

Analysis Guide: “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God” (1741)  
 by Jonathan Edwards  
 The Puritan Worldview & Metaphor Practice

**Part One: The Basics**

Who is the speaker? What do we know about him?		Who is his <b>audience</b> ?	
<b>Predict:</b> What might the <b>author’s purpose</b> be? How might he accomplish this goal?			

**Part Two: Analysis**

1. In the first section, Edwards uses the bible verse “Their foot shall slide in due time” to create an **extended metaphor**. Explain the metaphor. What is he saying about humanity and its destruction?

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2. In the second section, what does Edwards say about the relationship between God and man?

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3. In the last paragraph of page 1 and the first paragraph of page 2, Edwards describes three metaphors. Explain each one (What things are being compared? What does he mean to say?)

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4. How does he want his audience to feel when they hear these metaphors about God's power and wrath? (Think about his **audience**).

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5. In the third section ("Application"), what does Edwards say his purpose is? What kind of **imagery** does he use in this section? What **effect** would that have on his **audience**?

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6. Explain one of the **metaphors** in the second-to-last paragraph.

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7. Explain the final metaphor of the document. What does this tell us about how the puritans viewed God?

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