

Table 1

**American Cycles in Religiosity and Their
Political Impact**

Great Awakening religious	Phase of religious revival	Phase of rising political impact of the revival	Phase of increasing challenge to dominance of the revival's political program
First	<u>1730-1760</u> weakening of predestination doctrine by recognizing possibility that even sinners may be predestined for salvation; rise of the ethic of benevolence	<u>1760-1790</u> attack on British corruption; American Revolution	<u>1790-1820</u> breakup of revolutionary coalition
Second	<u>1800-1840</u> anyone can achieve saving grace through inner and outer struggle against sin; widespread adoption of the ethic of benevolence; upsurge of millennialism	<u>1840-1870</u> abolitionist, temperance, and nativist movements; attack on corruption of South; Civil War	<u>1870-1900</u> replacement of prewar evangelical leaders; Darwinian crisis; urban crisis
Third	<u>1890-1930</u> shift from emphasis on personal to social sin; more secular interpretation of bible and creed	<u>1930-1970</u> attack on the corruption of big business and the rich; labor reforms; civil rights and women's rights movements	<u>1970-199?</u> attack on liberal reforms; defeat of ERA rise of tax revolt; Christian Coalition and other political expressions of enthusiastic religion;
Fourth	<u>1960-?</u> return to sensual religion and reassertion of mystical content of Bible; reassertion of personal sin	<u>1990-?</u> attack on materialist corruption; pro-life, MADD, and animal rights movements; expansion of tax revolt; attack on entitlements	<u>?</u>