

First American Tour

Fall, 1739 – Dec, 1740



*Called in his youth to sound and gauge
The moral lapse of his race and age,
And, sharp as truth, the contrast draw
Of human frailty and perfect law;
Possessed by the one dread thought that lent
Its goad to his fiery temperament,
Up and down the world he went,
A John the Baptist crying – Repent!
The Preacher, John Greenleaf Whittier*

Introduction and Itinerary:

We began and left George aboard ship on the coast of Delaware last time, and focused on his first 4½ years (Spring, 1735 – Fall, 1739). In his second visit to America, we will follow his footsteps for the next remarkable 14 months, as he preaches, not to hundreds, or thousands, but to tens of thousands.

Here are his dates and actions:

- Arrives in Lewis Town, Delaware, 10/30/39
- 11/2 – Friday night, arrives in Philly
- 11/11 – to NY
- Returns the same month to Philly
- More preaching in Philly (Ben Franklin)
- 11/28 – leaves Philly to head South to GA

- 12/14 – Williamsport
- Three weeks later, Charleston, and arrives in Savannah, 1/10/40 (43 days after leaving Philly)
- Oversees the building of the orphanage for 2½ months
- Spring tour to Philly and NY – 4/2-6/1
- Orphan house – 6/3-7/2
- Summer tour to Charleston – 7/2-7/25
- Orphan house – 7/25-8/18
- Fall tour to New England – 8/18-12/14 (returning via NY, Philly, Charleston)

His Preaching

1. Centerpiece to these tours ~ revival
2. His two-fold approach (first to Church of England, then to others; preach and return)
3. Eyewitness account
4. Description of America

Philadelphia, NY, Georgia, Philly Again, Charleston

1. First week, first open air service, first opposition
2. Collecting funds for orphanage, as well as orphans
3. Ben Franklin
4. Proposal of marriage to Elizabeth Delamotte
5. Hostility towards him – against Tilotson, against treatment of slaves; put on trial in Charleston
6. Speaks to the largest gathering in America hitherto – 20,000 in Philly; fruit

New England

1. Chilly welcome from Church of England
2. Ministry and effects; Governor Jonathan Belcher
3. Jonathan Edwards

Next time: Evangelical Unity