

Visual Review

Spreading the Word
The Evangelical Christian revival movement expands around the country.

Building a Christian Nation
Revivals spur the growth of churches and religious institutions.

Interpreting the Message
New religious leaders challenge traditional leaders.

Second Great Awakening

RELIGION AND REFORM, 1820–1850

Northern Reform

The Temperance Crusade
Evangelical reformers promote temperance and other social changes.

The Rising Power of American Abolition
African American activists inspire a more radical abolition movement.

Women's Rights
Women take a variety of approaches to achieve civil rights.

Making a Moral Society
A wide range of citizens participate in evangelical reforms.

Southern Reform

Sin, Salvation, and Honor

The evangelical movement in the South challenges prevailing values.

Pro-Slavery Reform

Evangelicals try to reform slavery, while maintaining its existence.

Nat Turner and Afro-Christianity

Enslaved people use Christianity against slavery.

Southern Antislavery Reformers

Some Southerners critique slavery.

Challenges to the Spirit of the Age

Emerson, Thoreau, and the American Soul

American writers espouse a new philosophy: Transcendentalism.

The First Mass Culture

Low prices create the first mass culture for print and theater.

The American Renaissance

New American writers connect country to global events and ideas.

Politics as Gospel

New political parties energize Americans to invest themselves in politics.