Sierra

American History

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## The American Covenant

A covenant is a sacred agreement or vow between God and a group or individual that should never be broken. Genesis 17:19 says: "I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him." This is a great example of a covenant in the Bible. In this verse, God is speaking to Abraham about Isaac, Sarah's future son, and about how God would make a covenant with him and his descendants. This means that God basically made an unbreakable promise to Abraham. The American Covenant was a constitutional document written by Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower in 1620. This document, also known as the Mayflower Compact, stated that the Pilgrims would establish a colony in the Northern parts of Virginia for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith. The Pilgrims were a group of Christians traveling aboard the Mayflower, escaping their persecution in England. These Pilgrims were also known as separatists, and they wanted to separate themselves from the church so that they could truly study and follow the teachings of Jesus. In the following paragraphs I will discuss the book, *The American Covenant: The Untold Story*, and why these stories are significant and essential in our lives today.

As we have been growing and developing as a nation, we have been backing away from God and our original covenant with Him. We need to remember our past and all that God has

done for us, from the establishment of our country to now, where America is one of the most advanced nations in the world.

Horace Mann was known as "the father of the progressive public-school movement." He was the beginning of the transition away from the Christian philosophy in education, which was very important to many parents at the time. Now, many years later, we can see the effect of Mann's actions throughout the lives of many children as they learn that they can be anything they want to be instead of who and what God designed them to be.

Although we may not see it, God is always with us and always has been even from the dawn of our great nation. This is evident in Deuteronomy 31:8 where it reads: "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." God was even there to help George Washington, the first president, when he and his army were cornered by the British soldiers. They had nowhere to go without being seen or heard, but God was able to provide fog for the Americans so they could escape safe and sound. God was with Washington and his army all those years ago, and He is still with us today, even in the little things.

In Hosea 7:13 it says: "Woe to them, because they have strayed from me! Destruction to them, because they have rebelled against me!" This verse talks about how Israel had strayed from God's ways and how they would be punished for it. It brings America to mind because not only have we strayed biblically, but we also have strayed politically from the original intentions of America's founding fathers. For example, the founding fathers wanted there to be a government that represented each individual's rights, but now we have a government that represents the majority's rights. The founding fathers also established a legislative power to care for an individual's rights – his life, liberty, property, and Christian self-government – but

America has evolved and changed. Now, there is a legislative branch that creates laws that destroy and threaten Americans' rights of self-government, life, liberty, and property. In addition, these laws are not God-centered.

Hosea 4:6a says that: "My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge." I believe that this passage is very interesting because many people believe that our history and the history of America is not that important, but truly it is. I believe that it is very important to know all of our history, the good and bad parts, and to learn and grow from it. The Bible says in Matthew 28:19-20: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." This is our Great Commission, it's our job as Christians to bring more people into God's family, and even though Christianity is the most followed religion in the world, the Bible says go and make disciples of ALL nations. This means not just our friends or people who live near us, but EVERYONE. God has a purpose for each and every one of us. All we have to do is obey Him, and let God do the rest, so that we can all be a part of His. Great. Story.

## Works Cited

Foster, Marshall, and Swanson, Mary-Elaine. The American Covenant: The Untold Story.

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