

JONES, THOMAS (1761 - 1831), Calvinistic Methodist minister and Biblical commentator

Name: Thomas Jones
Date of birth: 1761
Date of death: 1831
Child: David Jones
Gender: Male
Occupation: Calvinistic Methodist minister and Biblical commentator
Area of activity: Literature and Writing; Religion
Author: Robert Thomas Jenkins

Born, says *Y Gwyddoniadur*, at Esgair in Llanpumpsaint parish, Carmarthenshire, but according to others at Trebedw, Capel Drindod, Cardiganshire; in any case he lived long enough at Llanpumpsaint to be widely known as 'Thomas of Llanpumpsaint.' He moved to Carmarthen, chiefly to be a press-corrector; he was there in 1796. It was long thought that he saw through the press the *Bible* edited by **Peter Williams**, published in 1770, but the dates show that this cannot be right, and **D. E. Jenkins** has suggested that Jones was concerned rather with the press-correcting of 'John Canne's *Bible*,' in the edition published in 1796 to compete with **Peter Williams** and **David Jones**'s edition of the same work.

Thomas Jones became a pillar of Calvinistic Methodism in the town, and was one of the trustees of the 1813 chapel. He preached in Welsh and in English not only in Calvinistic Methodist but also in Huntingdonian chapels in all parts of Wales; the date of his ordination is not known, but he was not (as is sometimes said) one of the ordinands of 1811. He was the first Biblical commentator among the Welsh Methodists, publishing commentaries on the Pentateuch, 1809-12; Job, 1818; Canticles, 1820; and Hebrews, 1830. He died 17 or 18 January 1831, 'aged 70,' and was buried in front of Water Street chapel.

David Jones (1793 - 1825) was his son.

Author

Emeritus Professor Robert Thomas Jenkins, (1881 - 1969)

Sources

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Gomer M. Roberts, *Bywyd a Gwaith Peter Williams* (Cardiff 1943), 120

Catalogue of Printed Literature in the Welsh Department, Cardiff Free Libraries (1898)

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