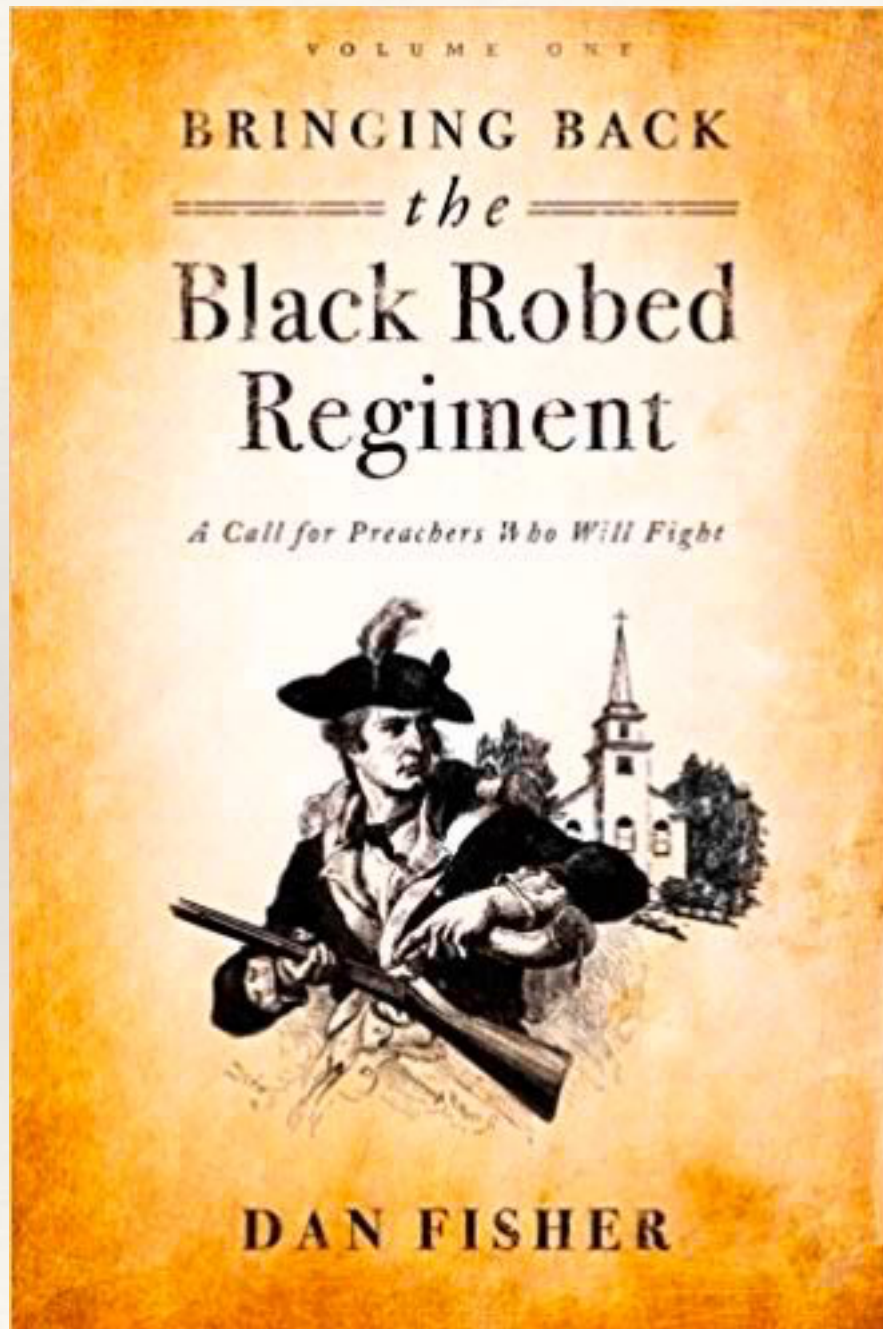


# Black-Robed Regiment

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# Black-Robed Regiment


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- Dan Fisher is a pastor and former member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives.
- His book records the history of the “Patriot Preachers,” also known as the “Black-Robed Regiment.”





# Black-Robed Regiment





British loyalist Peter Oliver called them the Black Regiment and the British blamed them for stirring up the colonists. They preached politics from their pulpits and some of them actually led the men of their congregations off to war. It cannot be overstated - they were critical to the success of the War for Independence in 1776.

Who were they? The Patriot Preachers of 18th century America. Yet, most modern American pastors haven't even heard of them.

Clear separation of church and state or claiming they're only called to "preach the Gospel," the majority of today's pastors shy away from politics, leaving their congregations biblically illiterate concerning a biblical theology of Christian involvement in government. In this video, Oklahoma pastor and State Representative, Dan Fisher, gives a brief history of these Patriot Preachers of the Revolution and shows how we need them to emerge today. Without an "awakening" in today's pulpit, Dan believes America will not survive. Thus, his clarion call is that it is time, past time, to Bring Back the Black Robed Regiment.




WWW.THERESONANCEMOVEMENT.COM



91 Mins.  
DVD  
VIDEO  
©2016

BRINGING BACK THE BLACK ROBED REGIMENT

BRINGING BACK  
— the —  
Black Robed  
Regiment



RESONANCE presents...  
A Darrell Campbell and Percussion Films Production



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# Biblical Perspective

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“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.”

Proverbs 14:34

“The wicked shall return to Sheol, all the nations that forget God.”

Psalms 9:17



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# Patriot Preachers

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“The preachers of the Revolution did not hesitate to attack the great political and social evils of their day.”

Frank Moore, *The Patriot Preachers of the American Revolution* (1862)

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# Patriot Preachers

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“The Fathers of the Republic . . . invoked God in their civil assemblies, called upon their chosen teachers of religion for counsel from the Bible, and recognized its precepts as the law of their public conduct. The Fathers did not divorce politics and religion, but they denounced the separation as ungodly.”

John Wingate Thornton, *The Pulpit of the American Revolution* (1860)

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# Patriot Preachers

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“They prepared for the struggle, and went into battle, not as soldiers of fortune, but . . . with the Word of God in their hearts, and trusting in Him. That was the secret of that moral energy which sustain the Republics in its material weakness against superior numbers, and discipline, and all the power of England. England sent her armies to compel submission, and the colonists appealed to heaven.”



# Patriot Preachers

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# John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg

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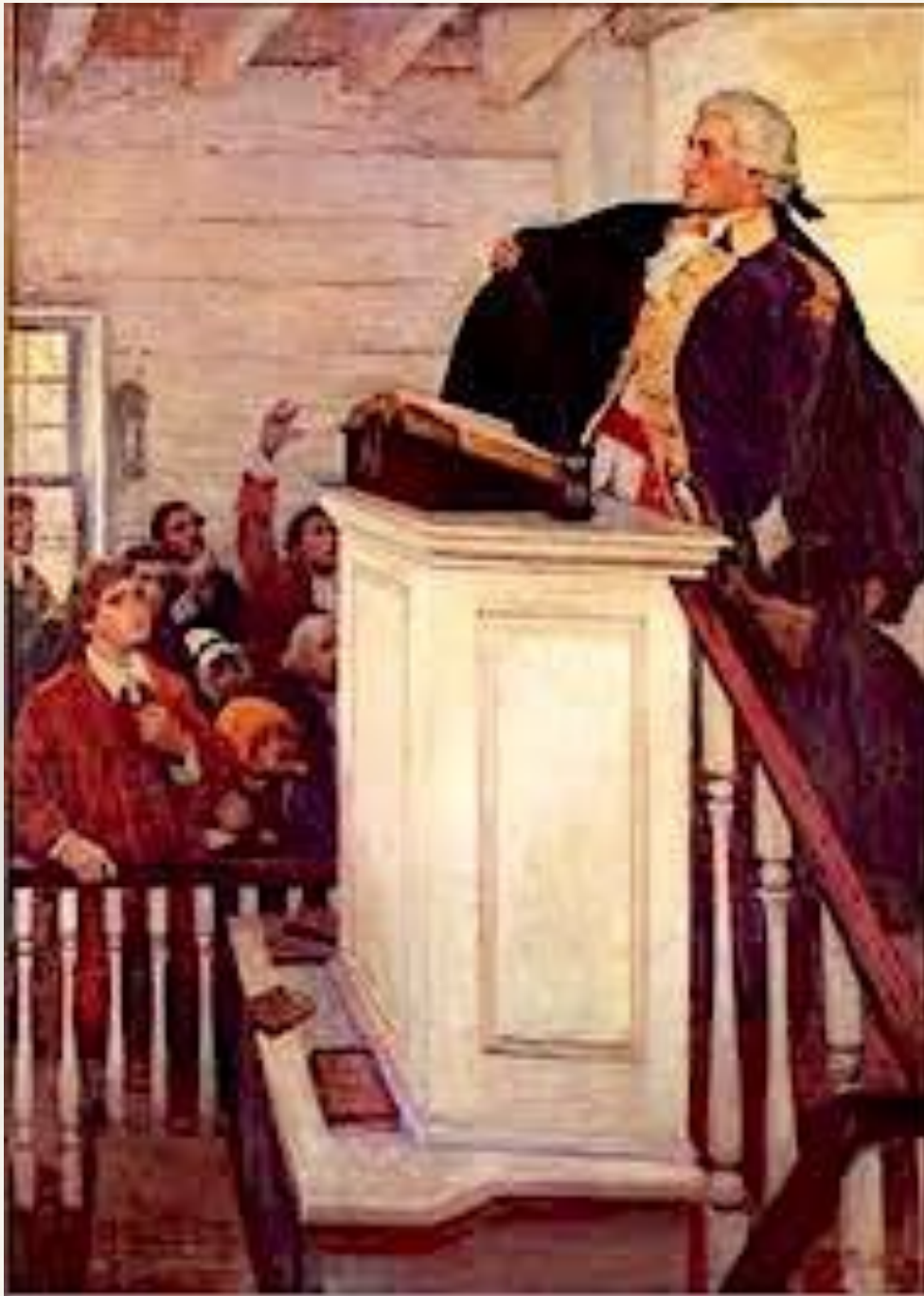
- A Lutheran pastor who also served in the House of Burgesses in Williamsburg.
- Rode back to his pastorate in Woodstock, Virginia.
- On January 21, 1776, he preached on Ecclesiastes. “A time for war, and a time for peace” (Ecclesiastes 3:8).



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# John Peter Gabriel Muhlenberg

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# Letter to Frederick Muhlenberg

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- “I am a clergyman, it is true, but I am a member of society as well as the poorest layman, and my liberty is as dear to me as to any man. Shall I then sit still, and enjoy myself at home, when the best blood of the continent is spilling? Heaven forbid it.”
- “Do you think then, if America should be conquered, I should be safe? Nothing less. And would you not sooner fight like a man than die the death of a dog?”



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# Paul Revere

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# Jonas Clark

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- Pastor Jonas Clark in Lexington
- In his home were Samuel Adams and John Hancock
- Will the men fight?
- “I trained them for this very hour; they would fight, and if need be die, too, under the shadow of the house of God.”



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# Trained by Captain John Parker

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# Captain John Parker

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“Stand your ground. Don’t fire unless fired upon.  
But if they mean to have a war, let it begin here.”



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# Captain John Parker

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- British commander ordered them to throw down their arms in the name of the king of England.
- Captain Parker and his men responded, “We recognize no sovereign but God, and no king but Jesus.”



# Lexington Minutemen





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# Battle of Concord

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- A year later (April 19, 1776), pastor Jonas Clark preached this sermon:
- “The Fate of Blood-thirsty Oppressors, and God’s Tender Care of His Distressed People.”

*The Fate of Blood-thirsty Oppressors, and GOD'S  
tender Care of his distressed People.*

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A  
S E R M O N,

PREACHED AT LEXINGTON,

APRIL 19, 1776.

To commemorate the *MURDER, BLOOD-SHED* and *Commencement of Hostilities*, between *Great-Britain* and *America*, in that Town, by a Brigade of Troops of *GEORGE III.*, under Command of *Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH*, on the Nineteenth of *APRIL, 1775.*

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

A BRIEF NARRATIVE of the principal  
Transactions of that Day.

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BY JONAS CLARK, A. M.

PASTOR of the CHURCH in LEXINGTON.

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Those Things doth the LORD hate:—*A proud Look, a lying  
Tongue, and Hands that shed innocent Blood.* PRO. vi. 16, 17.

—*Quid non mortalia pectora cogis,  
Auri sacra fames?* —

*Quis talia facio,  
Myiædonum, Dolopumæ, aut duri milles Ulysses,  
Temperat a lachrymis?* —

VIR. ÆNEID.

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MASSACHUSETTS-STATE: BOSTON:

PRINTED BY POWARS AND WILLIS.  
M,DCC,LXXVI.

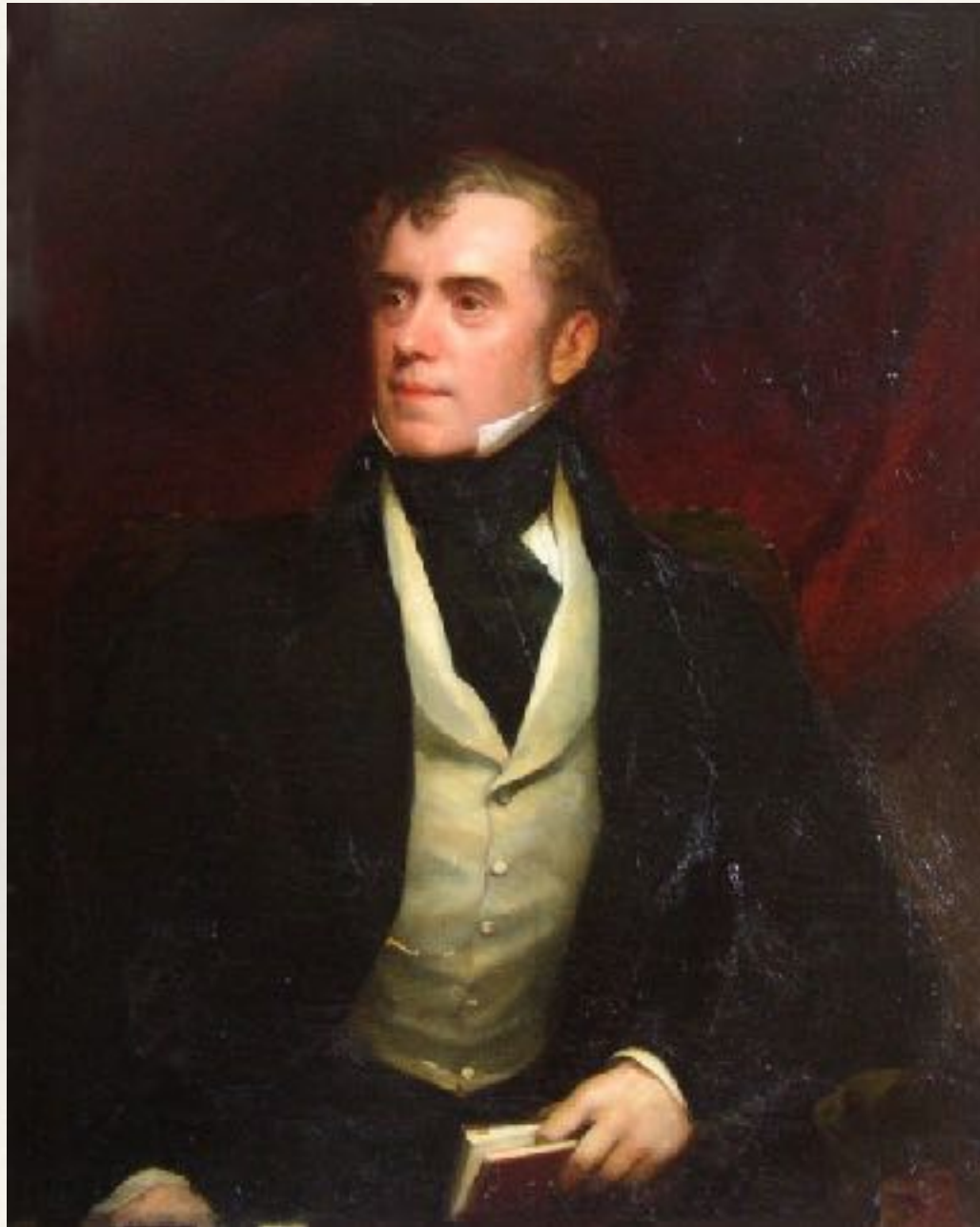
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# James Caldwell

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- Reverend James Caldwell, First Presbyterian Church, Elizabethtown, NJ
- Known as “The High Priest of the Rebellion” by the British.
- British shot his wife through the window, did the funeral.



# James Caldwell



- Led his men at Springfield, New Jersey, but they ran out of wadding for the muskets.
- Went to the Springfield Presbyterian church, picked up the church hymnals.
- Isaac Watts hymns, he threw hymnals to them, give 'em Watts (give them what for).



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# Presbyterians

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- King George II called the American Revolution a “Presbyterian Rebellion.”
- Prime Minister’s son, Horace Walpole – “There is no use in crying about it. Cousin American has eloped with a Presbyterian parson.”



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# Presbyterians

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- A colonial supporter of the King wrote: “I fix all the blame for these extraordinary proceedings upon the Presbyterians. They have been the chief and principle instrument in all these flaming measures.”
- George Bancroft – “The Revolution of 1776, so far as it was affected by religion, was a Presbyterian measure.”
- A British sympathizer, Peter Oliver, is given credit for first using the title “Black Robed Regiment.”

# Key Figures in the American Revolution



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# John Adams

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“The Revolution was effected before the War commenced. The Revolution was in the mind and hearts of the people: and change in their religious sentiments of their duties and obligations.”

*The Meaning of the American Revolution* (1818).



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# John Adams

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- He listed the men responsible for the revival of American principles that led to the American Revolution.
- Two he mentioned were Dr. Samuel Cooper and Dr. Jonathan Mayhew.





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# Samuel Cooper

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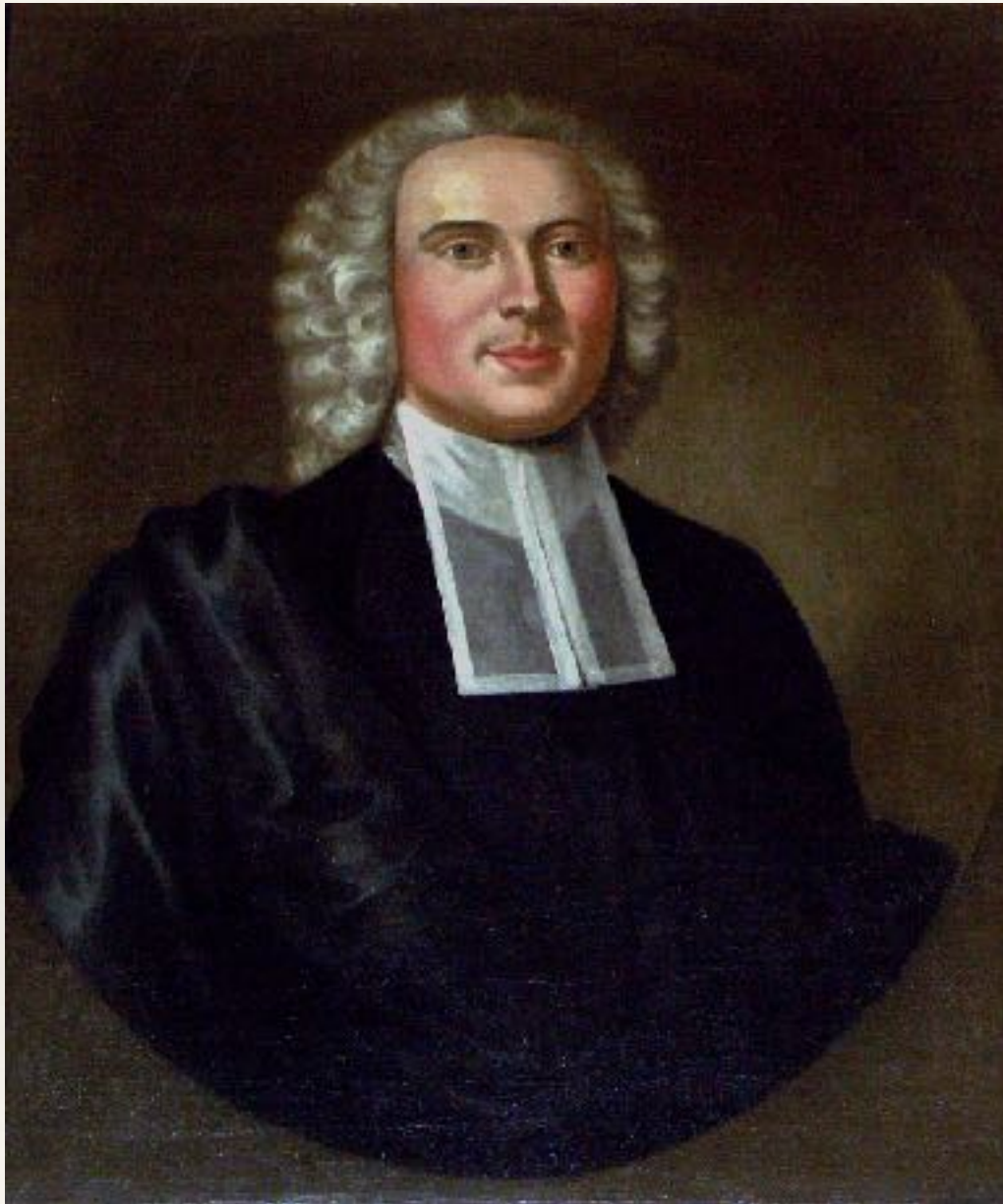
- Samuel Cooper, pastor of Brattle Street Church
- John Hancock and John Adams attended his church.
- He was a close friend of Samuel Adams and corresponded regularly with Benjamin Franklin.



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# Jonathan Mayhew

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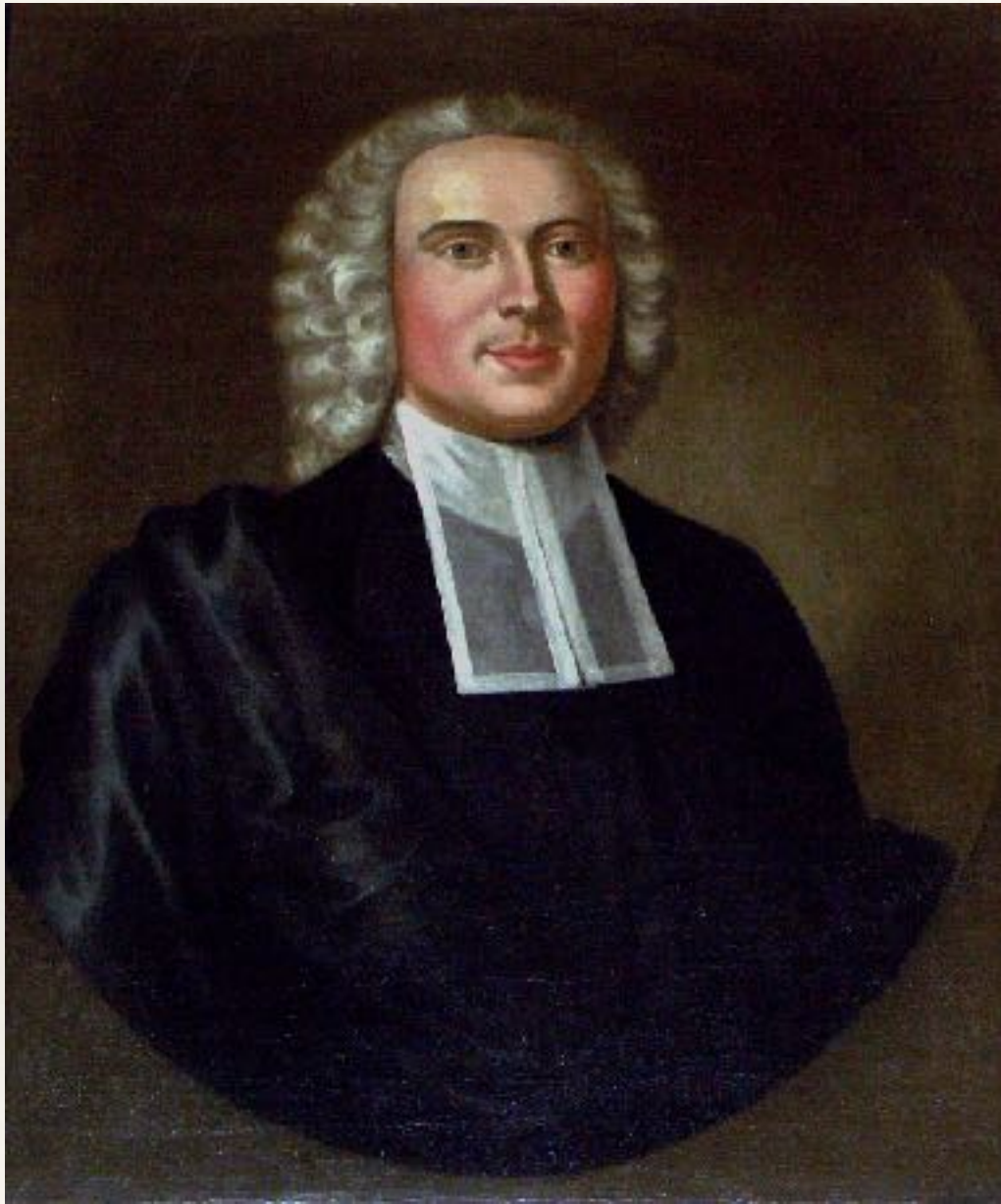
- Called “The Father of Civil and Religious Liberty in Massachusetts and America.”
- He was famous for his 1750 and 1754 election sermons espousing the cause of liberty and the right and duty of the colonists to resist tyranny.



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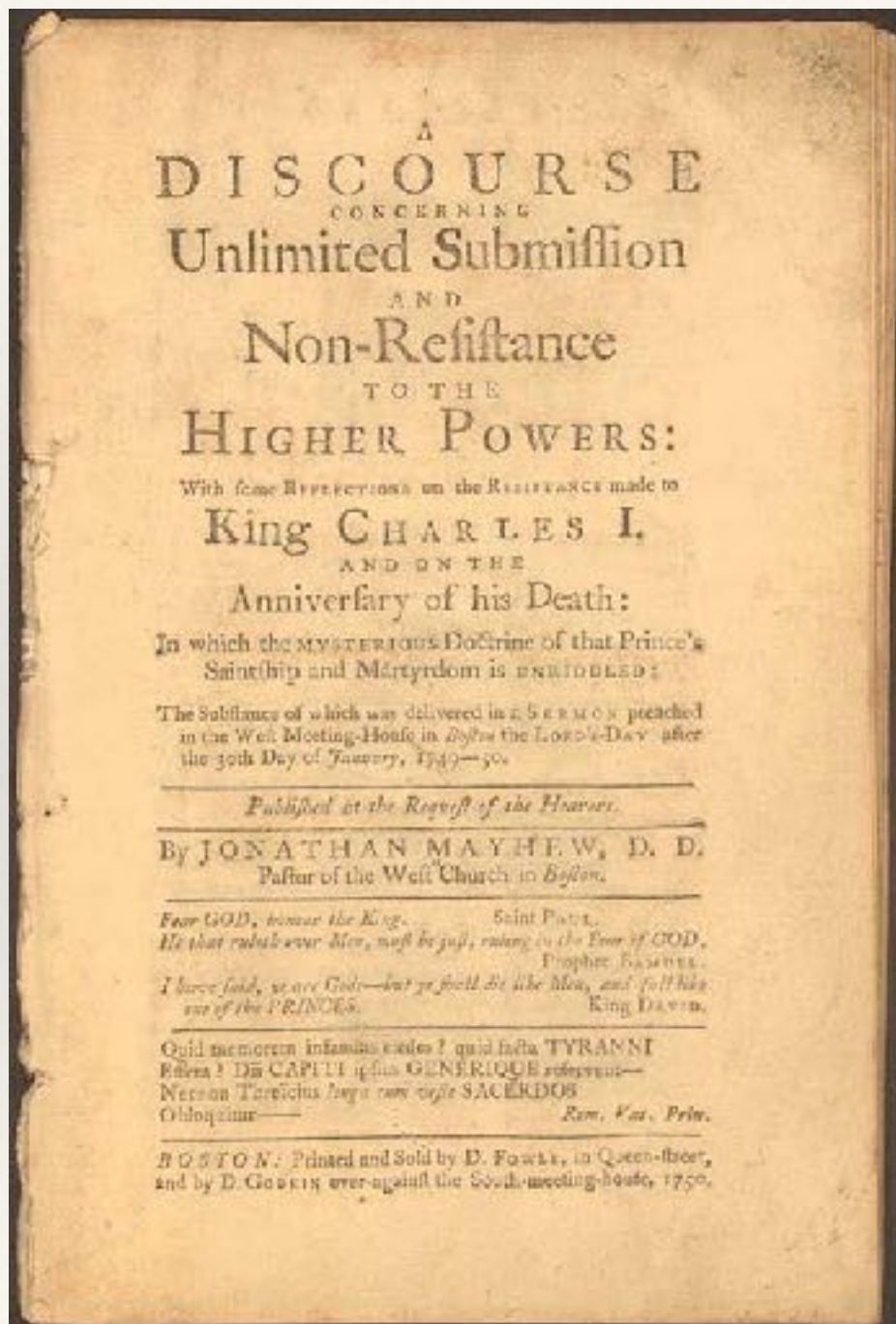
# Jonathan Mayhew

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- Made the phrase “No Taxation Without Representation” famous in a 1750 sermon.
- He opposed the Stamp Act and urged the necessity of colonial union to secure liberty.

# Jonathan Mayhew



- His most famous sermon on:
- “A Discourse Concerning Unlimited Submission and Non-Resistance to the Higher Powers.”
- A Christian has not only the right, but the duty to oppose unjust rulers.



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# John Witherspoon

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- Minister and President of Princeton (College of NJ).
- Also was a signer of the Declaration of Independence.
- Taught James Madison, 77 members of Congress, 3 Supreme Court justices.

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# John Witherspoon

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- Preached “Dominion of Providence Over the Affairs of Men” on May 17, 1776.
- A member said, “We are not ripe for revolution.”
- Witherspoon replied, “Not ripe, Sir, in my judgments, we are not only ripe, but unless some action is taken, we will be rotting.”



Application for Today

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# Resources

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