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By Aaron Spencer Fogleman

University of Pennsylvania Press, United States, 2008.

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Awakening, a group of religious radicals called Moravians

came to North America from Germany to pursue ambitious

missionary goals. How did the Protestant establishment react

to the efforts of this group, which allowed women to preach,

practiced alternative forms of marriage, sex, and family life,

and believed Jesus could be female? Aaron Spencer Fogleman

explains how these views, as well as the Moravians missionary

successes, provoked a vigorous response by Protestant

authorities on both sides of the Atlantic. Based on documents

in German, Dutch, and English from the Old World and the

New, Jesus Is Female chronicles the religious violence that

erupted in many German and Swedish communities in colonial

America as colonists fought over whether to accept the

Moravians, and suggests that gender issues were at the heart

of the raging conflict. Colonists fought over the feminine,

ecumenical religious order offered by the Moravians and the

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Reformed clergy. This episode reveals both the potential and

the limits of radical religion in early America. Though

religious...



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