

DAVID, REES (alive in 1746), early Arminian Baptist

Name: Rees David
Gender: Male
Occupation: early Arminian Baptist
Area of activity: Religion
Author: Robert Thomas Jenkins

of whom very little is known. According to [Walter J. Evans](#) (N.L.W. MS. 10327), he was at Carmarthen under [Perrott](#); but the only similar name in Wilson's list of [Perrott](#)'s students (Dr. Williams's library, copy in N.L.W. MS. 373) is the '[Rees Davies](#)' who is there identified with [Rees Davies](#) of Canerw; neither identification is wholly convincing. Rees David, however, was not a minister but a schoolmaster. In 1720 or 1721 he published a Welsh translation of the Baptist Association's *Confession of Faith*. This has been wrongly attributed to [Jenkin Jones](#) of Llwyn-rhyd-owen (1700? - 1742), an attribution not only improbable in itself but contradicted by the 'R.D.' appended to the book and to its preface. On the other hand, [Joshua Thomas](#), oddly enough, credits David with *Llun Agrippa*, 1723 (a version of Matthew Mead's book), although preface and title-page bear the name of [Jenkin Jones](#). It seems that David's school was in or near Newcastle Emlyn : he was one of the signatories of a letter sent to Rhydwylym church from Llandysul in 1725. But in 1729 he adopted Arminian views, and removed to keep school at Hengoed, Glamorganshire, where [Charles Winter](#) lived. In the doctrinal disputes at Hengoed (1730), David refused to compromise, and turned his back both on Hengoed and on the Baptist denomination, becoming an inn-keeper in Brecknock. He died at Brecon 'several years after 1746' according to [Joshua Thomas](#), who knew him and describes him as 'a good-living, quiet, inoffensive man' (*Hanes y Bedyddwyr*, 378-9).

Author

Emeritus Professor Robert Thomas Jenkins, (1881 - 1969)

Published date: 1959

Article Copyright: <http://rightsstatements.org/page/InC/1.0/> 

The Dictionary of Welsh Biography is provided by The National Library of Wales and the University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies. It is free to use and does not receive grant support. A donation would help us maintain and improve the site so that we can continue to acknowledge Welsh men and women who have made notable contributions to life in Wales and beyond.

Find out more on our [sponsorship page](#).

