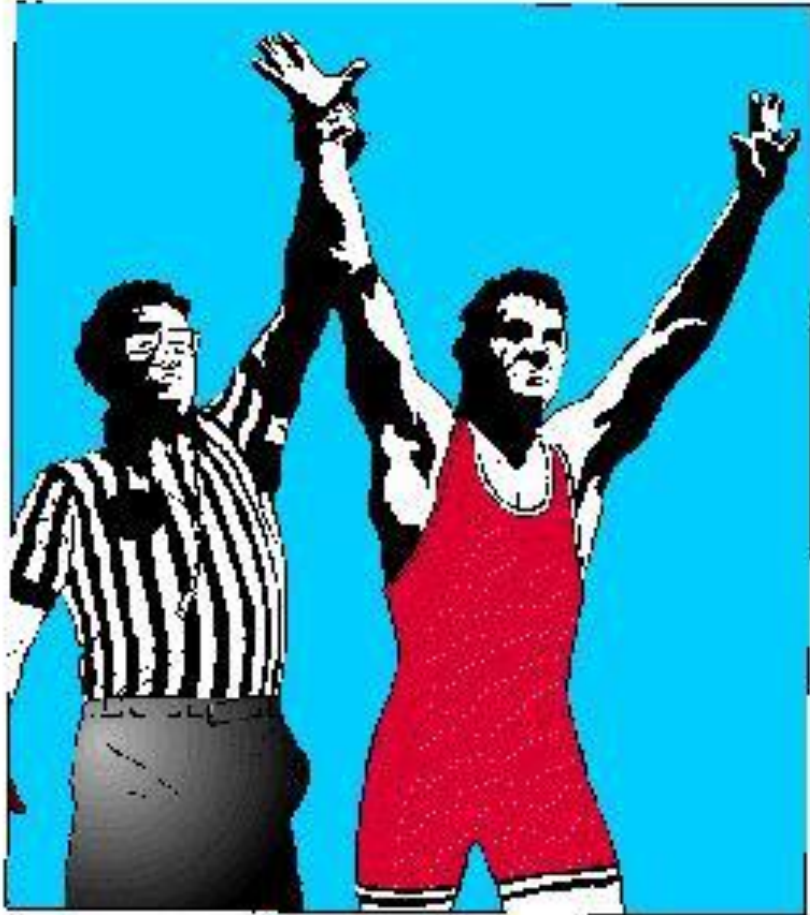


WHEN A CHURCH PRAYS





Prayer and Pushback

**Prayer is the language of the
hurting heart.**

Jesus welcomes the daring.

**I pour out before him my complaint;
before him I tell my trouble.**

Psalm 142:2

“Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. “Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”

Mark 11:22-24

**Silence is not absence.
It is a part of the answer.**

**If I had cherished sin in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.**

Psalm 66:18

**Jesus is wanting to do more than
we ask or expect.**

**The humbling and crushing of life will
lead either to bitterness or prayer.**

**Jesus is drawing you closer
to Himself.**

**Pushback in prayer is not irreverence.
It is what active hope and honest faith
can sound like.**



Martin Luther

1483-1546

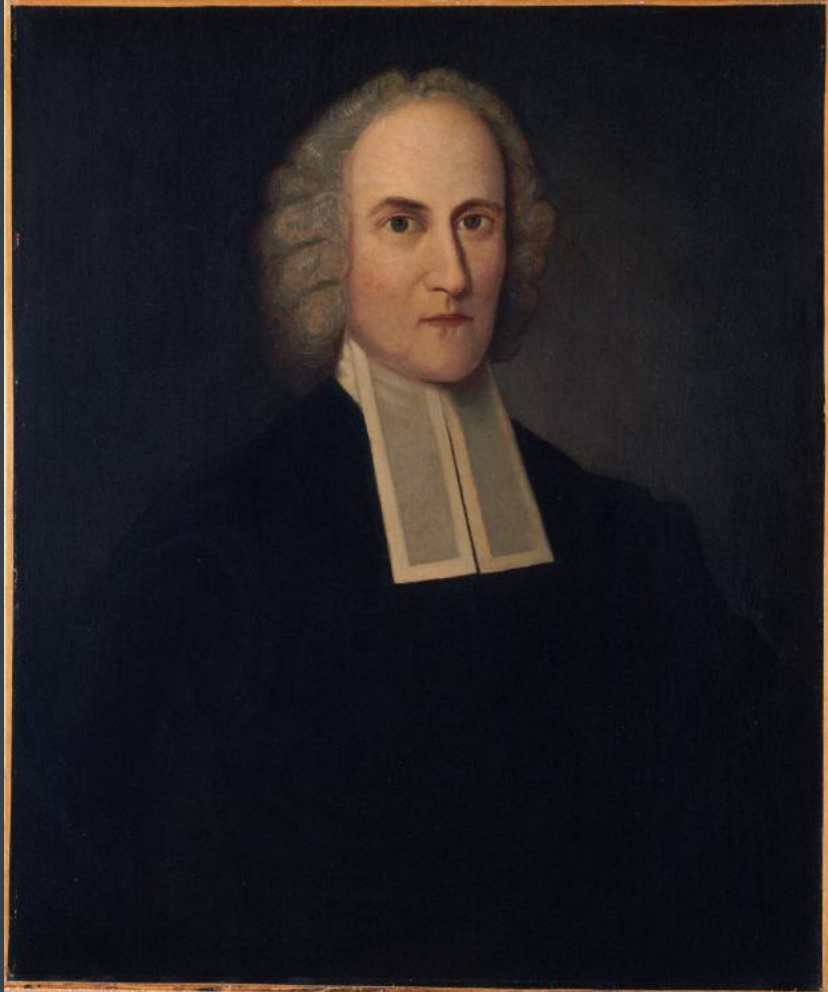
“I attacked [the Almighty] with his own weapons, quoting from Scripture all the promises I could remember, that prayers should be granted, and said that he must grant my prayer, if I was henceforth to put faith in his promises.”

**“[Prayer is] a kind of wrestling
and contending with God, ... a
binding of him with arguments
and promises of His own.”**



Richard Sibbes

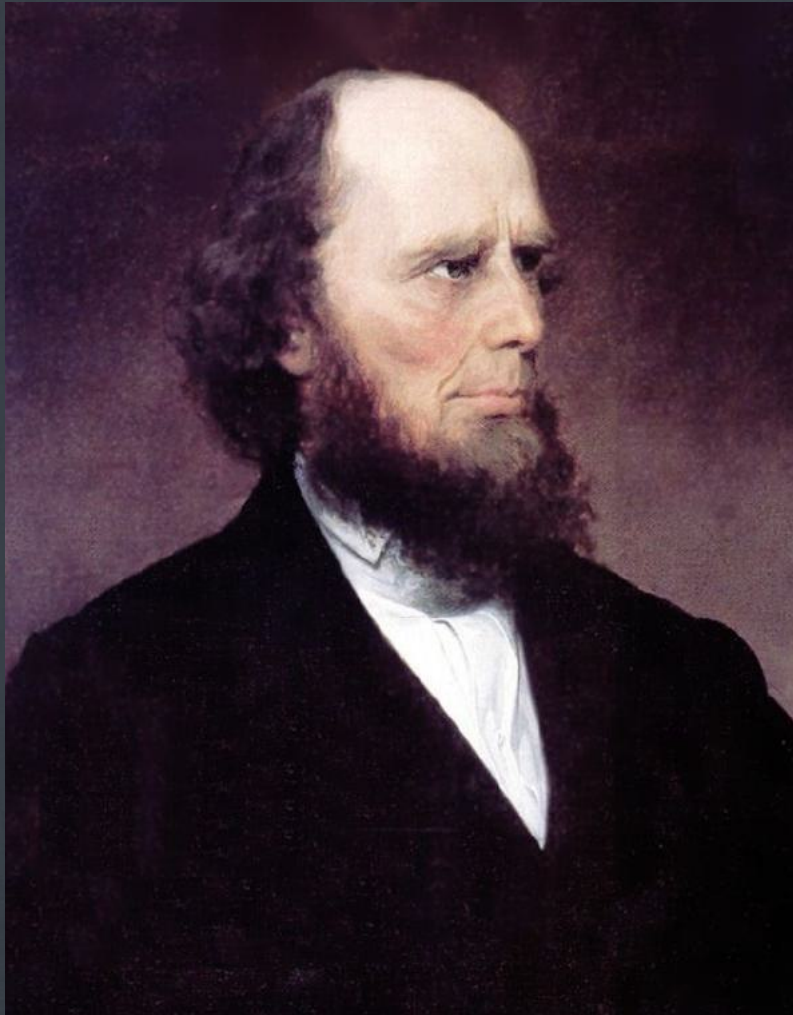
1577-1635



Jonathan Edwards

1703-1758

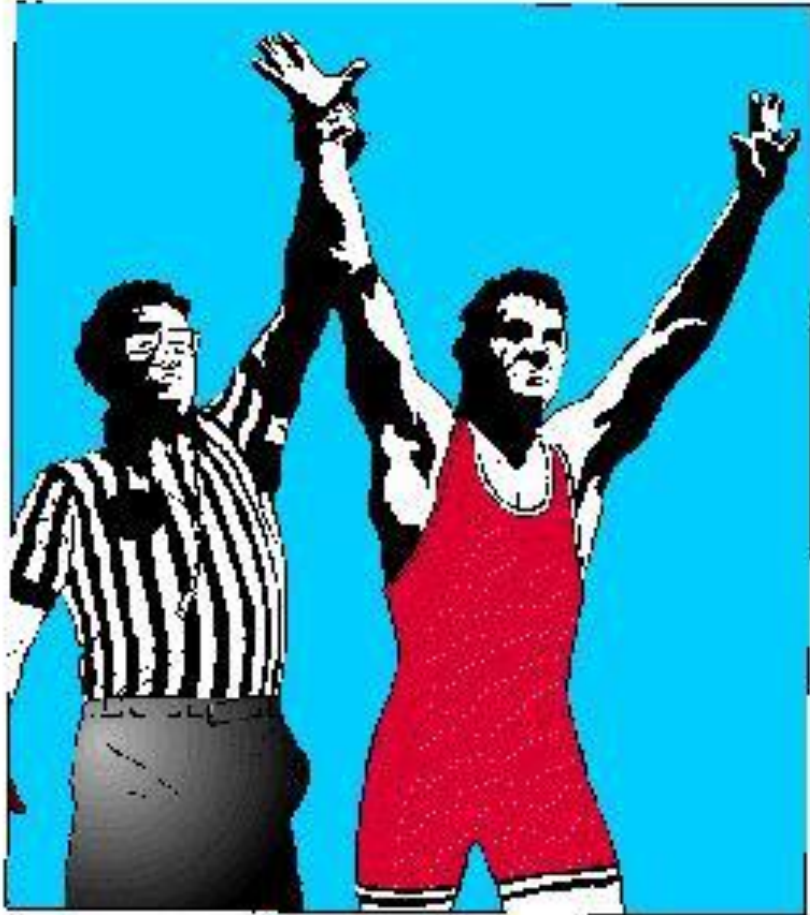
“[This is the] employment that Christians must spend their lives in: wrestling with God in seeking of him, and wrestling with their enemies in resisting them. ... The life of a godly man is a life full of conflicts.”



Charles Finney
1792-1875

“I felt so certain that He would hear me, and that faithfulness to His promises and to Himself rendered it impossible that He should not hear and answer, that frequently I found myself saying to Him, ‘I hope thou dost not think that I can be denied. I come with thy faithful promises in my hand, and I cannot be denied.’”

**Jesus is calling up the
contender in you.**



Prayer and Pushback