

Vision That Drew the Pilgrims to America

I was presenting a “Revive America” event at Abounding Grace Christian Church in Schenectady, New York, when the Lord pointed out, in a somewhat dramatic fashion, the Pilgrims’ purpose in coming to America.

I was preparing for an evening session when I sensed the Holy Spirit instructing me to have the audience repeat after me the two reasons the Pilgrims gave in their Mayflower Compact for making the trip to America.

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Later that evening, at the appropriate moment, I had the words of the Mayflower Compact flashed on the large screen, asking the audience to read aloud with me their two reasons for coming to the New World. We read together: 1) for the glory of God and 2) [for] the advancement of the Christian faith. We then read these words a second time.

At the end of the service, a young man, probably about 20 yearsold, approached me with his face glowing and a note of excitement in his voice. He said, “I am attending a local community college and taking a course in American history. Just this week the professor told us that the Pilgrims did not come here for religious reasons. He said they came for monetary reasons.”

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He paused and then exclaimed, “But there it is in their own words!” He then explained how he was now inspired to study and

teach America's true origins. I now understood why God had instructed me to have everyone speak aloud the two reasons the Pilgrims gave for coming to America.

Indeed, even before the Mayflower Compact, while still in Holland, the Pilgrims' clearly stated their missionary vision. William Bradford, who served as governor of Plymouth Colony for over 30 years, explained why they planned to come to America. He said they had "a great hope and inward zeal for the propagating and advancing of the gospel of Jesus Christ in those remote parts of the world" (Hyatt, "The Pilgrims," 25).

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