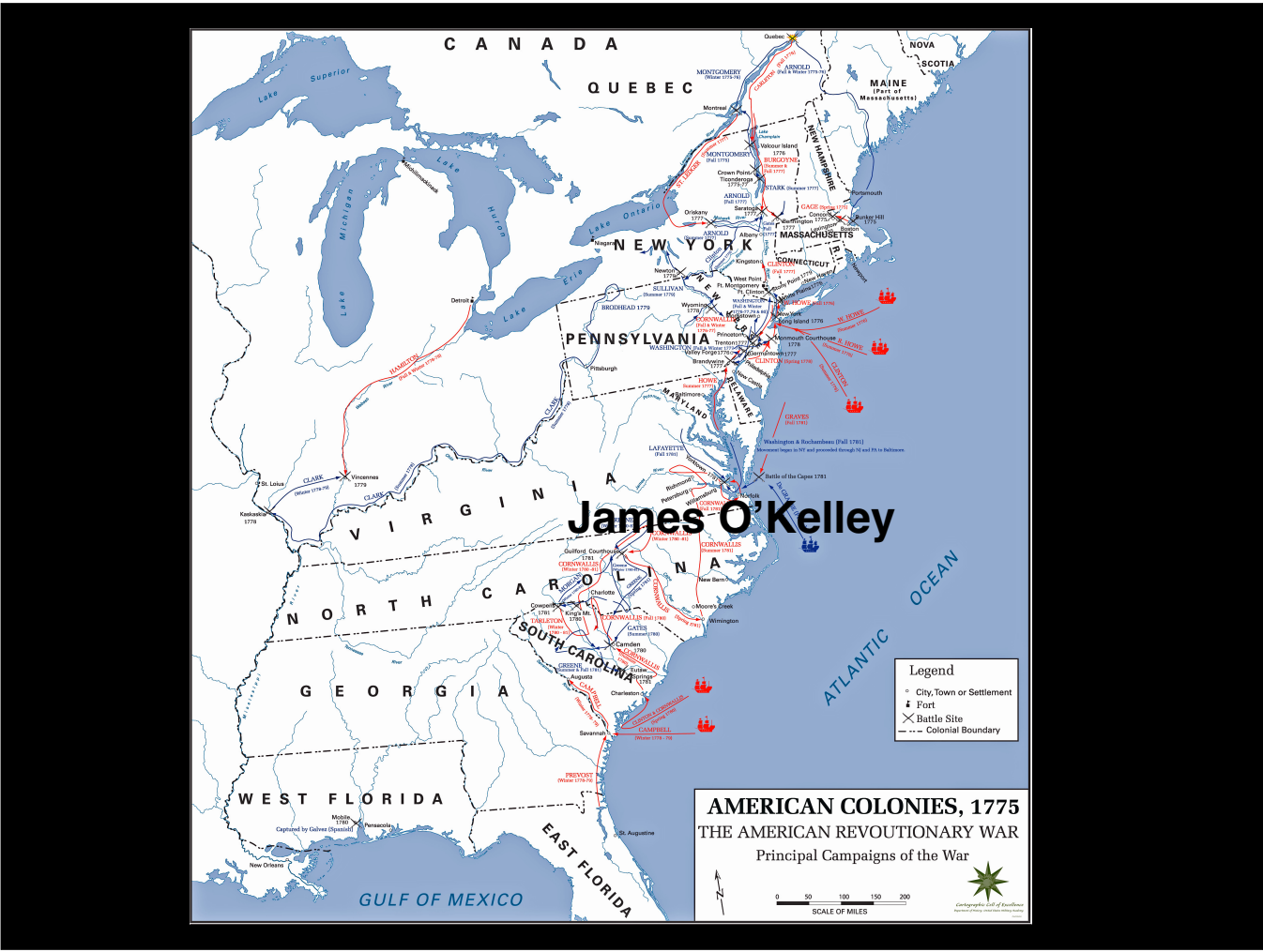
Then came the Great Awakening. George Whitefield, an associate of John Wesley brought strong preaching to his audiences, which included the likes of Benjamin Franklin.



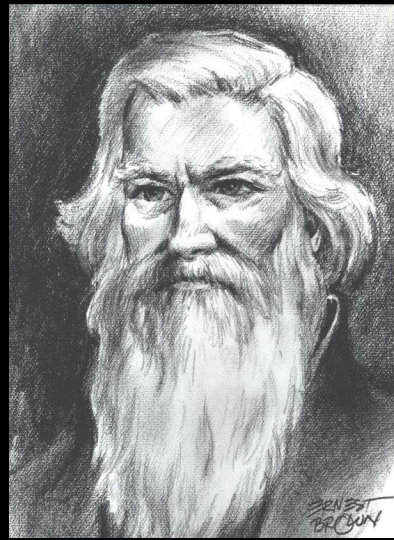
Three Key Figures Took a New Look at Things.



James O'Kelley



James O'Kelley



Methodist

The issue was: that nature of the organization of the church.

*a church organized by ministers, of ministers,
and for ministers with Francis Asbury as its head.*

Methodists were originally part of the Anglican church when John Wesley started his "methods" of living. In 1771, he sent Asbury to America to help the church.

A blend of politics and religion took place. Asbury and Wesley supported the crown while O'Kelly was a revolutionary. It is said he was the preacher to the continental congress.

Primary issue was Asbury was appointed the bishop who ruled churches with an iron fist. He said that he was a church it was organized by ministers, of ministers, and for ministers with Francis Asbury as its head.



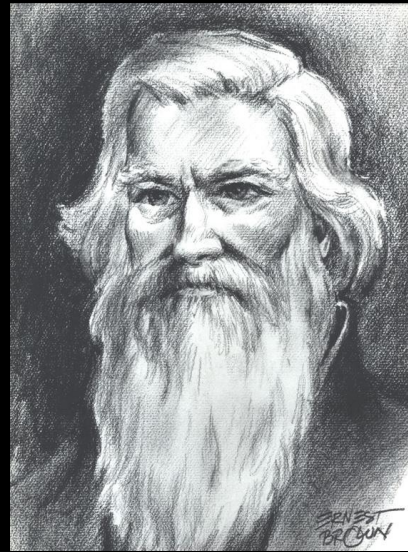
**What do we call
ourselves?**

Rice Haggard

*The Holy Scriptures are the
only sure authentic and
infallible rule of faith and
practice; the name Christian
is the only proper one of the
believer; in all essentials the
scriptures are plain to be
understood.*

on December 25, 1793 they formed a Republican Methodist Church. By 1794 they dropped the term Republican messages from the name. They had a question which was what do I call ourselves? One of the participants was a man named Rice Haggard. Haggard suggested that in the New Testament they call themselves Christian and therefore that should be there only name.

Three Key Figures Took a New Look at Things.



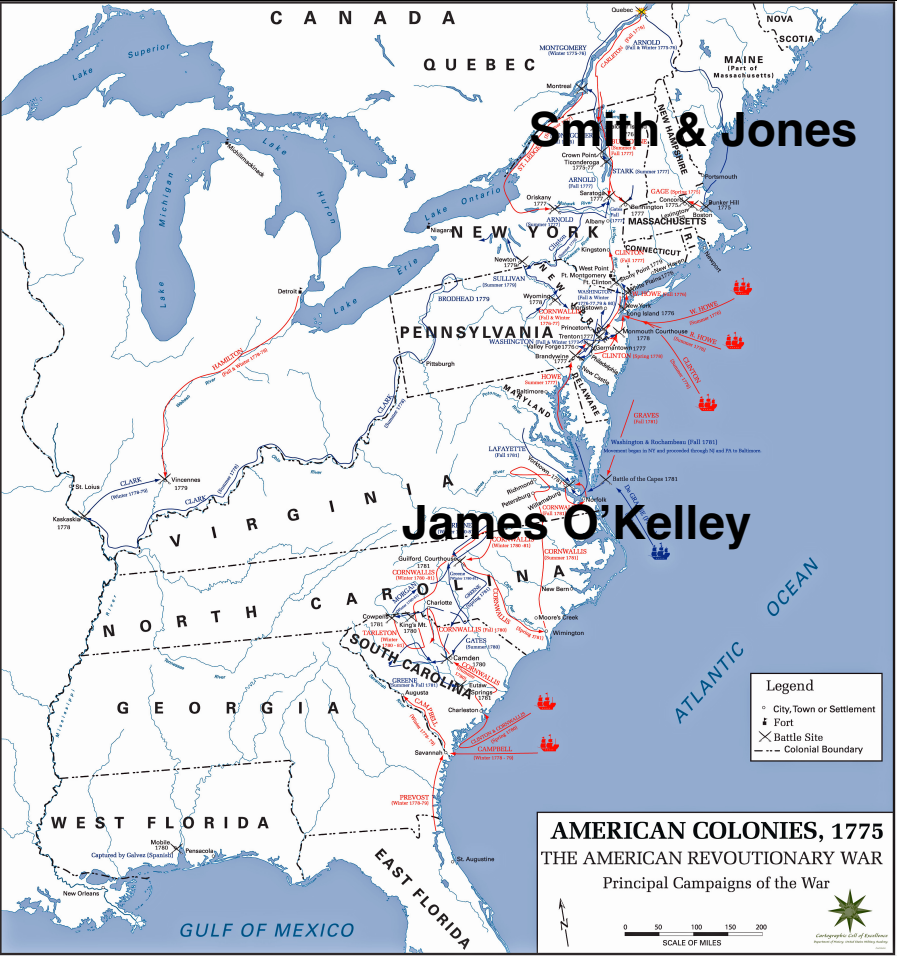
James O'Kelley

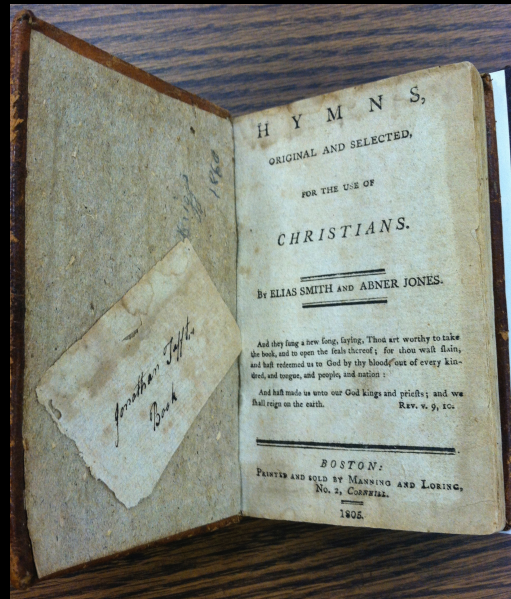


Elias Smith



Abner Jones





Lyndon, VT (1800)

*The Herald of Gospel
Liberty*
(first religious
newspaper in America)

*Headship of Christ for the church
New Testament as the only rule of faith, the
Name is Christian to the exclusion of all
others.*

They were Baptists and did not see much Scripture in the Philadelphia Confession of Faith, the Baptist rule of doctrine. (Almost all religious groups had a statement of faith that preachers of that group had to adhere to.) It became their substitute for scripture.

What Drove These Movements?



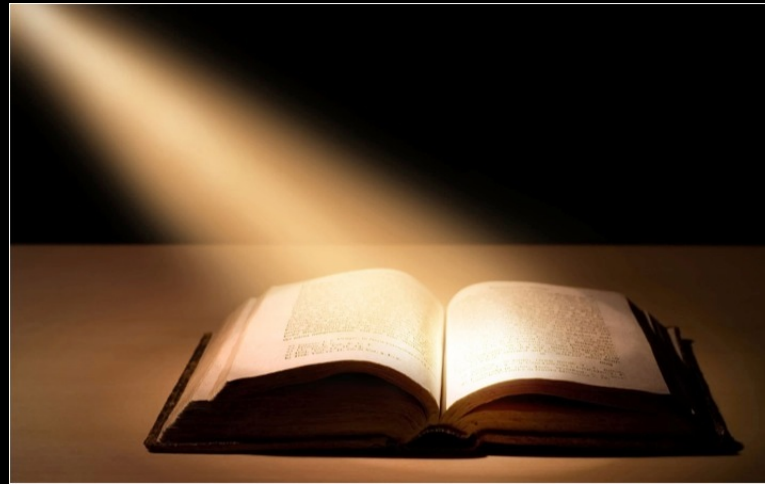
They started as “reformers.”

What Drove These Movements?



The Departure From What The Average Person
Could Read in Scripture

What Drove These Movements?



The went back to the clear, simple message of the New Testament.