



HIDING THE ORIGINAL CHARTER IN THE OAK.

## THE LEGEND OF THE CHARTER OAK

WHEN THE BRITISH  
GOVERNOR CAME TO  
REVOKE CONNECTICUT'S  
CHARTER, LEADERS MET HIM  
AT AN INN ON THE NIGHT OF  
OCTOBER 31, 1687.

AS THEY PLACED THE  
CHARTER ON A TABLE, THE  
ROOM SUDDENLY WENT  
DARK! BY THE TIME  
CANDLES WERE RELIT, THE  
CHARTER HAD VANISHED.

THE DOCUMENT HAD BEEN  
RUSHED OUT AND HIDDEN  
INSIDE OF AN OAK IN  
HARTFORD FOR  
SAFEKEEPING. THE TREE  
ITSELF BECAME AN  
ENDURING SYMBOL OF THE  
COLONISTS' INDEPENDENCE.

## OLD WETHERSFIELD, CT

Although the story has never been confirmed as fact, that didn't stop Connecticut from putting the Charter Oak on its state quarter, and state stamp, and when the tree fell in 1856, the remains were carved into keepsakes and even chairs. (Mark Twain was amused.)

The giant white oak tree, estimated to be 1,000 years old at its demise, lived on through the planting of its acorns across the state.

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# SINNERS

In the Hands of an

## Angry GOD.

# A SERMON

Preached at *Enfield*, July 8th 1741.

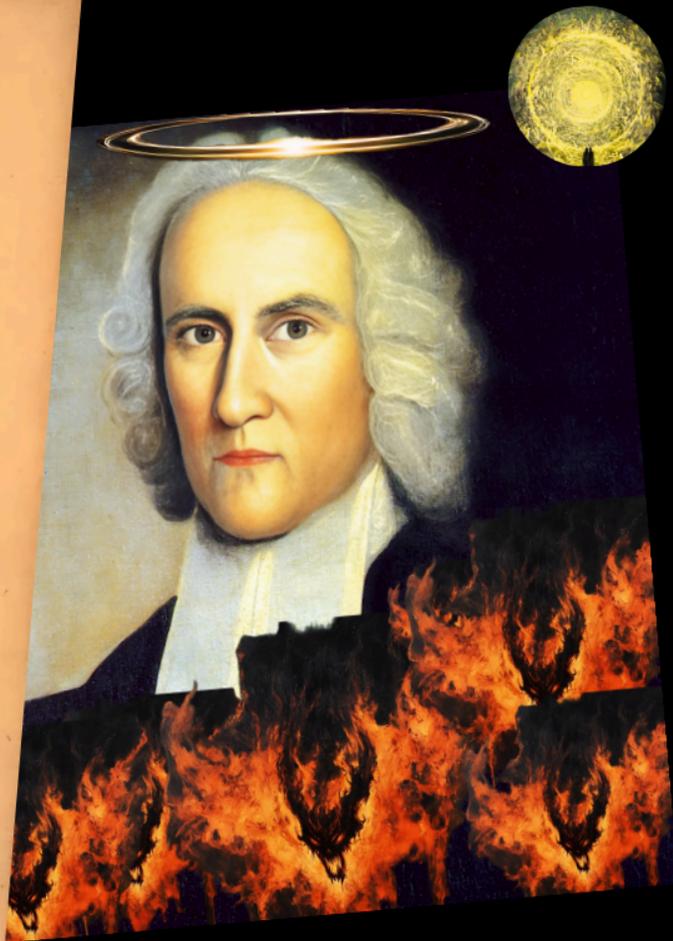
At a Time of great Awakenings; and attended with remarkable Impressions on many of the Hearers.

By *Jonathan Edwards*, A.M.

Pastor of the Church of CHRIST in *Northampton*.

Amos ix. 2, 3. *Though they dig into Hell, thence shall mine Hand take them; though they climb up to Heaven, thence will I bring them down. And though they hide themselves in the Top of Carmel, I will search and take them out thence; and though they be hid from my Sight in the Bottom of the Sea, thence I will command the Serpent, and he shall bite them.*

BOSTON: Printed and Sold by S. KNEELAND and T. GREEN. in Queen-Street over against the Prison. 1741.



## OLD WETHERSFIELD, CT

*"There is nothing that keeps wicked men at any one moment out of hell, but the mere pleasure of God,"* preached Puritan Jonathan Edwards in **Enfield, Connecticut** on July 8, 1741.

"...[T]here was a great moaning and crying out through the whole house," one attendee reported. "...[The] shrieks and cries were piercing and amazing."

Should you be personally agitated by this news, know that **Old Wethersfield's** nearby First Church, founded in 1635, has survived without damnation for nearly 400 years.



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## OLD WETHERSFIELD, CT

Historians agree that most of colonial Wethersfield's famed onion crop had ordinary fates.

Few scholars today take seriously the story of "Wethersfield Red," a mysterious local farmhand, who was rumored to have helped General Washington win the Battle of Trenton.

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“I NEVER THOUGHT THAT A PERSON OF MY RACE COULD EAT ANYWHERE, BUT WE...ATE IN ONE OF THE FINEST RESTAURANTS”...

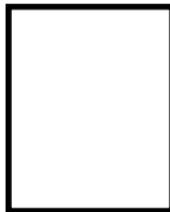
“AFTER THAT SUMMER IN CONNECTICUT, IT WAS A BITTER FEELING GOING BACK TO SEGREGATION. IT WAS HARD TO UNDERSTAND ...”

# OLD WETHERSFIELD, CT

In the summer of 1944, a 15 year-old Martin Luther King, Jr. worked at Simsbury's Cullman Brothers tobacco farm.

Although New England was no paradise of integration, the relative freedom it provided over Atlanta expanded King's sense of what was possible for black American life.

The farm site, now named Meadowood, has been preserved by the Trust for Public Land and is slated to join the Connecticut Freedom Trail.



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