CONTEND FOR THE COVENANT! A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF CANNOT STAND

"Every kingdom divided against itself
is brought to desolation,
and every city or house divided against itself
will not stand."

Matthew 12:25

We have viewed the spiritual birth of America as coming through the Puritans on the Mayflower. But the spiritual history of America is more complex and multifaceted than that. Knowledge is power. When we learn the deeper roots of what actually transpired, we are better equipped as intercessors to restore God's plan for America.

America Has Been Spiritually Divided Since Its Inception

"A house divided against itself cannot stand." America was created through a confluence of various events, peoples, timelines and Christians; the seeds planted in the 1500's, watered by English, French and Spanish settlers from the Northeast to the Southwest of what is now America. However, the first Christians to set foot on these lands were the Vikings 1000 years ago!

A Spirit of Division Gave Satan Access to America

The problem is the acrimony and spiritual civil war seeded in the 1600's created an inflection point, through which a spirit of division was instigated and has been fed and propagated ever since. The division is between Protestants and Catholics; and amongst the many Protestant denominations as well.

It is impossible to restore America as "One Nation Under God" until these 'factions' and fractures come to peace and unity. <u>Until we repent for the divisiveness</u> that has given satan legal access to sabotage the Great Commission and the God destiny of America, we will not fulfill our destiny as "One Nation Under God."

Contend for the Covenant Destiny of America

We are repenting for the religious prejudices and hatred, for the divisiveness and acrimony that has given satan legal cases to sow seeds of strife and to sabotage the destiny of America.

We are rebuking all that stands and operates against this Covenant. We are demanding our home be cleansed of all that is anathema to our Covenant with God, our Covenant Nation.

We are contending for the Covenant under which America was spiritually dedicated and yoked to our Creator, Father of Messiah Jesus the Christ, Creator of Heaven and earth; and therefore, Creator of America, land of the free, home of the brave. We contend for One Nation Under God. In Jesus' name.

Here is a glimpse at the spiritual roots of America, from the 1500's to the 1800's....

SPIRITUAL HISTORY OF AMERICA

1500's: Catholics in the Southwest

Cortez came to America. Unlike the missionaries who evangelized through love, Cortez was a bit heavy handed. Nonetheless, it was part of bringing the Christian Faith to the indigenous in what is now America. This included Texas, California, New Mexico & Arizona. He was followed by Franciscan missionaries who evangelized throughout the Southwest.

"The Franciscans arrived in May 1524, a symbolically powerful group of twelve known as the Twelve Apostles of Mexico, led by Fray Martin de Valencia."

"In 1598, Franciscan Friars entered what is now New Mexico. These priests accompanied the Spanish colonists, who had migrated north from Mexico City."

"The City of Santa Fe was founded in 1610. That same year the first church was built on this site. The original adobe church was replaced in 1630 by a larger one, which was destroyed by the Pueblo Indian Revolt of 1680."

1600's: Protestants & Catholics in the East, Northeast & Midwest

"King James the First granted to the Virginia Company the First Charter of Virginia, April 10, 1606, which stated: 'For the Furtherance of so noble a Work, which may, by the Providence of Almighty God, hereafter tend to the

¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hernán_Cortés

² https://www.cbsfa.org/our-parish-history

Glory of His Divine Majesty, in propagating of Christian Religion to such People, as yet live in Darkness and miserable Ignorance of the true Knowledge and Worship of God."

"The charter of the Virginia Company (1606) provided that the Gospel should be preached in the colonies, but also among the savages."³

Pierre Marquette came to Michigan and Ohio River, (Marquette University); in 1675; he celebrated Mass at the Grand Village in Illinois. "The Indians loved the brave Father Marquette, and called him their friend."

"John Eliot, known as The Apostle of the Indians, was born in England in 1604. He graduated at Cambridge and moved to Boston in 1631; soon afterwards he was chosen minister of the church of Roxbury. He studied the language of the Indians and commenced preaching to them about 1646, obtained great influence over them, and effected many conversions. In the performance of his missionary labors he travelled extensively and suffered great hardships. He translated the Bible into the Indian language. He died in 1690."4

"The next year, Captain Christopher Newport arrived on April 26, 1607, with 105 settlers on the ships *Susan Constant, Godspeed,* and *Discovery.* Their "First Landing" was at Cape Henry, named for Prince Henry of Wales, the eldest son of King James I. Their first act was to erect a

³ https://americanminute.com/blogs/todays-american-minute/virginias-founding-highlights-ofits-religious-history-american-minute-with-bill-federer

⁴ Adapted from The Dictionary of Biography by Charles Morris

wooden cross and commence a prayer meeting, led by Church of England minister, Rev. Robert Hunt."

"The official denomination in Virginia was the Church of England, which was established from 1606 till 1786. **Establishment** also meant that settlers had to take the "oath of supremacy." ⁵

[NOTE: The very criticism of Protestants towards Catholicism was fealty to Rome; yet they were required to make an oath of fealty to the British Crown religion.]

"In 1699, the Virginia Assembly adopted the statutes of monarchs William and Mary allowing for limited toleration of some Protestant dissenters."

[NOTE: The criticism of Catholicism included the use of statues depicting the Holy Family; yet statues of the monarchs, heads of the "supreme church" were instituted.}

1700's: Protestants & Catholics, East Coast & West Coast

"In 1769, under order of the Spanish king, sea and land expeditions departed Mexico for California, meeting in San Diego where the first fort and mission were established to serve as frontier outposts. The King sent

⁵ https://americanminute.com/blogs/todays-american-minute/virginias-founding-highlights-of-its-religious-history-american-minute-with-bill-federer

⁶ https://americanminute.com/blogs/todays-american-minute/virginias-founding-highlights-of-its-religious-history-american-minute-with-bill-federer

military troops and Franciscan missionaries to the new land to colonize the territory and convert its Indian inhabitants to Christianity."⁷

Our Founding Father:

George Washington wrote in November 27, 1783:

"Acknowledge ... our infinite obligations to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe for rescuing our country from the brink of destruction; I cannot fail ... to ascribe all the honor of our late success to the same glorious Being ... The establishment of civil and religious liberty was the motive which induced me to the field ... It now remains to be my earnest ... prayer, that the Citizens of the United States would make a wise and virtuous use of the blessings placed before them."

1786: The "Virginia Bill For Religious Liberty" by Jefferson stated: "that no man shall be ... molested ... on account of his religious opinions or belief; but that all men shall be free to profess, and by argument to maintain, their opinions in matters of religion."

[NOTE: This was a precursor to our First Amendment, adopted December 15, 1791.]

⁷ https://californiamissionsfoundation.org/the-california-missions/

⁸ https://americanminute.com/blogs/todays-american-minute/virginias-founding-highlights-of-its-religious-history-american-minute-with-bill-federer

1800's: Protestant Denominations Pop Up Furthering Divisiveness

From James Madison in 1819: "A little time previous to the Revolutionary struggle, the Baptists sprang up, and made very rapid progress ...At present the population is divided, with small exceptions, among the Protestant Episcopalians, the Presbyterians, the Baptists and the Methodists."9

REPENTING & CONTENDING FOR OUR COVENANT DESTINY

We Repent

- ♦ We Repent, Heavenly Father, for the religious prejudices and hatred, for the divisiveness and acrimony that has given satan legal cases to sow seeds of strife and to sabotage the destiny of America.
- ♦ We repent for the pattern and history of hypocrisy, religious sects believing they are superior to others — who can be right?
- ♦ We repent for feeding these prejudices as programs passed down through the generations; not even questioning or challenging them.
- ♦ We repent for propagating the spirits of divisiveness, antagonism, criticalness, religious bigotry and animosity.
- ◆ We repent for feeding the spirit of divisiveness; surely Christ Jesus did not come to create 40,000 different churches, different denominations of Christianity. Surely this is more a monument to human ego than to truth. We repent on behalf of our country and ekklesia.

⁹ https://americanminute.com/blogs/todays-american-minute/virginias-founding-highlights-of-its-religious-history-american-minute-with-bill-federer

CONTEND FOR THE COVENANT! A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF CANNOT STAND

We Rebuke

- ♦ We rebuke and renounce the spirits of divisiveness, acrimony, protestation, adversarial, religious bigotry and prejudices that have fomented ongoing strife amongst American Christians and have allowed the antichrist spirit, the marxist spirit and other demonic powers to deprive us of the fullness of our rights civil, financial, etc.
- ♦ We rebuke, Heavenly Father, all that stands and operates against the Covenant we established between You and our America.
- ♦ We rebuke all that is anathema to our Covenant with You God; ALL that is opposed to Christian values, beliefs, peoples and moral principles.
- ◆ We rebuke all other dogmas, gods and values that are opposed to our Sacred Scripture-based Constitution. Remove them from our soil now Lord God Heavenly Father, Father of our Lord Jesus the Christ!

We Contend

- ♦ We contend fight for! for the Covenant under which America was spiritually dedicated and yoked to our Creator, Father of Messiah Jesus Christ, Creator of Heaven and earth; and therefore, Creator of America, land of the free, home of the brave.
- ◆ We contend based upon the several charters and pacts made that dedicated America to the God of the Gospel: "to live together, in the fear and true worship of Almighty God, Christian Peace"; "for the Propagation of Christian Religion, and reclaiming of people barbarous, to civility and humanity."
- ♦ We contend that Christians who share the Gospel as the foundation of their faith can therefore share a spiritual culture as well; those who share "sharia beliefs are also problematic, as 'ridda laws' prohibit

freedom of conscience, even imposing the death penalty for those who leave their faith."10

◆ We contend for the original intentions and proclamations of our Constitution and Declaration of Independence for our God-given rights to be honored and undenied.

Your Covenant With All Living Creatures On Earth

- ✦ Heavenly Father, You established a Covenant with Noah that was a Covenant with "all living creatures on earth." This primordial Covenant is the foundation of the Covenant that our forefathers made with You in dedicating America to you from the 1500's to the 1700's with the official birth of our country.
- ◆ For You declared in Genesis 9:12-17: "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth."
- ◆ You declared: "'Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.' So God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth.'"

¹⁰ https://americanminute.com/blogs/todays-american-minute/virginias-founding-highlights-of-its-religious-history-american-minute-with-bill-federer

◆ So we stand on this primordial Covenant, from which all of our Covenants with You have spiritually legal standing. The rainbows still come out after a rain. Even after all of our reprobate ways, our prejudices and other acts of ego, Your Covenant with us still stands!

We Pray for Unity

- ✦ Heavenly Father, I declare and release John 17:20-23, to bring Unity in the Faith so that together we shall conquer the forces of evil: "I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as You are in me and I am in You.
- ◆ "May they also be in us so that the world may believe that You have sent me. I have given them the glory that You gave me, that they may be one as we are one— I in them and You in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that You sent me and have loved them even as You have loved me."

SEALING PRAYER:

"Know therefore that the Lord your God is God;

He is the faithful God,

keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations

of those who love him

and keep his commandments."

Deuteronomy 7:9

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"But the mercy of the Lord
is from everlasting to everlasting
On those who fear Him,
And His righteousness to children's children,
To such as keep His covenant,
And to those who remember
His commandments to do them."
Psalm 103:17-18

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"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the Lord, who has compassion on you."

Isaiah 54:10

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"Now may the God of peace,
who through the blood of the eternal covenant
brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great Shepherd of the sheep,
equip you with everything good for doing his will,
and may he work in us what is pleasing to him,
through Jesus Christ,
to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."
Hebrews 13:20-12

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