

Ordinary Life



What did the
preacher say
about sin?

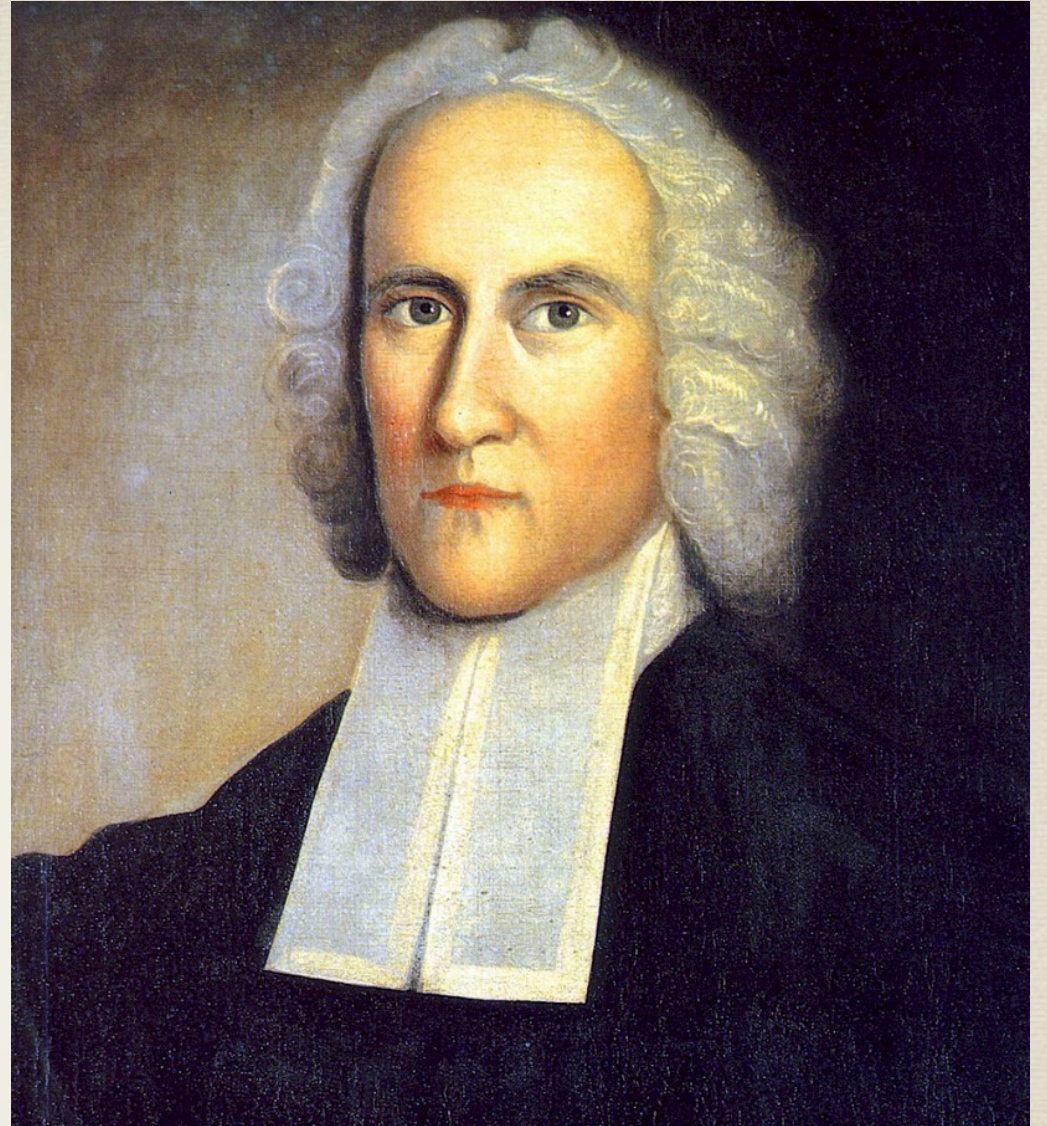
He was against it!

Calvin Coolidge

1872 - 1933

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Sinners In
The Hands
of An Angry
God



Jonathan Edwards
1703 - 1758

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Edwards's God

- angry and fickle
- only God's pleasure keeps some sinners from immediate doom
- God abhors sinners
- Humans are as worthless as worms compared to God



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Jesus came to take away our
sins, not our minds.

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One of the great liabilities of life is that all too many people find themselves living amid a great period of social change, and yet they fail to develop the new attitudes, the new mental responses, that the new situation desires. They end up sleeping through a revolution.

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God is that who desires to
reunite the separated.

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Most people all over the world,
regardless of the religious or
spiritual tradition they are exposed
to, imagine a god who rewards
those who uphold the moral order
and punishes those who transgress
that order.

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Throughout the biblical tradition those who experience intimacy with the Sacred do so not by avoiding transgression but by discovering the extent of what they refer to as God's "tender mercies" and "forgiveness."

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God's ultimate purpose is not that we would become holy by avoiding transgression, but that we would become holy by becoming merciful as God is merciful.

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“Grow up. You’re children of God. Now, live like it. Live out your God-given identity. Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you.”

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We suffer from being separated
from each other.

What separates us is the belief
that we are unloveable.

But, it is only because we are
isolated that we think we are
unloveable.

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What Jesus taught is that straying from an awareness that we live and move and have our being inside Sacred Mystery was and is a big deal.

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To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.

It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society.

The divine Realm
is like a man who owned
a field with treasure
hidden away in it.
Unaware of it he died,
leaving it to his son,
who also knew nothing about it.
After taking possession of the land
the son practically gave
it away for nothing.
But the one who bought
it began plowing
and discovered the treasure,
and immediately started lending money at
interest to
whomever he pleased.

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You have something valuable
that you are unaware of.

In order to obtain this
treasure, which you already
have, is a costly and difficult
undertaking.

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We have to disturb that
which is superficial to find
what is deep.

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Our spiritual work is to
bring forth that which is
within us.

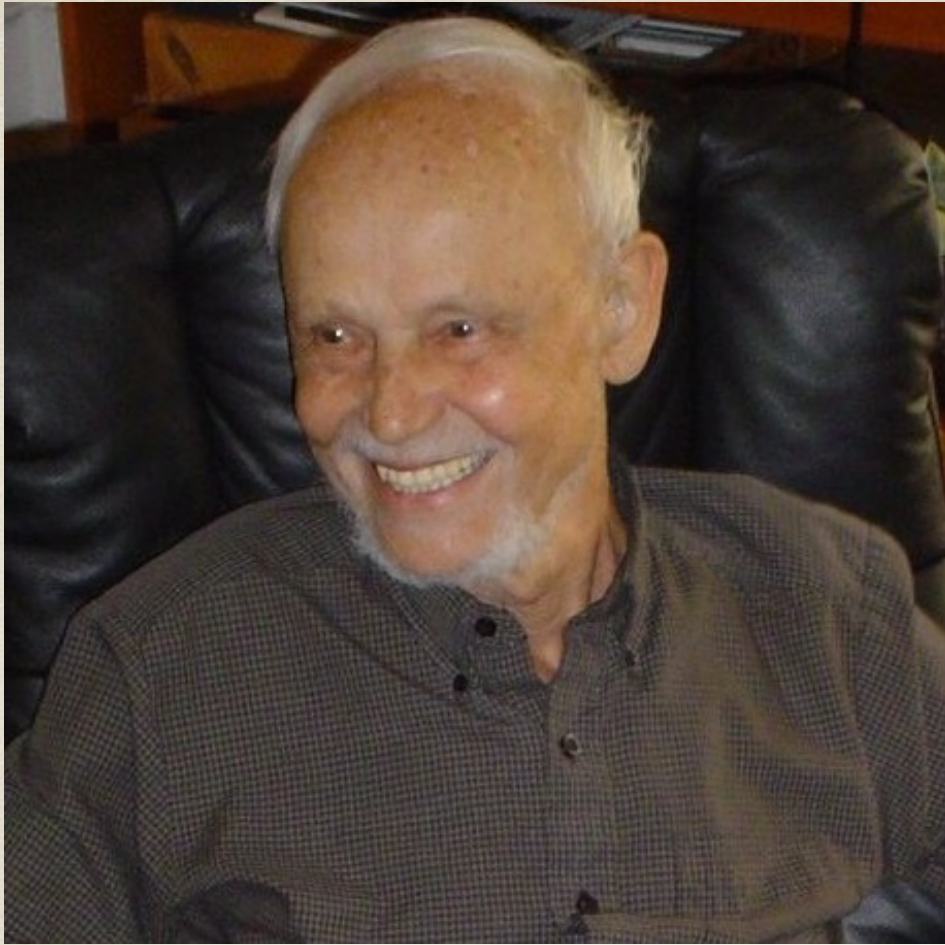
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attention, memory,
mindfulness, present-moment
awareness, inner and outer
honesty and letting go

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Being religious means asking passionately the question of the meaning of our existence and being willing to receive answers, even if the answers hurt.

Re-examine all you have been told.
Dismiss what insults your soul.



Houston Smith
1919 - 2016

“Twenty-five hundred years ago it took an exceptional individual like Diogenes to exclaim, ‘I am not an Athenian or a Greek but a citizen of the world.’ Today we must all be struggling to make those words our own.”