

HST 201: History of United States F16 (Escobar Meta 20938 23214)

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Continuing the discussion with new evidence

by Joe Escobar - Wednesday, October 19, 2016, 7:47 PM

This thread is for continuing this week's discussion on the The Great Awakening, but now with new evidence (video and website now visible on the forum materials webpage, linked above) and with new questions.

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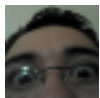
by Joshua Vieira - Friday, October 21, 2016, 3:56 PM

At first I didn't think the Great Awakening was directly responsible to the American Revolution because even though the Great Awakening did bring about a new mind set for the colonist of "one people" the revival movement was 30 years before the Declaration of Independence. After watching the Great Awaking video and reading the pages on the website it is hard to argue against how the Great Awakening didn't have major impact on the future founding fathers and the colonist to detach from England. The biggest point to me is the reading on the website that says, " The children of revivalism later echoed this radicalism and popular self-righteousness in the American Revolution, when self-assertion turned against the tyrannical ways of George III."

Knowing that, it is hard to argue that the Great Awakening didn't have a huge impact on the social and religious attitudes of the colonist.

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Re: Continuing the discussion with new evidence

by Joseph Hemrick - Saturday, October 22, 2016, 12:41 PM

The website seems to side with the idea that the Great Awakening did indeed provide the catalyst for political and military action. Using the crusade against the Catholics as a focal point over the course of the 18th century, until the new crusade against the British took over (website, last two sentences.)

My early thoughts reading this website was, it seemed like a lot of hearsay with no real evidence to support their claims. Unlike like Jon Butler, he gave much clearer reasons I felt. However, the website eventually gave an account from William Knox, a British statesmen. He noted about the American drive for independence by saying, "Every man being thus allowed to be his own Pope, he becomes disposed to wish to become his own King", and also the fact that John Adams gave credit to the Great Awakening as a source of motivation to the war (Website, under Religious Uniformity.)

Giving firsthand accounts like that, are very persuasive to me. I'm leaning a little more towards thinking the Great Awakening did have a larger impact in the war than before.

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Re: Continuing the discussion with new evidence

by Joshua Vieira - Saturday, October 22, 2016, 6:51 PM

The firsthand accounts were also a catalyst for the changing of my perspective that the Great Awakening did have a bigger role in the American Revolution than previously thought. Hearing how the revival movement directly affected the colonist way of thinking and how that new perspective was a leading factor in the perception of England as a tyrannical empire that was holding the colonist back from realizing their potential as a new nation. The papers wrote by Patricia Bonomi and Jon Butler omitted the firsthand views of the colonist during the Revolution and how the Great Awakening directly influenced the colonist to declare independence from the British Empire. If these notion were presented in the set of evidence that was first given to use I would have understood better about the direct correlation between the Great Awakening and the American Revolution. I now see my initial ideal was post haste.

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