

# Topics

- Introduction to Church History 1600-1800
- The British Church: The Anglicans
- Grace Abounding: The Puritans
- For Christ's Crown & Covenant: The Scottish Presbyterians
- God's Free Mercy: The Church in the Netherlands
- The Westminster Assembly
- Calvinism in the New World
- Protestant Orthodoxy
- The Path of Life: Brother Lawrence and Blaise Pascal
- The Great Divide: Enlightenment and Romanticism
- A Warmth From the Fire of God in the Heart of Germany: Pietism and Bach
- The Inextinguishable Blaze: The Evangelical Revival in Great Britain
- The Great Awakening in America
- From the Awakening to the Revolution: Davies to Witherspoon
- Summary



<http://www.rpchurchmanassas.org/drupal/churchhistory16001800>

# Pietism and Bach - Outline

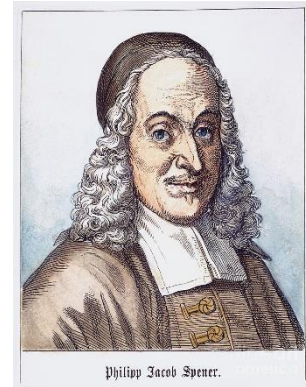
- Pietism
  - Philip Jacob Spener
  - Count Nikolaus von Zinzendorf and the Moravians
- Impact and Contributions of the Pietists and Moravians
- Johann Sebastian Bach

*“In that very time when it should have been powerful to counter the new trends unleashed by the Enlightenment, there developed in the Christian church what we commonly call **a dead Orthodoxy: confusion of confessional adherence with a life of faith** ... and in the Confessional churches in Europe there was **a satisfaction with being Orthodox in doctrine** —being Lutheran or being Reformed — **and not seeking to apply those great doctrines to the issues of human life**”*  
– Dr. David Calhoun

*“Warmth from the fire of God in the Heart of Germany”*  
– Cotton Mather on the Pietist Movement

# Pietism - Philip Jacob Spener (1635-1705)

- Lutheran Pastor in Frankfurt
- Disillusioned with contemporary Lutherans – Head in it, heart not
- *Heartfelt Desires for a God-pleasing Improvement of the True Protestant Church* – preface to reprint of Johann Arndt's *True Christianity*
  - Criticizes Lutheran Church – offers program for renewal and revival
  - Initiates Collegiae Pietatis – small groups from church meeting for prayer and Bible Study
- Moves to University of Halle – new center of Pietist Movement
  - Spener teams with Hermann Francke to further the Pietist movement
    - ❑ Francke authors *Piety of Halle, A Public Demonstration of the Footsteps of a Divine Being Yet in the World*
  - Orphanage, Printing Press, House for Widows, other charitable institutions developed at Halle



*“If Luther should rise again today, he would not recognize as his disciples many of his spiritual descendants.”*  
– Philip Jacob Spener

# Pietism – Zinzendorf (1700-1760) and the Moravians

- Student at Halle, Lawyer, Lutheran Minister
- Commits to serving Christ while observing a painting
- Houses 300 Moravian exiles at his Herrnhut Estate in 1722
  - Big revival at Herrnhut in 1727
  - Moravians eventually establish a separate Moravian Church (United Brethren)



*“I have loved him for a long time, but I have never actually done anything for Him.  
From now on I will do whatever He leads me to do.”*  
– Nicholas von Zinzendorf, viewing the painting *Ecce Homo*

# Pietism, Moravians – Impact & Contributions

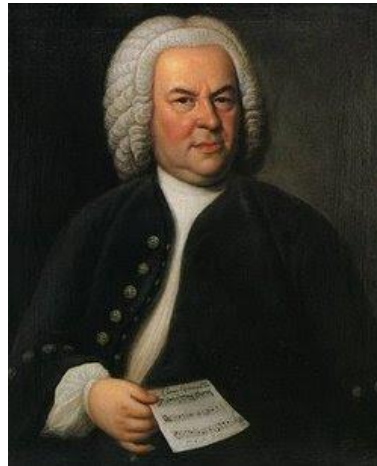
- Revival, Renewal in the Church
- Personal Experience
- Individual and small group Bible study
  - Johannes Bengel's NT commentary influences John Wesley
- Emphasis on prayer
  - 100-year long prayer meeting at Herrnhut starting in 1727
- Focus on Issues of Social Concern
  - Support the poor, prisoners, the sick
- Protestant Worldwide Missions
  - India 1706
  - St. Thomas 1732
  - Greenland 1733
  - Georgia to American Indians 1735
- Influence spreads to Evangelical Revival in Britain and Great Awakening in the Colonies

# Moravian Quirks

- Movement away from nuclear family living arrangements
  - Those of similar age, gender marital status lived together
- Women in leadership roles
- Focus on the physical Christ and Mary
  - Hymns and prayers speak about their physical attributes
- Over time personal experience drifts toward heart focus to the exclusion of mind

# Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

- Life overlaps with Pietists but Bach remains a loyal Lutheran
- Produced ~300 Cantatas tied to scripture text for sermons
- Bible student and competent theologian
  - Used a version of Luther's translation with notes from scholars
  - Heavily annotated by Bach – especially where music is discussed in Chronicles
  - Musical manuscripts often include *SDG* (soli deo Gloria) and *JJ* (Jesu juva)



*"Grant that my end may worthy be  
And that I wake Thy face to see."*

– Johann S. Bach, last line dictated for an unfinished chorale

