Notes for America and all nations from The American Covenant – The Untold Story by Marshall Foster

1. Biblical Foundations:

Gen 1:1 "In the beginning, God.." The Lord declares His sovereignty, preexistence and oneness. When He makes man, Gen 1:26-28, He says "Let Us make man in Our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion.. Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it.." God gives a world-encompassing commission to care for His creation. Christ says: Luke 19:13 "Occupy til I come." Satan's defeat is promised through the death and resurrection of Christ (Gen 3:15). When Cain and Abel offered the first fruits of their labor to God, they declared God's ownership of the earth and their desire to be good stewards of it. After the flood, God repeated the dominion mandate to Noah. Gen 9:1-4. Just as men lost sight of their unique God-created individuality after the fall, men changed dominion into domination over their fellowmen. They destroyed with war. They forgot the one God and bowed to other gods. God communicated with mankind in covenants and made a covenant with one faithful man, Abraham. "God said in Gen 12:3, In you shall all families be blessed." It was God's intention that Abraham and his descendants would bring the unbelieving world back to God, restoring a right relationship between the individual and His Lord. In Ps 8:4-6 God revealed to individuals their importance in His divine plan "What is man, that You are mindful of him?.. You made him to have dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet."

God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob preserved our forefathers as they covenanted to establish a *Nation* for His honor. To prepare His people for their task, God gave them His Law, His prophets and His presence. **Deut 14:21 For you are a holy people unto the LORD our God." Gal 3:8.**

The laws of America have presupposed the Bible as the foundation of our representative government from the beginning.

Josh 1:8 "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

Ps 112:1-2 "How blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in His commandments. His descendants will be mighty on earth; the generation of the upright will be blessed." God has acted through history to spiritually renew entire generations in times of impending crisis.

Biblical history: Deuteronomy speaks to a new generation and relates how their fathers died in the wilderness, having forgotten God's Law and their covenants. Deut 5:15 "And Remember that you were a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD your God brought you out through a mighty hand and by a stretched-out arm.." But instead of following God's plan of self-government under His Law, they demanded to be ruled by a king. Instead of transforming a pagan world, they conformed to its view of men. Heedless of the warnings of their prophets, Israel was taken captive by a pagan people. But during the darkest days of the Babylon-ian captivity, the prophet Jeremiah predicted that one day, the Lord will

Christ entered a dying world as the author of a new and imperishable life.

write His Law on the hearts of His people by the presence of the Holy Spirit (Jer 31:33).

Robert C Winthrop, statesman, gave warning in 1849, facing civil war, "turn back to the Bible or face catastrophe" Men may as well build their houses upon the sand and expect to see them stand, when the rains fall, and the winds blow, and the floods come, as to found free institutions upon any other basis than that of morality and virtue, of which the Word of God is the only authority.

2. In the Reformation, Calvin shaped our republic with a Biblical theology of the sinfulness of all men and recognized that only by God's sovereign grace could man be redeemed. His teaching emphasized the laws of God, the priesthood of believers (as opposed to a priestly class in authority over the many), and the covenantal character of God's government resting on the truth of God's sovereignty over every sphere of life. With availability of a Bible, people were restored to the knowledge of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and gained liberty of conscience and as self-governing Christians, rose to challenge political tyrants. As Reformation puritan converts, they left Great Britan and fled to Holland and then to the new world of America to worship God freely as they learned from the Bible.

3. America Makes a Covenant with God.

The self-governing Christians or Pilgrims on the Mayflower made a covenant with God and wrote the Mayflower Compact: "In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign Lord, King James, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, king, defender of the faith, having undertaken for the glory of God and advancement of the Christian faith, and honor of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the Northern parts of Virginia, do by these presents solemnly and mutually in the presence of God and of one another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civic body politic, for our better ordering & preservation and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the colony, unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cape Cod, Nov 11, 1620.

The <u>Declaration of Independence</u> ends with the acknowledgement of the sovereignty of God, in which the Founders <u>covenanted together to form a nation</u>: "And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our <u>lives</u>, our fortunes and our sacred honor." July 4, 1776

God blessed America because our forefathers built their *Nation* with reliance on Him and His Word

in covenants Deut 7:9 "Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love Him & keep His commandments to a thousand generations." They also knew that if they broke their covenant with God instead of walking in His loving ways, God's favor would be withdrawn, personal and national calamity would befall them.

4. The Self-Governing Christian: Saved by faith in Christ; freed from Bondage of Sin and Guilt.

Yes! 2000 years ago, Almighty God unleashed the most powerful world-changing force on the world.

Jesus restates God's original and unchanging purpose for mankind by expressing His love for each individual in the parable of the lost sheep: Luke 15:7 "Likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repents, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

2Pet 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

Not Humanistic individualism of a man-centered universe, with no moral absolutes to control man which leads to anarchy but Christian individuality of a God-centered universe with the individual controlled by God's laws, he has all the power to subdue God's earth to His glory. Gal 3:28 "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for you are all one in Christ Jesus." They are from all nations and walks of life expanding God's kingdom in covenant with Him.

- 5. Our Nation was established as a Christian Nation because it was founded on the Christian view of man and government. George Washington: "True religion offers the government its surest support." Biblical Christianity, lived out in the lives of individuals and institutions, has brought the greatest degree of liberty, prosperity, creativity and peace that the world has known. Jesus never called for an external theocracy but offered freely an internal transformation of life that would lead to external transformations of society and to a better life for all. We have learned that self-government begins first with the individual aligning himself with the will of God, then caring for himself and others and applying Biblical principles to all areas of his life. He is progressively proving: 1Jn 5:4 "For whatever is born of God overcomes the world.." He is not dominated by the world, he shapes it according to God's will. Missionaries must not only bring the verbal Gospel of salvation, which is primary. We must also communicate and exemplify the Biblical principles of a Christian nation.
- 6. **Samuel Adams** in 1790 encouraged the study and practice of the virtues that produced the people who formed our *Nation*. The Ten Commandments were God's standard for moral purity. **He** said, "He therefore is the truest friend to the liberty of his country who tries most to promote its virtue, and who, so far as his power and influence extend, will not suffer a man to be chosen into any office of trust who is not a wise and virtuous man.." **If a democracy is to succeed, it must rest on a strong moral base**.
- 7. It is the duty of all *Nations* to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty God. to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor." Ps 78:5-8 He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a Law in Israel, which He commended our fathers to teach to their children that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, andrise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God but keep His commandments; and not be a rebellious or unfaithful generation. Historical founding documents reveal references to faith in the Providential hand of God passed directly to them from the Reformers. A. George Washington testified "By the miraculous care of Providence, that protected me beyond all human expectations; I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot from under me, and yet escaped unhurt." B. The Fundamental Orders of Connecticut (1683), America's first constitution Preamble, "For as much as it has pleased the Almighty God by the wise disposition of His divine Providence so to order and dispose of things.. became pattern for the American Constitution C. Providential landing of the Mayflower, at Cape Cod: bound for Virginia, blown hundreds of miles off course to Cape Cod where they discovered Plymouth, safe since fierce Patuxet tribe was wiped out by a plague. D. A special man sent by God: Squanto, a survivor of Patuxet tribe. Previously kidnapped and taken to England, fluent in English, helped the Pilgrims at Plymouth as an interpreter for peace treaty with Wampanoag chief, Massasoit which lasted fifty years and was converted to Christianity. E. In 1746, New England stood still in fasting and prayer and saw the salvation of God when an attacking French fleet was shattered by storms. F. The hand of God rescued George Washington's army, when trapped by English General Howe. Under cover of fog, Washington successfully evacuated 8000 troops by night,

All people must see that the <u>God of the Bible controls history, acts in history through Providential</u> events to show forth His Glory. Isa 43:7 "Even everyone that is called by My name, I have created <u>Him for My glory."</u> 1Cor 10:31 "..do all to the glory of God." The Providential View of <u>History</u> *Creation *Birth of Christ *God's Controlling *Christ's 2nd Coming *Fullness of God's Purpose Gen 1:1 Matt 1:18-25 Course of History Rev 19:11 – 20:4 1Cor 15:24-28.

8. Americans have forgotten our covenant – our response to the Purpose of God.

The decline in America would never have come to pass if Amerian Christians had known the distinctively Christian nature of our government, and had not turned our backs on our heritage and had not stepped aside into a purely personal religion, leaving government to secular humanists. George Washington said in his Inaugural Speech, "The propitious smiles of Heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal order and right, which Heaven itself has ordained." He warns that the success of our one-of-a-kind experiment in liberty rests upon our obedience to eternal laws. Abraham Lincoln said, "Those who fight the purpose of the Almighty will not succeed. They always have been, always will be, beaten."

President Harry Truman spoke against John Dewey's progressive socialist education in 1950: "The fundamental basis of this nation's laws was given to Moses on the Mount.. If we don't have a fundamental moral background, we will end up with no rights for anyone but the state. **President Ronald Reagan** warned, "if we ever forget that we are One Nation under God, than we will be a nation gone under."

Can We Win? JC Ryle, 19th century theologian says, "The world before and after the introduction of Christianity was as different as light and darkness. It was Christianity that starved idolatry, elevated the position of women, raised the whole tone of morality and improved the condition of children and the poor." When Protestant Christians came to America, they worshipped God, and His Son, Jesus Christ, as the Savior of the world and acknowledged the Scriptures to be the rule of their faith & practice. They introduced their religion into their families, schools, and colleges. They abstained from all ordinary business on the Lord's Day to devote it to religion. They built churches, erected schoolhouses, and taught their children to read the Bible to obey as the Word of God. They formed themselves into municipal and state organizations. They acknowledged God in their legislative assemblies and declared Christianity to be part of the commn Law of the land. All people were allowed equal rights and privileges to acquire property, vote and worship as they please.

Now, the infidel demands that government be conducted on the principle that Christianity is false. The Atheist demands that it should be conducted on assumption that there is no God. New textbooks deprive the American Republic of the incentive to participate in public affairs. There is only one force strong enough to combat tyrants and to help us heal what divides us. That force is the self-governing Christian who lives by the Word of God and loves God and his neighbor.

9. The Enemy of God speaks up. *Ideas determine consequences. An idea right or wrong that captures the minds of a *Nation*'s youth will work its way into every area of society. Over the last century, the ideas of a few become dominant philosophy in America. Socialism: Karl Marx 1905; and in 1941, John Dewey promoting Progressive Education. They see man as an economic unit caught in a class struggle between the "haves" and "have nots." From Friedrich Nietzsche and Arnold Toynbee came views of pessimism and determinism. Since all of life is an endless repetition of birth and death, many college students say, "There is no meaning to individual existence." Lost in a fatalistic, universal cycle, they deny the sovereignty of God & His Word. Communism and Marxism, believe all authority comes from the state not God. That affects all the other God-ordained spheres of human life: family, church, society.

But God has providentially placed us in a time when we can not only expose the failures of the humanistic worldview, but offer an historically proven Scripturally sound Christian faith.

10. Our economic and political future rests in our own hands, through our obedience to God. As we, renew our Covenant with God and with each other, to protect our God-given natural rights: life, liberty, property, together with the right to support and defend them in the best manner they can. For those who are experiencing God's hand of judgment: In Rev 2:4-5 Jesus told the Church at Ephesus, they had abandoned their first love. Remember from what heights we have fallen, Repent and ask God's forgiveness, and Repeat the deeds done at first. Then we can Reverse our present downward spiral and become once again a shining light to the nations. We must ponder the price we have paid for not maintaining our Christian heritage of liberty. Will we lose it?

<u>Is there a plan for individuals and Nations to be free?</u> Isa 61:1; Lk 4:18 "<u>The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor: He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised (oppressed)."</u>

Awaken America. Deep within the American character including those leaning toward socialism, there lingers a <u>Christian conscience ready to be revived by the Spirit of God</u>. We as a <u>Nation</u> have been used <u>to spread the message of Christ to the world to build a biblically based civilization</u> expanding in Asia, in Africa, and in Central and South America. Now a new day is dawning.

- 11. Prov 29:18 "Where there is no vision the people perish." As we repair our own nation and put it in order, we shall then be in a position to reach other nations with God's will for them through salvation in Christ. Every Nation can be a Nation under God if it chooses to follow Jesus Christ A Knowledge of God's Hand in history assures us: Ps 33:12 "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD" Prov 14:34 "Righteousness exalts a nation, but when the wicked sin is a reproach to any people." Prov 29:2 "When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked bear rule, the people mourn." 2Chron 7:14 "If My people, which are called by My name, Shall humble themselves, And Pray, and Seek My face, and Turn from their wicked ways; Then will I hear from heaven, and Will Forgive their sin, and Will heal their land." What will save a Nation? It's us, when we seek God, Hold forth His Word; Live our faith as we love Him with all our heart and love others before ourselves; and tell His Gospel that will bring people to Him. Our hope is in God. Ps 2:10-12 The Bible teaches that every nation is called upon to obey Christ: "Be wise now therefore, O you kings: Be instructed ye judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and ye perish from the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Either a Nation will build itself upon a foundation of God's Word or create for itself destruction by kindling the Son's wrath. Blessed are all they that put their trust in Him. In Matt 28:19-20 Jesus gives us orders to teach all Nations .. to obey all that He has commanded"
- 12. Strategy Of Success 1. We Must Know our Goal! 1Pet 4:11 "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God gives: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever.

 2. We Must Know our Assets: Lk 14:28 "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sits not down and counts the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish." Jesus Christ gave us His Spirit and His Word and said Jn 14:12 "Greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father."

 3. We must Know the chain of critical events needed to accomplish a goal Prov 4:23 For from the heart come the issues of life Change the hearts of men) then the external results (liberty, justice, love) would follow.

Step 1. The Self-Governing Individual Christian is God's Building Block for a Christian Nation
Prov 25:28 "A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls. In 1654, Hugo
Grotius, a Dutch diplomat and theologian stated, "He knows not how to rule a kingdom that cannot
manage a Province; nor can he wield a Province that cannot order a City; nor he order a City that knows
not how to regulate a Village; nor he a Village that cannot a Family; nor can that man Govern well a
Family that knows not how to Govern himself; neither can any Govern himself unless his reason be Lord,
Will and Appetite her vassals: nor can Reason rule unless herself be ruled by God, and wholly be obedient
to Him." The Founders understood that dependence upon God was the only true insurance that the
sin nature of man could be restrained and his great potential for good unleashed. Come to the one
true God by faith in Jesus Christ. In 8:36 "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." United
with the Word of God and faith, the Christian will do all that his Lord has commanded.

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There are those who say, "All you can do is pray." One pastor asked another if he had any farmers in his church and he said he did. Then he said, "Why don't we go back to our churches and tell our farmers not to plant their spring crops, but to simply pray & believe; if it's God's will, we will have a great harvest in the fall". Yes, prayer is important, but if we do not sow our seeds into every area of life, we will have no harvest to reap but the destruction of our liberty and the rise of totalitarianism.

Step 2. The Self-Governing Christian Family

The most important institution for the saving and preserving of the world is the family. The destruction of the family, as in this generation, is a sure sign of impending cultural collapse. The Christian self-governing home of godly dominion is the hope for the future of the nation. God ordained the family institution in Genesis chapter 1, and throughout the Bible He gives their responsibilities for the care of its members, and the education and discipline of its children in religious and moral values. Ps 127:3-4 "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the and of a warrior are the children of one's youth." If we, the Christian parents in America, would make the sacrificial decision to send our children to quality Bible-based private schools or home schools, the battle for our nation would be well on the road to victory. We who have the means must develop scholarship funds to help those who cannot afford it. The curriculum must reflect the godly educational philosophy of our Founding Fathers and should train our youth to be self-governing citizens of this great land. The Bible's strategy for successful child training is Deut 6:4-12 [Shema]

- 1. <u>Know God:</u> Deut 6:4 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, is one LORD." 2. <u>Love the Lord:</u> Deut 6:5 "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." Parents are then ready to share God's view of the world through their sincere love and faith for Him.
- 3. <u>Teach God's Truth to your Children:</u> Deut 6:6-7 "And these words, which I command you this day, shall be in your heart; And you shall teach them diligently unto your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up."
- 4. Mark yourself and your home with obedience to God's Law: Deut 6:8-9 "And you shall bind them for a sign upon your hand and they shall be as frontlets before your eyes, You shall write them upon the doorposts of your house and on your gates." 5. Expect Blessings for 1000 Generations: Deut 6:10-12 Here is a promise of blessings that follows obedience that by faith obey God.

We must teach our children the sacrifice of our fathers that ensured our liberty and the Providence of God in the founding of our nation in order to give them hope for the future.

Step 3. The Self-Governing Church "Jesus of Nazareth, without money or arms, conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed or Napoleon; without science and learning, He shed more light on things human and divine than all the philosophers and scholars combined; without the eloquence of the school, He spoke words of life such as were never spoken before, nor since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of orator or poet. Without writing a single line, He has set more pens in motion and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, works of art, learned volumes, and sweet songs of praise than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times. Born in a manger and crucified as a malefactor, He now controls the destinies of the civilized world and rules a spiritual empire which embraces one-third of.. the globe." Jesus Christ and His Army of Compassion: the Ecclesia is permeating and reconciling the world to God. "God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them and has committed unto us the word of reconciliation." 2Cor 5:19. The covenantal role of the Church was bound members together in the body of Christ to meet obligations of regular sustenance and mutual care for others in need. The believing Church in America makes up many different denominations. Now there is a growing realization that these local fellow-ships are the key to rebuilding our Nation and reaffirming our covenant with God. We begin by training of study groups or Sunday School classes in our Christian heritage and Biblical base for their task in the world. Pilgrim Pastor, John Robinson taught: "The Lord Jesus Christ is the King of His Church alone, upon whose shoulders the government is, and unto whom all power is given in heaven and earth... But Christ has committed this power to His Church, anointing all men as kings & priests. Each member functions as a king by guiding and governing himself "in the ways of godliness" and as a priest by offering up "prayers, praises, and thanksgiving." 1Tim 3:5 "(For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)" Someone or few must needs be appointed over the assembly [for].. discussing and determining of all matters, so in this royal assembly, the Church of Christ, though all be kings, yet some most faithful and most able, are to be set over the rest.. [and] charged.. to minister according to the Testament of Christ. 1Pet 5:3 "Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock." The New Testament churches were admonished to choose elders and deacons [representatives] based on 1Timothy 3 and Titus 1:6-9.

Step 4. Self-Governing Charitable Free Enterprise

When properly prepared with God's principles of property, and stewardship, the Christian believer is the most productive resource in the world. In past history, he has been the driving force behind the industrial Revolution, the rise of modern science, and the great American prosperity that flowed from Reformation principles. This miracle of productivity is called the "Biblical work ethic": a sense of duty to God to do honest work and to pursue excellence in work. Today, the Christian believer's role is to obey God's principles of economics, wisely investing what God has given him to provide the financial base needed to restore our land and take the Gospel to the world. If many Christians would begin to tithe to Christian schools, hospitals, businesses and social agencies, It would show the world what God can do through individuals committed to Him.

<u>Step 5. The Genius of the American Republic</u> Our Constitution First Amendment says Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. They never envisioned a secular State where God's moral laws would be deliberately denied leaving our Republic in state of separation from religion, prohibiting prayer, Bible reading and the right to express convictions.

Rom 13:1-4 Scripture clearly teaches that God is sovereign over all, but He has delegated limited authority to the Family, the Church, and the State. The government has through the ages tended to usurp and dominate by force the God-given responsibilities of the Family and the Church. Civil government in America must shrink to its Biblical and Constitutional function: to protect the lives, liberties and estates of the citizens in 1Tim 2:2 "..that we may lead a quiet and peaceable llife. The person is under the government to be protected, cared for and nurtured just as he who chooses a shepherd for his flock remains its owner. Deut 17:18-20 "[The King] when he sits on the throne of his kingdom shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests and Levites: and it shall be with him and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes to do them: that his heart not be lifted up above his brethren and that he not turn aside from the commandment to the right or to the left: to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom and his children.." This is God's rule. The king was only given kingly authority on this condition, that he observe the law of God. All civil rule was representative and was always accountable to God's absolute dominion. It was covenantal and bound the ruler to honor God in Commandment 1-4 and to serve man in Commandment 5-10 in justice united with charity.

Ps 103:17-18 "But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear Him, and His righteousness unto the children's children; to such as keep His covenant, and to those that remember His commandments to do them."

Our government works by the principles of the 3 Pillars of our Constitution:

<u>First Pillar: A Phenomenon in the world: The Principle of Representation</u> 1. A Republican government is a commonwealth or state in which the exercise of the sovereign powers is given to representatives elected by the people who represent each individual's rights. It wasn't to be a democratic state, in which the people exercise the powers of sovereignty, in person, or representing the will of the majority when it tramples on the rights of the individual.

- a. A Bible must get into the hands of individuals to give them the desire for liberty and ability, skills and wisdom needed for self-government which in turn safeguards liberty.
- b. A land had to be provided that was separated from Old World despotism of monarchs and skepticism.
- c. A people had to be prepared who shared a Biblical worldview of the nature of man and government.

Only in a Christian Republic will the liberty of conscience and freedom to prosper be guaranteed. In 1638, Rev Thomas Hooker taught Deut 1:9 "I am not able to bear you myself alone:" and 1:13 "Take you wise men, and understanding, and known among your tribes, and I will make them rulers over you." v-14 "you answered me,.. The thing which you have spoken is good for us to do." He said, "the foundation of authority is laid.. in the free consent of the people" and that "the choice of public magistrates belongs unto the people by God's own allowance." They have the right also "to set the bounds and limitations of the power and place unto which they call them." His sermon points formed the basis of the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut later adopted as the Constitution of Connecticut Jan 14, 1639. It marked the beginnings of American democracy and was pattern for the Federal Constitution, following the pattern Moses's father-in-law Jethro said in Ex 18:21-22, "Moreover you shall provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.. every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they shall judge and bear the burden with you."

Second Pillar: Separation of Powers: God gave the model; He limits the power of government by His own authority. Isaiah 33:22 "For the LORD is our Judge; the LORD is our Lawgiver; the **LORD is our King; He will save us."** Dr. Samuel Langdon was chosen to address New Hampshire's legislature to ratify the US Constitution, patterned after the divine constitution of Moses and the decentralized republic of the ancient Hebrews 1400 B.C. It was "a pattern to the world in all ages" for any **Nation** desiring freedom and prosperity. The Israelites were transformed from a band of disorderly families coming out of bondage from Egypt into self-governing, orderly tribes of a national establishment perfected far beyond all other kingdoms. Before the Hebrew tribes arrived at Mt. Sinai, Moses instructed them to elect character-filled leaders at the local level [Ex 18]. These rulers were to be competent, godly, and honest and would refuse bribes. Second, at Mt Sinai, God graciously gave His people a few concise but perfect laws that would protect life, families, personal freedoms, private property, and personal reputations without partiality: [Ex 20] the Ten Commandments and other laws. God did not leave a people, wholly unskilled in legislation, to make laws for themselves. The Lord lovingly created a representative constitutional republic with maximum freedom and no need for an earthly king. This plan has liberated millions of people from bondage. Third, a basic structure of this Hebrew republic was detailed: [A Senate] was constructed, as necessary for the future government of the nation, under a chief commander [Executive Branch]. The people were consulted, the whole congregation [House of Representatives] being called together on all important occasions: the government was therefore a proper republic. Courts were to be appointed.. and elders most distinguished for wisdom and integrity were to be made judges [Judicial Branch]. Dr. Langdon explained that the proposed US Constitution mirrored the divinely inspired Hebrew republic. *The integrity of all three powers of government depends upon the integrity of the self-governing individual and on the foundation of the body politic, the laws of God or the laws of men

<u>Third Pillar: A Dual Form of Government answers how Unity and Diversity Exist in Harmony</u> at o ne time upon the same individuals, harmonious with each other, but each supreme in its own sphere It is a dual system of government with <u>States</u> retaining most powers and <u>Federal Government</u> having only those powers necessary for its sphere of authority.

Conclusion

The untold story of the American Covenant began with a group of Christians who met together off the coast of New England, covenanting with their God. Out of their covenant with God and their willingness to apply his Word to all areas of life came a Biblically based republic that has promoted the greatest expansion of the Gospel in the history of man. Through the acknowledgment of God's Providence in American history, they reaffirmed the American Covenant. Only if we are willing to have the faith will we be able to restore the Nation they built. We must support capable, godly individuals for elective office to lead our society who support our Biblical view of man and government through strength of character and financial resources. The battle must be one from the internal to the external. Our Biblical government cannot be forced from without but rises from within the hearts of a people dedicated to God's will. In a world without God, there is very little hope, but because a loving God presides over the affairs of men, Deut 7:9 "Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love Him & keep His commandments to a thousand generations