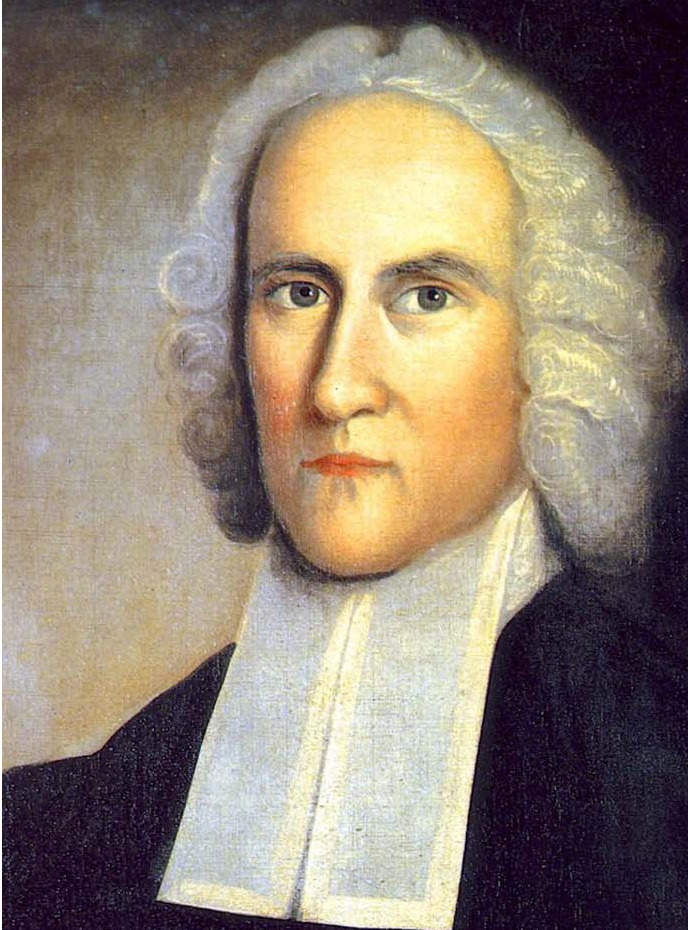


The True Vine

April 15, 2018

John 15

A portrait of Jonathan Edwards, a prominent American theologian and philosopher. He is depicted from the chest up, wearing a dark, high-collared coat over a white clerical cravat. He has long, wavy, light-colored hair and a serious expression. The background is dark and textured.

What is the nature of
true religion?

Jonathan Edwards

- I. Prologue (1:1-18)**
- II. The Book of Signs (1:19-12:50) [PUBLIC]**
- III. The Book of Glory (13:1-20:31) [PRIVATE]**
 - The Farewell Discourse (13-17)
 - The arrest, trial and crucifixion (18-19)
 - The resurrection (20)
- IV. Epilogue (21)**

The Farewell Discourse

★ In the Upper Room (13:1-14:31)

- Jesus gives the disciples an example of loving humility (13:1-20)
- Jesus identifies Judas as the betrayer (13:21-30)
- Jesus predicts His imminent death (13:31-33)
- Love one another with a perfect love (13:34-35)
- Peter will deny Jesus 3 times (13:36-38)
- Jesus comforts His disciples with truth (14)

★ On the way to the Garden (15:1-17:26)

**I. Our relationship to Christ is to abide in Him
(15:1-11)**

A. The Vine/Vinedresser/Branch Metaphor (15:1-2)

- Jesus is the Vine
- The Father is the Vinedresser
- Fruitless branches represent professing believers who demonstrate their connection to Jesus is superficial
- Fruitful branches represent genuine believers

**I. Our relationship to Christ is to abide in Him
(15:1-11)**

A. The Vine/Vinedresser/Branch Metaphor (15:1-2)

B. The Overarching command: Abide (15:3-8)

- **Fruitfulness is impossible apart from abiding (15:4)**
- **Abiding results in fruitfulness (15:5)**
- **Failure to abide results in final judgment (15:6)**

- I. Our relationship to Christ is to abide in Him (15:1-11)**
 - A. The Vine/Vinedresser/Branch Metaphor (15:1-2)**
 - B. The Overarching command: Abide (15:3-8)**
 - C. Believers abide by faith in God's word (15:9-10)**
 - Abiding results in loving obedience (1 John 2:5-6, 3:24, 4:12)

- I. Our relationship to Christ is to abide in Him (15:1-11)**
 - A. The Vine/Vinedresser/Branch Metaphor (15:1-2)**
 - B. The Overarching command: Abide (15:3-8)**
 - C. Believers abide by faith in God's word (15:9-10)**
 - D. Summary (15:11)**
 - Abiding in Christ produces gladness!

- II. Our relationship to those in the church is to love one another (15:12-17)**
 - A. Christ demonstrates the intensity of His love by bearing God's wrath for your sin (15:12-15)**
 - B. Christ's love for you is undeserved and through His sovereign choice (15:16-17)**

III. Our relationship to the World is to expect persecution (15:18-16:1-4)

A. The world hates and persecutes the truth (15:18-25)

B. The church responds to persecution by proclaiming the truth in the power of the Holy Spirit (15:26-27)