

**I. Introduction – Why is History important?**

A. Gazing upon the face of God

1. Isaiah 46 – “Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God...My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please...what I have planned, that will I do.”

2. Galatians 4:4-5 – “But when the fullness of time came, God sent forth His Son...”

B. History Quiz – The significance of 911 and 9/11 – What you believe in the present is determined by your past - History, in this context, becomes extremely critical

**II. Historical Revisionism – The danger and power of it!**

A. Rigoberta Menchu – Professor: “Whether her book is true or not, I don’t care” – “what is important is getting students to believe what we want in the present”

B. Revising the Mayflower Compact – God is being left out of contemporary academia

C. Power of Historical Revisionism – “If you rewrite the past, you can make people believe whatever you want in the present”

1. Lies about History are not new

a. In the garden - “Did God really say?”

b. The resurrection – “His disciples stole the body” – Matthew 28:11-15

2. Veracity of Scripture – Dating and number of historical manuscripts

**III. God’s Mandate to Remember**

A. Memorial Stones – Joshua 4:1-7

B. Tassels – Numbers 15:38-39, Deuteronomy 22:12

C. Feasts – Ex. Passover – Exodus 12:24-27, Deuteronomy 4:9, 6:4-12

D. Deuteronomy 8:10-20 – “Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God...”

#### **IV. Battle over History**

A. Nature of the Battle – Ultimately it is against the nature of God – 2 Corinthians 10:3

B. God’s Sovereign Rule – His providential plan and sovereign control for mankind

1. Acts 4:27-28 – To do whatever your plan had predestined to take place

2. 1 Kings 22:28-34 – Story of Ahab and the “random arrow”

C. Postmodernism & Cultural rejection of meta-narratives – “There is no larger story”

#### **V. The Larger Story**

A. Del’s Photo Album – Many little stories that weave together the story of life

B. Natural Myopia – Nearsightedness – We lose sight of the larger story of God

C. God’s Photo Album – People who were caught up in the grand story of God

D. Pilgrim’s Providential View of History – “They cherished a great hope and inward zeal of laying good foundations...even though they should be but stepping

stones to others in the performance of so great a work.”

E. A people who are caught up in their own little story will never be willing to lay themselves down as stepping stones for others