Houston Baptist University

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We're Open – Come and Visit!

After being closed for five months because of the covd-19 pandemic, we are delighted to be open to receive visitors. Visitors must wear masks, and social distancing is required, but the exhibits telling the story of the Bible's history, influence and impact are awaiting your visit. In addition to the regular exhibits on the early Bible manuscripts, earliest printed Bibles, English and American Bibles and other translations, the Dunham Bible Museum currently has a special exhibit on the Pilgrims, commemorating the 400th anniversary of the *Mayflower* passengers arriving on the American shores in 1620.

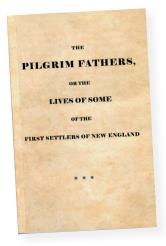
A Friend Missed

On January 13, a dear friend of the Dunham Bible Museum, Doug Sanders, went to be with the Lord. Margaret, his dear wife of 71 years, followed him 5 days later. Mr. Sanders was 93. An engineer and physicist by training, he had been a professor at Western Kentucky and LeTourneau Universities. Always active in Christian work, he earned master's degrees in Divinity and Sacred Theology from Mid America Baptist Seminary and Dallas Theological Seminary. Doug volunteered at the Museum for over ten years, always providing visitors with entertaining and informative tours.



Doug Sanders as Gutenberg

He became an expert in working the Gutenberg press, and was the featured printer in the film *KJV: Making of the King James Bible.* His is missed, but we know He is now face to face with the Lord he served here on earth.



The Pilgrim Fathers

November 11, 1620, the *Mayflower* dropped anchor off Cape Cod after a grueling 10-month voyage, bringing the people we now know as Pilgrims to America. As we commemorate the 400th anniversary of that historic journey and the settlement begun at Plymouth, the Dunham Bible Museum's exhibit "One Small Candle" reflects on the Pilgrim colony's foundation on the Bible. For the occasion, the Museum has reprinted *The Pilgrim Fathers*, first published in 1830 to be used in "Sabbath School Libraries." *The Pilgrim Fathers* provides brief inspirational biographies of four of the Pilgrims or Puritans – John Robinson, John Carver, Edward Winslow, and John Winthrop. *The Pilgrim Fathers* encourages the readers:

Let the piety of our fathers help us to conceive a more full idea of His benevolence, who came from heaven to earth, to raise us by his death from ignorance, sin, and misery, to know, obey and enjoy God. May the sons and daughters of America look up through the examples of other days, to him who is the author and finisher of our faith, and with penitent dependence on him, may they follow his steps, and go about to do good, and carry on toward a happy consummation, the work of converting the world to Christ.

The Pilgrim Fathers is available for purchase for \$10 at the Museum's gift shop and also can be ordered online from the "Publications" section of the Museum's website.

The Pilgrim's Governor

Among the items in the Dunham Bible Museum's exhibit commemorating the 400th anniversary of the pilgrims coming to America is a 1592 edition of the Geneva Bible, the same edition which William Bradford brought to America on the *Mayflower* (Bradford's personal copy is in the Pilgrim Hall Museum in Plymouth.). Bradford was elected governor of Plymouth numerous times. Serving for about thirty years, he had an active role in the running of Plymouth Colony. In 1630 he began writing a history of the colony and continued for the next twenty years. Published today as *Of Plymouth Plantation*, Bradford's history is our primary source for the colony's foundation and development. In his history, Bradford clearly sees God's Providence working in the colony's affairs.

Bradford had been orphaned by the age of seven and reared by an uncle. Sickly as a boy, he began regularly reading the Bible by age twelve. Against the wishes of his family, he joined the group of Separatists at Scrooby, gravitating to the teaching of the Scriptures in their congregation. At eighteen, with other Separatists he fled to Amsterdam to avoid persecution in England. There he took up the trade of a silk weaver. Bradford married and, when about thirty years old, left the Netherlands for the American wilderness.

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Samples of William Bradford's Hebrew exercises. Bradford began studying Hebrew in later years so he could read the Scriptures as Moses wrote them.

With all the difficulties he faced establishing and leading Plymouth colony, Bradford's study of Scriptures never waned. In later life he even began learning Hebrew! He wrote, "though I am grown aged, yet I have had a longing desire to see with my own eyes, something of that most ancient language and holy tongue, in which the Law, and oracles of God were write, and in which God, and angels speak to the holy patriarchs of old times..."

Bradford died in 1657 at the age of 68. Before his death, he wrote the following farewell poem for his family:

From my years young in days of youth, God did make known to me his truth. And call'd me from my native place For to enjoy the means of grace. In Wilderness he did me guide, And in strange lands for me provide. In fears and wants, through weal and woe, A pilgrim, passed I to and fro:

Oft left of them whom I did trust; How vain it is to rest on dust! A man of sorrows I have been, And many changes I have seen. Wars, wants, peace, plenty, have I known; And some advanc'd, others thrown down. The humble poor, cheerful and glad; Rich, discontent, sower and sad:

When fears and sorrows have been mixt, Consolations came betwixt, Faint not, poor soul, in God still trust, Fear not the things thou suffer must; For, whom he loves he doth chastise, And then all tears wipes from their eyes. Farewell, dear children, whom I love, Your better Father is above:

When I am gone, he can supply;
To him I leave you when I die.
Fear him in truth, walk in his ways,
And he will bless you all your days.
My days are spent, old age is come,
My strength it fails, my glass near run.
Now I will wait, when work is done,
Until my happy change shall come,
When from my labors I shall rest,
With Christ above for to be blest.

The Mayflower Compact and the Constitution

In 1620, when the Pilgrims set out from England for a new home in America, they had a charter from King James to settle in "the northern parts of Virginia." However, they were blown off course and ended up at Cape Cod, outside their granted charter. When the Pilgrim leaders heard some of the servants and hired hands talking about striking out on



Before they disembarked the Mayflower in America, the Pilgrims signed a covenant establishing a government by the people under equal laws. The Mayflower Compact's concept of covenant of the people is fundamental to the U.S. Constitution.

their own since they were out of the government's jurisdiction, the Pilgrims wrote up a covenant for self-government.

The Pilgrim's concept of a covenant had biblical roots, especially going back to the covenant at Sinai in Exodus. A covenant was under God and bound the people together in unity with a common purpose. When they formed their church in Scrooby, England, the Pilgrims had formed a covenant. As William Bradford later wrote, they "as the Lord's free people joined themselves (by a covenant of the Lord) into a church estate, in the fellowship of the gospel, to walk in all His ways made known, or to be made known unto them, according to their best endeavors, whatsoever it should cost them." This was the pattern the Pilgrims followed when they wrote up, agreed to, and signed the covenant before they disembarked the *Mayflower*. The document simply said:

In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign lord, King James...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 of another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation, and furtherance of the ends aforesaid.

What became known as the Mayflower Compact is a milestone in history. Using the concept of covenant found in the Bible, the Pilgrims established a government by the people, with equal laws for all. Winston Churchill called the Mayflower Compact "one of the remarkable documents in history." Reading the preamble to the U.S. Constitution, beginning, "We the people…", is very reminiscent of the Mayflower Compact's "We whose names are underwritten…"

Hitchcock's Complete Analysis of the Holy Bible



Thomas Nast's political cartoon featuring the elephant and donkey, from Harper's Weekly, November 7, 1864.

During this political season, there are plenty of cartoons with elephants and donkeys, representing the two political parties. These two political symbols were popularized by Thomas Nast, cartoonist for *Harper's Weekly* for over twenty

years. Nast's artwork, however, was not restricted to political cartoons. He also contributed art for *Hitchcock's Complete Analysis of the Holy Bible*, first published in 1869.

The Complete Analysis of the Holy Bible was the work of Roswell Dwight Hitchcock, an American Congregational pastor. After serving as pastor of the First Congregational Church at Exeter, New Hampshire and professor at Bowdoin College, Hitchcock became professor of church history at Union



Moses on Mt. Nebo, by Thomas Nast, from Hitchcock's Complete Analysis of the Holy Bible

Theological Seminary and the president in 1880. He was president the Palestine Exploration Society in 1861, vice-president of the America Geological Society in 1880, and served as one of the editors of the American *Theological* Review. Hitchcock published many books, including Hvmns and Songs of Praise and Life of Edward Robinson. the "father of biblical geography." Most notable of Hitchock's many works was his New and Complete Analysis of the Holy

Bible. Hitchcock arranged the entire Bible in 27 books according to topics, including Scripture, Jesus Christ, Miracles, the Hebrews, Civil and Social Law, Fallen Man, and Eschatology. Verses were catalogued together with similar verses. The work also included Hitchcock's "Bible Name Dictionary", which describes more than 2500 Bible names and their definitions. Cruden's Concordance was part of the work as well. All was designed "to facilitate the study and promote the better understanding of the Word of God. Tables, maps, and artwork by Thomas Nast and F.B. Carpenter were also part of Hitchcock's Complete Analysis of the Bible.



"Solomon in all His Glory" by Thomas Nast, from Hitchcock's Complete Analysis of the Holy Bible



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Visit our website at HBU.edu/BibleMuseum

"Within the covers of the Bible are all the answers for all the problems men face. The Bible can touch hearts, order minds and refresh souls."

~Ronald Reagan

Visit the Dunham Bible Museum's website for virtual tours of the Museum's exhibits, past and present, as well as videos of past lectures and much more.

Current Special Exhibit

"One Small Candle" is a special exhibit on the Pilgrims in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the *Mayflower's* landing in America in 1620. The Museum also currently features "Out of this World," a special exhibit on the Bible on the moon.

The Dunham Bible Museum's regular exhibits include:

- Bible manuscripts
- Early printed Bibles
- English Bibles
- American Bibles
- St. John's Bible
- Foreign Bible translations

...all designed to show the Bible's history, influence and impact.



The Dunham Bible Museum is OPEN 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday – Saturdays, except University holidays.

To make an appointment for group tours, or for further information, contact
Dr. Diana Severance at
281-649-3287 or DSeverance@HBU.edu

Face masks and social distancing are currently required, and groups will be divided into 10 or less.