

## The Second Great Awakening

Learning Objective 4.J: Explain the causes of the Second Great Awakening.

### Causes of the Second Great Awakening

KC-4.1.II.A.i: The rise of democratic and individualistic beliefs, a response to rationalism, and changes to society caused by the market revolution, along with greater social and geographical mobility, contributed to a Second Great Awakening among Protestants.

- Great Awakening
  - Religious revival of many Christian denominations and creation of new ones - Mormons, Millerites
  - Revivals consisted of thousands of followers, sometimes held in rural areas as camp meetings
  - New denominations include \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- Democratic and individualistic beliefs
  - Worshipers attracted to less formal, more participatory, services
  - Ex. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
  - New services focused more on emotion and experience of salvation
  - Ex. \_\_\_\_\_
- Effects of Market Revolution
  - Reaction to growing \_\_\_\_\_ and sin associated with greed
- Social and Geographical Mobility
  - People looking to escape crowded urban areas, open to idea of salvation through faith and hard work
  - Ex. Charles Grandison Finney - \_\_\_\_\_

### Recap

- The Great Awakening was another religious revival reinforcing Calvinist ideas and creating new denomination
- Impacted by market revolution, middle class, democratic sentiment and response to rationalism.

**Part II**

Short Answer Questions

Answer the following in AT LEAST three sentences.

1. Explain the causes of the Second Great Awakening.

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**Revivalist Charles G. Finney Emphasizes Human Choice in Salvation, 1836.**

Retrieved from: <http://www.americanvawp.com/reader/religion-and-reform/revivalist-charles-g-finney-emphasizes-human-choice-in-salvation-1836/>

Thus the world is divided into two great political parties; the difference between them is, that one party choose Satan as the god of this world, yield obedience to his laws, and are devoted to his interest. Selfishness is the law of Satan's empire, and all impenitent sinners yield it a willing obedience. The other party choose Jehovah for their governor, and consecrate themselves, with all their interests, to his service and glory. Nor does this change imply a constitutional alteration of the powers of body or mind, any more than a change of mind in regard to the form or administration of a human government....

Because you have all the powers of moral agency; and the thing required is, not to alter these powers, but to employ them in the service of your Maker. God has created these powers, and you can and do use them. He gives you power to obey or disobey; and your sin is that while he sustains these powers, you prostitute them to the service of sin and Satan....

Sinners make their own wicked hearts. Their preference of sin is their own voluntary act. They make self-gratification the rule to which they conform all their conduct. When they come into being, the first principle that we discover in their conduct, is their determination to gratify themselves. It soon comes to pass that any effort to thwart them in the gratification of their appetites, is met by them with stout resistance, they seem to set their hearts fully to pursue their own happiness, and gratify themselves, come what will; and thus they will successively make war on their nurse, their parents, and their God, when ever they find that their requirements prohibit the pursuit of this end...

1. Provide an Attribution to this document.
2. Use the document to support the thesis: "The Second Great Awakening began and grew as a response to economic and social developments in the period 1800-1848 to a great extent."
3. Provide 2 sentences of analysis from one category of HAPP for this document.
4. Give an A-C-E response on a piece of outside evidence that is relevant to the document and topic of the thesis.

**Lyman Beecher, The Evils of Intemperance, 1827**

Retrieved from: <http://www.williamwhitepapers.com/pr/1833%20Beecher%20Six%20Sermons%20on%20Intemperance.pdf>

When we behold an individual cut off in youth, or in middle age, or witness the waning energies, improvidence, and unfaithfulness of a neighbor, it is but a single instance, and we become accustomed to it; but such instances are multiplying in our land in every direction, and are to be found in every department of labor, and the amount of earnings prevented or squandered is incalculable : to all which must be added the accumulating and frightful expense incurred for the support of those and their families, whom intemperance has made paupers. In every city and town the poor-tax, created chiefly by intemperance, is augmenting. The receptacles for the poor are becoming too strait for their accommodation. We must pull them down and build greater to provide accommodations for the votaries of inebriation ; for the frequency of going upon the town has taken away the reluctance of pride, and destroyed the motives to providence which the fear of poverty and suffering once supplied. The prospect of a destitute old age, or of a suffering family, no longer troubles the vicious portion of our community. They drink up their daily earnings, and bless God for the poor-house, and begin to look upon it as, of right, the drunkard's home, and contrive to arrive thither as early as idleness and excess will give them a passport to this sinecure of vice. Thus is the insatiable destroyer of industry marching through the land, rearing poor-houses, and augmenting taxation : night and day, with sleepless activity, squandering property, cutting the sinews of industry, unennimttg vigor, engendering disease, paralysing intellect, impairing moral principle, cutting short the date of life, and rolling up a national debt, invisible, but real and terrific as the debt of England" continually transferring larger and larger bodies of men, from the class of contributors to the national income, to the class of worthless consumers.

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