Pastor Terri Copeland Pearsons during the offering message reminded us to go to <u>emic.org/ark</u> (Genesis 6:11-17) Make yourself an 'ark,' as judgment is coming! Prepare for what needs to go into the ark, as the Lord didn't tell Noah how long he would be in there.

Pastor Terri said it would be good if we each stocked up on water (est. 1 gallon per person per day), and non-perishable items (remember a manual can opener), and prepare for at least a week's supply.

I am not scared, as I am prepared for the direction that the Lord has.

America — Remember Your Covenants

1 Chronicles 16:14-15; (NKLV) "He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth. **Be ye mindful always of his covenant;** the word which he commanded to a thousand generations.

REMEMBER His covenant forever.

The Western World is unfamiliar with the serious nature of a covenant.

- The more "civilized" we have become, the more we have moved away from the concept of covenant.
- Today, many live in a covenant breaking mentality.

The covenant of blood is the most powerful and serious form of agreement ever established.

A covenant is a pledge of total devotion between two parties.

- The parties in a covenant support, defend, and provide for, and protect each other.
- A marriage between a husband and wife.
- In the Abrahamic covenant, it is between God and Jesus; once the covenant was established, then Abraham was invited to partake through obedience. This ensures it will never fail as neither God nor Jesus will fail.

The 1607 Covenant at Virginia Beach

The Covenant of Dedication was a prayer and ceremony that took place on Virginia Beach in 1607, during which the land was dedicated to the spread of Christianity:

The ceremony

A group of men placed a wooden cross in the sand and prayed a declarative prayer. The prayer included the following:

- A dedication of the land and the people to spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- A desire to raise godly generations and spread the Kingdom of God to the world.
- A request that the covenant remain for as long as the earth exists.
- A wish that the land and England would be an evangelist to the world.
- A request that those who see the cross would remember what was done there.
- A request that those who come to inhabit the land would join in the covenant.

"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."

The 1620 Mayflower Covenant

The Mayflower Compact is a covenant that the settlers agreed to form a government and be bound by its rules.

"In the Name of God, Amen. We, whose names are underwritten, the Loyal Subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord King James, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King and Defender of the Faith. Having undertaken for the Glory of God, and Advancement of the Christian Faith, and the Honor of our King and Country, a Voyage to plant the first Colony in the northern Parts of Virginia. Do by these Present, solemnly, and mutually in the Presence of God and one another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil Body Politick."

God's Word was the Foundation of American Independence

- 1. By 1774, British aggression and tyranny was accelerating.
- 2. The thirteen colonies were struggling under the King of England's rule.
- 3. It became so serious that the Continental Congress met together to discuss America's future.
- 4. Something supernatural took place during that first meeting. John Adams wrote about it to his wife.

"We not only prayed, but we studied four chapters of the Bible. I must beg of you Abigail. Read Psalm 35 to your friends. Read it to your father. The Congress spent three hours in prayer at our first meeting. A sermon was preached on Psalm 35. Then, we proclaimed a Continental fast. Millions will be upon their knees at once before their Great Creator, imploring His forgiveness and blessings and His smiles on American council and arms."

Psalm 35:1-2;

"Plead my cause, O LORD, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler and stand up for mine help."

This was the first of fifteen times that the Congress called the nation to prayer, fasting, and thanksgiving.

The Result was the Signing of the Declaration of Independence

- 1. Congress voted a complete separation from Great Britain.
- 2. "The volume that we consulted more than any another was the Bible." Roger Sherman, a signer of the Declaration.
- 3. On Thursday, July 4, the early draft of the Declaration was signed.
- 4. On Monday, July 8, members of the Congress took the document and read it aloud from the steps of Independence Hall.

George Washington was inaugurated on Thursday, April 30, 1789

- 1. The first president set precedent.
- 2. He opened his Bible to Genesis 17:1-5.
- 3. He knelt, kissed his Bible and said, "You will be our God, and we will be your people." He prayed:

"No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the Invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men, more than the people of the United States."

We are facing another election. What should we be focused on? America — Remember Your Covenants!

A Prayer of Covenant Remembrance

Father, we come before you in the Name above every name – the Name of Jesus. And we stand before You calling to remembrance the covenants made over our nation.

We invoke those covenants now. We remember what You said in 1 Chronicles 16:14-15. You are the Lord our God. Your judgements are in all the earth. We are mindful always of Your covenant which was the word You commanded to a thousand generations.

We remember the 1607 Virginia Beach Covenant. They placed a cross on the beach marking the land for God. They prayed and declared,

"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." We remember today the 1620 Mayflower Covenant in which the Pilgrims wrote,

"In the Name of God, Amen. We, whose names are underwritten, the Loyal Subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord King James, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King and Defender of the Faith. Having undertaken for the Glory of God, and Advancement of the Christian Faith, and the Honor of our King and Country, a Voyage to plant the first Colony in the northern Parts of Virginia. Do by these Present, solemnly and mutually in the Presence of God and one another, Covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil Body Politick."

We remember today the 1776 Covenant our Founding Fathers wrote in the Declaration of Independence. The final sentence reads,

"And for the support of this Declaration, with the firm reliance of the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor."

We remember today the 1783 prayer that George Washington prayed over our nation.

"I now make it my earnest prayer, that God would have you and the State over which you preside, in His holy protection that He would incline the hearts of the Citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to Government. To entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow Citizens of the United States at large and particularly for their brethren who have served in the field.

And finally, that He would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do Justice, to love mercy and to demean ourselves with that Charity, humility and pacific (peaceable) temper of mind. (These) were the Characteristics of the Divine Author of our Blessed Religion. Without a humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy Nation." We remember what President George Washington said at his Inauguration in 1789.

"No People can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand which conducts the Affairs of men, more than the People of the United States."

Together, we believe United States of America will stand strong as long as we remember our covenants. She will not fail or be morally destroyed. We plead the precious blood of our covenant over this nation — to purify it, cleanse it and bring it solidly back to her Biblical roots. We take dominion over corruption and devious acts to destroy our liberty.

We are not moved by what we see. We are only moved by our faith in God's Word. We remember today that America is STILL in Covenant with Almighty God.

And we remember today that Jesus is STILL Lord over the United States of America.

Amen.