

**JOHN WESLEY: THE
MAN AND
HIS MISSION**

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John Wesley: the man and his mission by G. Holden Pike

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G. HOLDEN PIKE

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BY
G. HOLDEN PIKE

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JOHN WESLEY

CHAPTER I

BIRTH AND EARLY DAYS

THE character and life of John Wesley have been variously represented according to the prejudice or sympathy of individuals. The evangelist was misunderstood by those who did not understand his message. Things which Scripture declares can only be spiritually discerned, are naturally mere 'enthusiasm' to the unenlightened. There was nothing surprising in Southey's characteristic assertion, that the Revival 'was not wanted' in Scotland, and that in that country 'there was no place for it.' Before the great awakening in the early years of the reign of George II., Scotland was as much in need of spiritual religion as any other part of these islands. The manner in which the cause of Christ throughout the world has benefited by the life and testimony of Wesley should teach us that he is not to be regarded as the mere founder of Methodism. Understood in its broad and proper sense, that term embraces all who were brought into the evangelical fold, while they belonged to various denominations.