

MY FREEDOM

"You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 10 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments." – Deuteronomy 5:9-10 NKJV

THE FRUIT OF GENERATIONAL SIN VERSUS GENERATIONAL BLESSING

One interesting example to illustrate why we include a Spiritual Profile in the Freedom Summit experience was provided by Leonard Ravenhill in 1963. He wrote about the life of one American preacher-evangelist, Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758), who also served as the principal of a college. Edwards' belief that God belonged in public schools was contrasted with a contemporary, Max Jukes, who was an atheist. Ravenhill, quoting from a book entitled *Crisis in Morality* by Al Sanders, compared the life of an atheist and a godly man.

THE FRUIT OF GENERATIONAL SIN

Max Jukes, the atheist, lived a godless life. He married an ungodly girl, and from the union there were 310 who died as paupers, 150 were criminals, 7 were murderers, 100 were drunkards, and more than half of the women were prostitutes. His 540 descendants cost the State one and a quarter million dollars.

THE FRUIT OF GENERATIONAL BLESSING

There is [also] a record of a great American man of God, Jonathan Edwards (see image). He lived at the same time as Max Jukes, but he married a godly girl. An investigation was made of 1,394 known descendants of Jonathan Edwards of which 13 became college presidents, 65 college professors, 3 United States senators, 30 judges, 100 lawyers, 60 physicians, 75 army and navy officers, 100 preachers and missionaries, 60 authors of prominence, one a vice-president of the United States, 80 became public officials in other capacities, 295 college graduates, among whom were governors of states and ministers to foreign countries. His descendants did not cost the state a single penny. (Ravenhill, 1963, ¶ 19)

