Thanksgiving Special Faith of Our Fathers November 22, 2020

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FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

The Pilgrims: Who Were They? What did They Believe? Why Should We Remember Them?

Thanksgiving, 2020

Psa. 107:1, "Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

Psa. 107:2, "Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,"

Psa. 107:6, "Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and He delivered them out of their distresses."

Psa. 107:8, "Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!" Psa. 107:13, "Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distresses."

Psa. 107:15, "Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!" Psa. 107:19, "Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and He saved them out of their distresses."

Psa. 107:21, "Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!"

"It was answered, that all great and honourable actions are accompanied with great difficulties, and must be both enterprised and overcome with answerable courage. It was granted the dangers were great, but not desperate; the difficulties were many, but not invincible. ... And all of them, through the help of God, by fortitude and patience, might either be borne or overcome."

~William Bradford, Governor of the colony for thirty years

"Lastly (and which was not least), a great hope and inward zeal they had of laying some good foundation, or at least to make some way thereunto, for the propagating and advancing the gospel of the kingdom of Christ in those remote parts of the world; yea, though they should be stepping stones unto others for the performing of so great a work."

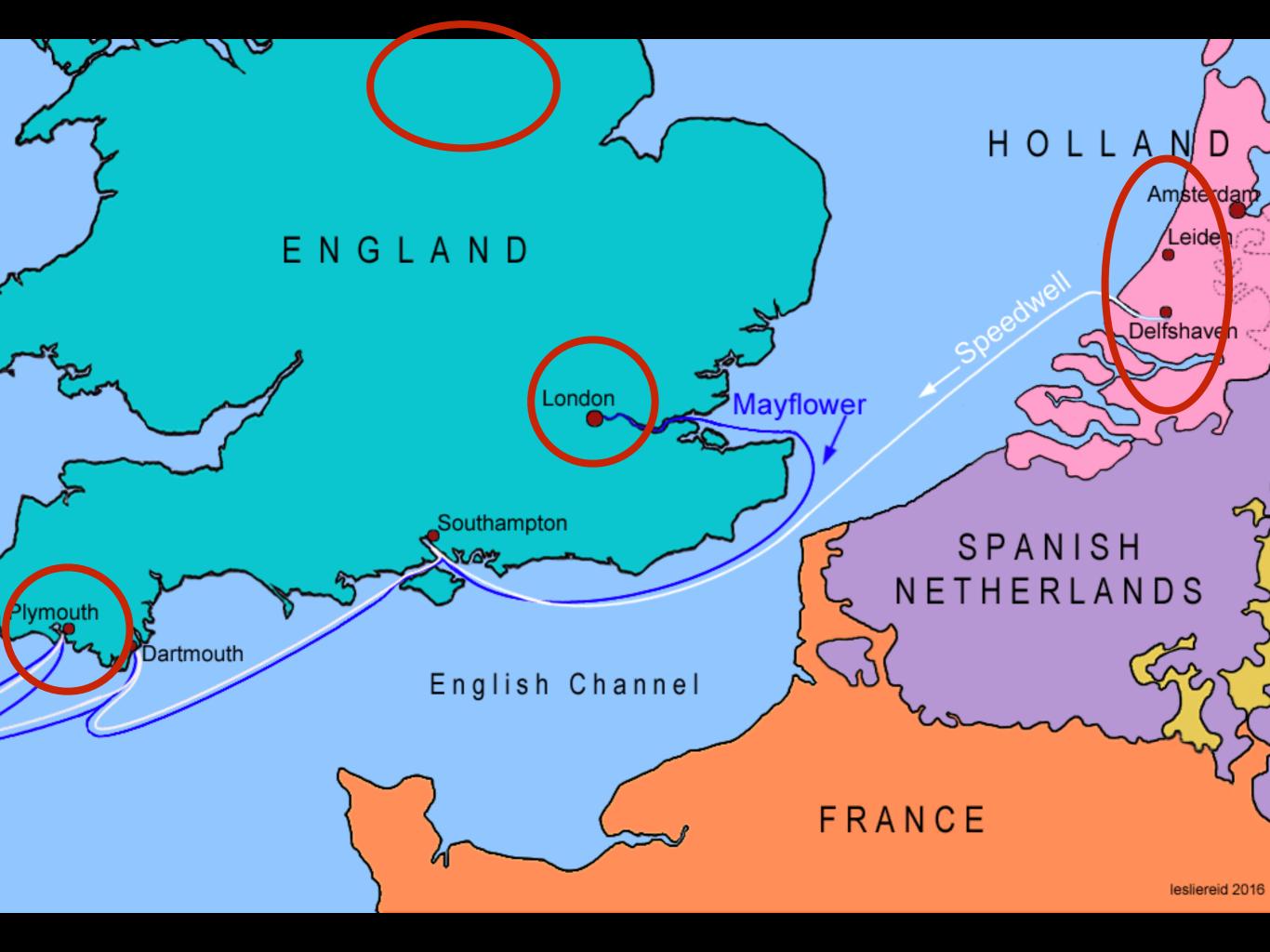
"Above all they were men and women whose lives, families, and character were formed by the Bible, which they all believed was the Word of God, divinely given, sufficient for every situation they would meet ..."

The Background for the Pilgrim Separatists

| 1517 | | 1547 | 547 1553-1558 | | 1570s-1610 | | |
|-------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----|-------------------------|--|--|
| Reformation | | Henry VIII | nry VIII "Bloody" | | Rise of Puritans | | |
| | | dies | Queen Mary | | and Separatists | | |
| | | | I Tudo | | | | |
| | 1534 Englan leaves F 1525 | d Edward | Edward VI | | 603 en eth | Dec. 1620 Mayflower arrives at Plymouth | |
| | Tyndale N 1530s Most of the OT | | | Ger | 560 neva ble | 1611 KJV | |



"But those things did not dismay them, though they did sometimes trouble them; for their desires were set on the ways of God and to enjoy His ordinances; but they rested on His providence, and knew Whom they had believed."



Why We Should Remember Them?

1. Their belief in the Bible and the truth of the Bible.

Why We Should Remember Them?

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2. Their faith in Christ and His substitutionary atonement as the only basis for justification and eternal life.

3. Their belief in the value of the individual and their emphasis on individual responsibility and self-determination.

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- 4. They desired to be an informed educated people and therefore they desired to be led by biblically devoted pastors, men who could exegete from the original languages, who knew Hebrew, Greek, Latin, men who knew history and economics, men who were deeply and profoundly spiritual, men who walked with God and loved their Savior.

5. They desired to educate their children and not to propagandize their children.

6. Freedom to worship God without constraint from government or others was upper most. They did all of this for the sake of the right to defend the truth of the Bible, to worship their God in peace, and to be free from the control of despots. "Those who truly fear thee, and work righteousness, although constrained to live by leave in a foreign land, exiled from country, spoiled of goods, destitute of friends, few in number, and mean in condition, are for all that unto thee, O gracious God nothing the less acceptable." "Thou numberest all their wanderings, and puttest their tears into thy bottles, Are they not written in thy book? Towards thee, O Lord, are our eyes; confirm our hearts, and bend thine ear, and suffer not our feet to slip, or our face to be ashamed, O Thou, both just and merciful God."

~John Robinson

"It was the Lord who upheld them, and had beforehand prepared them; many having long borne the yoke, years from their youth."

"What could sustain them but the Spirit of God and His grace? May not and ought not the children of these fathers rightly say: **'Our fathers were Englishmen which came** over this great ocean, and were ready to perish in the wilderness; but they cried unto the Lord, and He heard their voice and looked on their adversity.' Let them therefore praise the Lord because He is good: and His mercies endure forever."

Psa. 107:28, "Then they cry out to the LORD in their trouble, and He brings them out of their distresses.

Psa. 107:29, "He calms the storm, so that its waves are still.

Psa. 107:30, "Then they are glad because they are quiet; So He guides them to their desired haven.

Psa. 107:31, "Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!"

Psa. 107:32,

"Let them exalt Him also in the assembly of the people, And <u>praise</u> Him in the company of the elders."

יהליהו yehaleluhu Praise Him