



'GIVE ME THE MOUNTAIN'

- Caleb age 85

Joshua 14:12

Forty-five years before, Moses sent out 12 tribal leaders to explore the land the Lord had promised to give them. Ten of them came back with a pessimistic report filled with fear and unbelief regarding the giants in the land. Caleb gave a good report filled with faith. **'Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.'** - Numbers 13:30 NKJV. Caleb was now 85 years old and still full of courage and vigor for God and declared: **'Give me the mountain!'**

In the Bible there is significance to mountains. It is where various pagan religions sought to plant their presence through idols, altars and symbols. God told his people to tear them down.

'Destroy completely all the places on the high mountains and on the hills and under every spreading tree where the nations you are dispossessing worship their gods. - Deuteronomy 12:2 NIV

Mountains have also been places of great spiritual significance for God's people. It was on Mt. Sinai where God revealed the 10 Commandments to Moses. Jesus gave his greatest teaching, which is known as The Sermon on the Mount. Later, Jesus revealed his glory to his closest disciples in his transfiguration on a mountain. Jesus was crucified on the outskirts of Jerusalem in the same area where Abraham had offered up his Son Isaac on Mount Moriah. It was at Mount Carmel where Elijah displayed the one true living God's superiority over the false pagan gods.

Mountains can also be a place of safety and surveillance. After the worldwide flood, Noah and his family rested in the ark in the high mountains of Ararat. In many countries, one can still find ancient fortresses built on hills so that rulers and armies could be protected from their enemies.

Mountains are still places of spiritual importance. Tibet is called 'Roof of the World, for this East Asia Region includes the highest mountain ranges in the world with an average elevation of more than 16,000 feet. Tibetan Buddhists have had a long time ritual before climbing these mountains such as the Himalayas. They pick a rock at the base and then when they reach the summit, they place the rock as a marker of their successful climb as do other climbers. The Tibetan Buddhists plant colorful flags there along with attached scriptures as sacred symbols and declarations which are meant to spread peace and harmony and a reminder that the

mountain has been conquered! God has called his church to occupy until He returns to earth, to be salt and light in the mountains of society, that is places of influence.

On December 20, 1606, 105 settlers and 40 seamen set out from the River Thames estuary, near London, England. They embarked on a mission to the New World of America. They received a charter from King James, a monarch committed to the Christian faith. A significant aspect of the stated mission of the Virginia Company included concern for spiritual things. This priority was presented in a published tract titled, A True Declaration of the State of Virginia:

"First, to preach and baptize into Christian religion and by the propagation of the Gospel, to recover out of the arms of the devil a number of poor and miserable souls wrapped up into death in almost invincible ignorance; to endeavor the fulfilling and accomplishments of the number of the elect which shall be gathered from out of all corners of the earth; and to add to our might the treasury of heaven."

Though the ships they sailed upon were small, The Virginia Company leadership insisted that they carry one item with them from England for the purpose of giving glory to God in the endeavor – a rough-hewn wooden cross. An Anglican minister, Robert Hunt, was with them on the voyage. When they arrived, Hunt led the party to the wind-swept shore, where they erected the seven-foot oak cross in the sand.

April 29, 1607 The colonists and sailors gathered around the cross, holding the first formal prayer service in Virginia to give thanksgiving for God's mercy and grace in bringing them safely to this new land. As they knelt in the sand, Hunt reminded them of the admonition of the British Royal Council, taken from the Holy Scripture: **"Every plantation, which my Heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up."** Raising his hands to heaven, Rev. Robert Hunt claimed the land for country and king and consecrated the continent to the glory of God.

Hunt's Prayer and Prophecy

We do hereby dedicate this Land, and ourselves, to reach the People within these shores with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to raise up Godly generations after us, and with these generations take the Kingdom of God to all the earth. May this Covenant of Dedication remain to all generations, as long as this earth remains, and may this Land, along with England, be Evangelist to the World. May all who see this Cross, remember what we have done here, and may those who come here to inhabit join us in this Covenant and in this most noble work that the Holy Scriptures may be fulfilled. After the prayer, they read the following Bible passage: **"All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee. For the kingdom is the Lord's and he ruleth among the nations" (Psalm 22:27-28).**

Rev. Robert Hunt stood as a representative of the King, the Church, and the people of England, in a sacred moment and dedicated the new continent to the purpose of God. This was the first official act by the English in the New World. In covenantal language, Hunt declared, **"...from these very shores the Gospel shall go forth to not only this New World but the entire world."** One fulfillment of this story is the founding of the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) by Pat Robertson in 1960 on those same shores of Virginia Beach. CBN has reached hundreds of millions for Christ around the world! What happened at Cape Henry is an example for us. Plant the message of the Cross of Christ wherever you are.

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