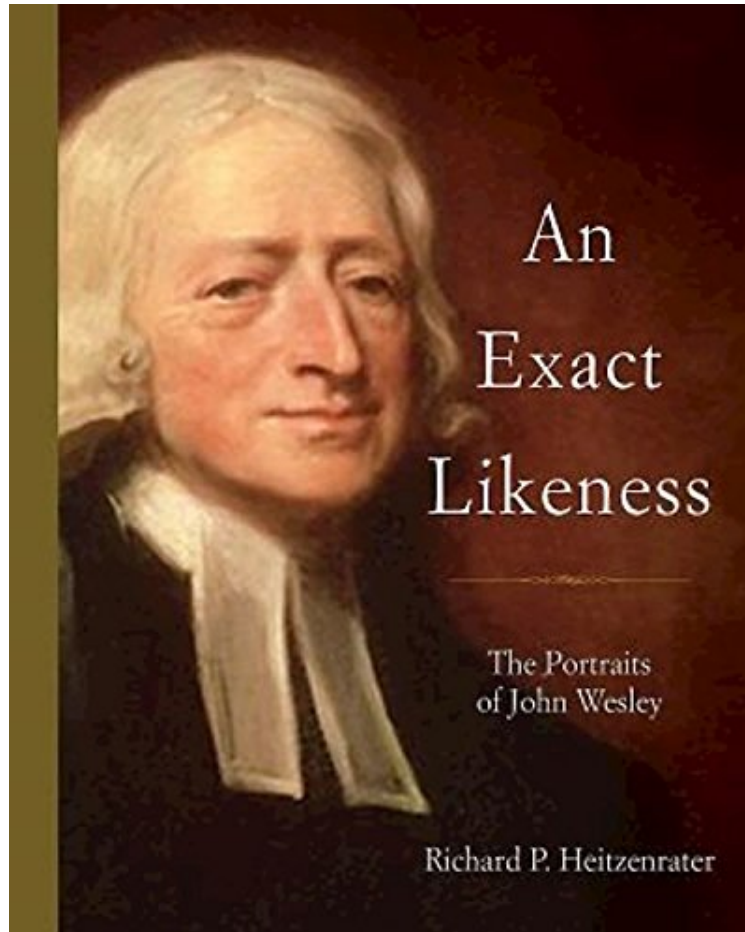


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An Exact Likeness: The Portraits of John Wesley

Richard P. Heitzenrater

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1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Heitzenrater is always worth a good read, if you're an admirer---even grudgingly--of John WesleyBy Roger L. LoydHeitzenrater is always worth a good read, if you're an admirer---even grudgingly--of John Wesley. An excellent book about portraits of JW.

Faces are more than a montage of organs that see, breathe, speak, hear, eat, sing, smell, and yell. As Josephine Tey points out in her mystery novel, *The Daughter of Time*, the slant of an eyebrow, the set of a mouth, the look of the eye, the firmness of a chin, often can provide evidence of character that is as telling as a report card or a police blotter. Those features depicted on portraits of individuals can be equally telling of the person's inner nature or perhaps of what the artist thinks (or wants the viewer to think) about the person being portrayed. Sometimes a portrait might be even more useful than a biography. While examining these portraits, the author considers three questions: what was Wesley's attitude toward the portrait (if any), how did the public respond to these portrayals, and what was the

artist attempting to convey? This book focuses on the main portraits and their derivatives, looking at them within the three main categories that developed over the years: Oxford don, Methodist preacher, and notable person. Although these types seemed to arise in chronological order, there is some overlap between categories, especially toward the end of Wesley's life and beyond.

About the AuthorRichard P. Heitzenrater is William Kellon Quick Professor Emeritus of Church History and Wesley Studies at The Divinity School, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina; and General Editor of the Bicentennial Edition of the Works of John Wesley. He is also a member of the board of Kingswood Books. He lives in Durham, North Carolina.