

Winter History & Heritage -- #5 (Jan. 20)

Philip Doddridge --- (Grant/Wilbur; *Christian Almanac*, Nov. 21)

This English Puritan (1702--1751), like his American contemporary Jonathan Edwards (1703--1758), pastored a Congregational church in a little town named Northampton? Also like Edwards he had a scholarly bent, writing theological works and teaching mathematics, divinity, biblical languages, and philosophy to many non-conformist ministers-in-training. On the pastoral side he authored hundreds of hymns based on the doctrines he preached, including "Hark the Glad Sound!" for Advent.

John Hanson --- (Grant/Wilbur; *Christian Almanac*, Nov. 5)

This American Founder (1721--1783), a Maryland planter, was the first to serve as president of Congress after the Articles of Confederation were ratified (1781)? Like many of his Southern and New England colleagues he leaned "Anti-federalist," fearing a loss of liberty for States should a powerful central government be set up in the wake of the War for Independence. One of his Swedish ancestors fought in Europe's Thirty Years War (1618--1648), while another founded New Sweden on the Delaware River.

William Blake --- (Grant/Wilbur; *Christian Almanac*, Nov. 28)

This gifted English author and artist (1757--1827), a mystic in his approach to faith and creativity, is known popularly for his poems "The Lamb" and "The Tyger"? A man of imagination more than reason, he defied the intellectual and artistic fashions of the 18th-century (1700s), doing himself few favors when it comes to making a living. His later years gave rise to many etchings inspired by Christianity, including illustrations of the Bible (Job especially), Milton's *Paradise Lost*, and Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*.

Faulkner's Nobel Address --- (Grant/Wilbur; *Christian Almanac*, Nov. 26)

This 1950 address, delivered by the first to win the Nobel Prize for literature from America's Southland, exhorted modern writers to return to their true moral vocation? Authors nowadays, the fictional creator of Yoknapatawpha County suggested, are cursed by their obsession with "the end of man," a pathetic creature desperate for some satisfaction on the road to annihilation. Only "the old verities and truths of the heart," he said, could point poets anew to humanity's real purpose, promise, and peril.

Southern Christian Leadership Council (SCLC) -- (*Christian Almanac*, Nov. 7)

This mid-20th-century civil rights organization took up the cause of all America's poor, black and white, especially the victims of segregation in the Southern States? Founded in 1957 by Ralph Abernathy and Martin Luther King, Jr., Baptist ministers who led the Montgomery (AL) Bus Boycott two years earlier, the organization quickly eclipsed others also pressing for the rights of African-Americans. Some, however, criticized it for cozying up to whites with appeals for reform rather than revolution.

(sources for the summaries are indicated; any errors of judgment belong to Mr. Zaffini, Veritas history teacher and writer of this post for his students & families)