

## The Hand of Providence

By Stephen McDowell

“**Y**ou are the Lord, you alone; you have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you” (Nehemiah 9:6).

### General Providence

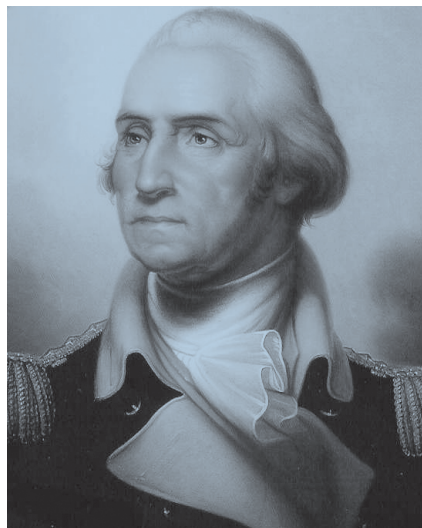
In Acts 17:24-28, the Apostle Paul presents four significant doctrines that greatly affect how we view the world and live out our faith. In brief these are:

1. Creation — “God made the world;”
2. Lordship — “He is Lord of heaven and earth;”
3. Providence — “He Himself gives to all life and breath and all things; . . . for in Him we live and move and exist;”
4. Sovereignty — “He made . . . every nation . . . having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation.”

It is extremely important for Christians to understand each of these, and the implications they have for our lives and for society. In this article I want to examine the doctrine of Providence. Most Americans today are not familiar with the word *providence*, in use or meaning. The Founders of America used this word often and understood well what it meant. In closing the Declaration of Independence, they expressed their “firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence.” George Washington used this word scores of times in his writings. This was not done as a mere convention of the times, but out of a conviction of the reality of this doctrine at work in his life and in the events of history in which he was taking part. For example, when his life was miraculously preserved in 1755 during the Battle of the Monongahela in the French and Indian War, Washington wrote his brother:

But by the all-powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected beyond all human probability or expectation; for I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, yet escaped unhurt, although death was levelling my companions on every side of me.<sup>1</sup>

Years later during the struggles of the Revolutionary War in July 1776, on the anniversary of their earlier escape,



George Washington wrote, regarding the miraculous preservation of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, “The hand of Providence has been so conspicuous in all this, that he must be worst than an infidel that lacks faith, and more than wicked, that has not gratitude enough to acknowledge his obligations.”

Washington wrote to Colonel Adam Stephen, who had been at the battle of the Monongahela, reaffirming his belief in God’s providential care: “the same Providence that protected us upon those occasions will, I hope, continue his Mercies, and make us happy Instruments in restoring Peace and liberty to this once favour’d, but now distressed Country.”<sup>2</sup>

*Providence* signifies the Bible doctrine of the overruling power of God that

governs in the affairs of men. *Providence* is “the care and superintendence which God exercises over His creatures.”<sup>3</sup> The Bible declares that God “makes nations great, and He destroys them: He enlarges nations, and leads them away” (Job 12:23). “Dominion belongs to the Lord, and He rules over the nations” (Ps. 22:28). God moves providentially in the lives of men and nations to accomplish His purposes in history. Our providential purpose is a part of God’s overall purpose for mankind.

The doctrine of providence entails God directing the course of the history of mankind as well as our own personal history; yet, it is more than this. Wayne Grudem defines providence as: “God is continually involved with all created things in such a way that he (1) keeps them existing and maintaining the properties with which he created them; (2) cooperates with created things in every action, directing their distinctive properties to cause them to act as they do; and (3) directs them to fulfill his purposes.”<sup>4</sup>

God created all things and He is preserving His creation. Christ “is upholding the universe by His word of power” (Heb. 1:3). “In Him all things hold together” (Col. 1:17). This means that “if Christ were to cease his continuing activity of sustaining all things in his universe, then all except the triune God would instantly cease to exist.”<sup>5</sup> God’s Word states, “In Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28).

Ezra declared: “You are the Lord, you alone; you have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you” (Neh. 9:6). Continual worship of the Lord should be our response to the recognition of God’s providence.

God created the universe and continues to hold it together. He created us,

gave us lungs to breathe and continues to sustain our every breath. Elihu said of God: “If he should take back his spirit to himself, and gather to himself his breath, all flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust” (Job 34:14-15).

His providence is like the atmosphere; it continually surrounds us, but we rarely take note of it. Likewise, we often do not recognize the providence of God in our lives — we often take it for granted. We cannot see how much He preserves, directs, and works in our lives. Only if His hand were removed from us would we know of the all-sustaining care of God. We would become aware of this immediately, just as we would experience immediately the effects of removing the atmosphere from around us — we would gasp for our next breath. His providence greatly affects non-Christians as well as Christians. “No event in creation falls outside of his providence.”

Thanksgiving is also the natural response of those who understand God’s providence. We should be continually thankful, not just when we know that God has protected us, but even for all the times He has done so and we are not aware of it. Signer of the Declaration, Benjamin Rush was so conscience of God’s providence in his life that he gave thanks to Him for every time he did not fall down the stairs:

However trifling it may appear, I cannot help adding an acknowledgment of the good providence of God in having preserved me from falls in climbing and descending stairs and from insults in the streets in the most lonely places at all hours of the night during the course of [my life].<sup>6</sup>

We should have Rush’s perspective: “Lord, I am thankful that I didn’t fall down the stairs this morning. I am thankful I didn’t get mugged in the streets last night. Thank you I didn’t choke on my shredded wheat this morning at breakfast.”

God created all things, and He is actively related to and involved in His

creation at each moment. A Biblical view of providence discounts deism (the belief that God created all things then abandoned His creation to run on its own). The founders of America were not deists. They did not see God as detached from His creation. Even non-Christians like Franklin saw God as intimately involved in all aspects of His creation, knowing the number of hairs on our heads, aware of every sparrow that fell to the ground, and directing the rise and fall of nations.<sup>7</sup>

### Providence in the Lives of Men and Nations

The doctrine of providence teaches us that, as Franklin said at the Constitutional Convention in 1787, “God governs in the affairs of men.” He also governs in the affairs of nations. As Nebuchadnezzar learned, “He does according to His will in the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth” (Dan. 4:35). Events in creation and history do not happen by chance, nor are they determined by impersonal fate (or some force), but by God who is a personal, yet infinite all-powerful Creator and Lord. A personal loving Being is at the center of the universe, not a stern autocratic judge.

God often directs the course of history by directing the course of individual lives. God’s providence is manifested in all aspects of our lives: Our daily supply of food is from Him (though we must labor, as He has commanded); God plans our days before we are born (Ps. 139:16); all our actions are under God’s providential care, for “in Him we live and move” (Acts 17:28); success and failure come from God (Ps. 75:6-7); all our talents and abilities are from the Lord (1 Cor. 4:7; parable of talents, Luke 19:11-27); God influences rulers in their decisions, for “the king’s heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will” (Prov. 21:1).

This is not to say we do not have real choice, for we do, and our choices cause events to happen. God works in

and through our real choices to direct events in history, leading to the furtherance of His purposes and kingdom. We must follow Him, obey Him, set our will to do all He has commanded us because, “If any man is willing to do His will, he shall know of the teaching, whether it is of God” (John 7:17).

God’s providence and our responsibility to obey Him and follow Him at all costs are demonstrated with great power and clarity in the lives of His people throughout history, as well as in many events of history, both big and small.

### God’s Providence Is Seen in Both Large and Small Matters.

Though ignored by modern historians and public school history texts, God’s providence is clearly seen in many significant events in history. The defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588 is one such example.

### The Defeat of the Spanish Armada

In 1588, Philip II of Spain sent the Spanish Armada to bring England and the Low Countries (the Netherlands) again under the domination of the Holy Roman Empire. One-half century before, under Henry VIII, England had split from Rome and established her own church, the Church of England. Holland had also separated from Catholic control and had already been engaged with the Spanish in many battles. Those faithful to Rome had not appreciated the direction these two countries were taking and had sought for ways to bring them back into the fold of the Catholic religion. With the rise of Puritanism and Separatism in England and Holland, these renegades were straying even further from the established religion. With the build-up of the massive Spanish fleet, there was now a way to bring these nations back to Catholicism — the “true faith.” King



*To commemorate the defeat of the Spanish Armada, Holland minted a coin “upon the one side whereof was represented a ship fleeing, and a ship sincking: on the other side foure men making prayers and giving thanks unto God upon their knees; with this sentence: Man purposeth; God disposeth. 1588.”*

Philip had amassed a mighty navy “as never the like had before that time sailed upon the Ocean sea.”<sup>8</sup> It was comprised of 134 ships and about 30,000 men; Spain considered it invincible.

When the English learned that the Armada was being assembled to be sent against them, they began to prepare as best as they could, but they had fewer ships that were smaller and not nearly as well armed. Their only hope was for a miracle to occur. People gathered throughout England to pray for such a miracle — especially those of the reformed faith because the Spanish specifically mentioned them as a target of their attack, for they knew these reformers were the major threat to the re-establishment of the Catholic religion in England. Richard Hakluyt records:

[I]t is most apparant, that God miraculously preserved the English nation. For the L. Admirall wrote unto her Majestie that in all humane reason, and according to the judgement of all men (every circumstance being duly considered) the English men were not of any such force, whereby they might, without a miracle, dare once to approach within sight of the Spanish Fleet: insomuch that they freely ascribed all the honour of their victory unto God, who had confounded the enemy, and had brought his counsels to none effect.

While this wonderfull and puissant Navie was sayling along the English coastes, and all men did now plainly see and heare that which before they would not be perswaded of, all people thorowout England prostrated themselves with humble prayers and supplications unto God: but especially the outlandish Churches (who had greatest cause to feare, and against whom by name, the Spaniards had threatened most grievous torments) enjoyed to their people continuall fastings and supplications, that they might turne away Gods wrath and fury now imminent upon them for

their sinnes: knowing right well, that prayer was the onely refuge against all enemies, calamities, and necessities, and that it was the onely solace and reliefe for mankinde, being visited with affliction and misery. Likewise such solemne dayes of supplication were observed thorowout the united Provinces.

As the Spanish fleet sailed up the English Channel, they were met by the much smaller English and Dutch navies. In the natural, the English had little hope, yet England and Holland had been fasting and praying. A series of storms caused many of the Armada ships to sink, disease wiped out many of the Spanish troops, and other providential occurrences resulted in a resounding defeat of the invincible Armada. Of the original force only 53 ships returned to Spain with less than half of the original 30,000 men. It seemed apparent to those delivered that “God . . . fought for them in many places with his owne arme.”

After this miraculous defeat, Holland minted coins as a perpetual memory. Of one coin Hakluyt recorded: “on the one side contained the armes of Zeland, with this inscription: GLORY TO GOD ONELY: and on the other side, the pictures of certeine great ships, with these words: THE SPANISH FLEET: and in the circumference about the ships: IT CAME, WENT, AND WAS. Anno 1588. That is to say, the Spanish fleet came, went, and was vanquished this yere; for which, glory be given to God onely.” They minted another coin that “upon the one side whereof was represented a ship fleeing, and a ship sincking: on the other side foure men making prayers and giving thanks unto God upon their knees; with this sentence: Man purposeth; God disposeth. 1588.”

England and Holland marked the victory with public days of fasting and prayer. Hakluyt writes:

Also a while after the Spanish Fleet was departed, there was in England, by the commandement

of her Majestie [Elizabeth], and in the united Provinces, by the direction of the States, a solemne festivall day publicly appointed, wherein all persons were enjoyned to resort unto the Church, and there to render thanks and praises unto God: and the Preachers were commanded to exhort the people thereunto. The foresayd solemnity was observed upon the 29 of November; which day was wholly spent in fasting, prayer, and giving of thanks.

The Queen rode into London in great triumph and fanfare and all the people turned out with banners and ensigns heralding the event.

Her Majestie being entered into the Church, together with her Clergie and Nobles gave thanks unto God, and caused a publike Sermon to be preached before her at Pauls crosse; wherein none other argument was handled, but that praise, honour, and glory might be rendered unto God, and that Gods name might be extolled by thanksgiving.<sup>9</sup>

This event had a direct effect upon the advancement of liberty in history and the birth of the United States. God was governing in the affairs of men to accomplish His purposes.

## Meteorite in Nicaragua

One dramatic historical event that has no other explanation but God’s providence occurred in Nicaragua at the turn of the twentieth century. In 1907, “one General Pablo Castilliano was leading a well-armed, well-financed rebel force that appeared almost certain to overthrow the existing government. The general was an excellent military tactician and had defeated the government forces in two big battles. Now, he was poised on the eve of a third, which most observers felt certain would bring the ultimate victory.”

“The night before the attack, the general retired to his tent about 10 PM.

Shortly afterward, the encampment lit up as though by a hundred flares. Streaking out of the sky came a mass of flame, which struck the general's tent and killed him instantly. In place of the tent was a hole about 10 feet deep and some 15 feet in diameter."

"The reports of several eyewitnesses were generally in agreement, and fragments found in the bottom of the hole" confirmed it. A meteorite had streaked through the sky and hit the tent. "The event completely demoralized the heretofore victorious rebel troops, who took the event as a sign that Heaven did not favor their cause. The rebellion collapsed and a regime facing almost certain defeat survived." It remains to this day the only known case where a war was brought to an end by direct intervention of a celestial object.<sup>10</sup>

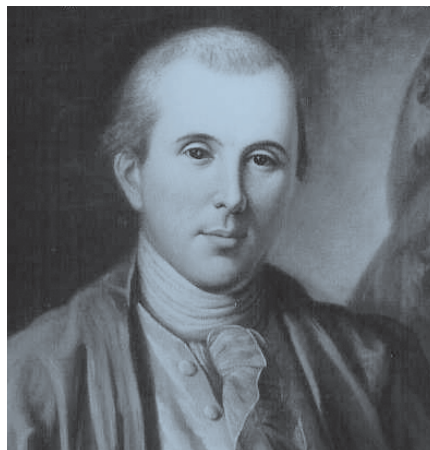
The odds of this occurring by chance are not too great — about 1 in 58 quadrillion for a meteor to hit at a particular spot on the earth at a particular time.<sup>11</sup> The odds of this occurring with God involved are much better.

The providence of God was evident during many events in the beginning of America. This was clearly seen during the American Revolution, and most everyone acknowledged it. Looking back over the first few years of the war at the miraculous preservation of the Continental Army, Washington wrote in 1778: "The hand of Providence has been so conspicuous in all this, that he must be worst than an infidel that lacks faith, and more than wicked, that has not gratitude enough to acknowledge his obligations."<sup>12</sup> To Washington, many historians today are more than wicked, for they fail to acknowledge God's hand in our liberty and independence.

## God's Hand in the Small Things

The providence of God is not only displayed in large events in history, but it is also seen in the seemingly small events

of individual lives. God is concerned with and works in the small details of our lives. Paul writes, "For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure" (Phil. 2:13). God works in our lives, providing guidance and direction, for His good, which will be for our good as well. He works in major decisions, like choice of spouse and occupation, but He also works in seemingly small things — small decisions, small events. R.C. Sproul says, "There is no 'what if' in God. He is a God whose providence is in the details."<sup>13</sup>



Signer of the Declaration, Benjamin Rush said, "However trifling it may appear, I cannot help adding an acknowledgment of the good providence of God in having preserved me from falls in climbing and descending stairs."

As believers we can look back over our lives and see that God most assuredly was involved in many of our decisions that have shaped where we are today. We may or may not have been aware of His presence with us when these decisions were made, but He was nonetheless providentially at work to direct our steps. The perspective of time, and the subsequent unfolding of events, make His directing hand easier to recognize. I have witnessed His providence in large events of my life, such as marriage and career, but I can also look back at many seemingly small events and decisions, which changed the course

of my life, and clearly see God's hand. Some of these occurred before I became a Christian.

God works in small events to bring about His larger purposes. President Ronald Reagan saw God's hand in the small details of his life, which he believed determined God's larger purpose for him. After one year of attending Eureka College, Reagan was evaluating whether to go back the next year when, as he put it, "one of those series of small events began that make you wonder about God's plan."<sup>14</sup> Needing money for college, he accepted a job as a surveyor for a year, but on the day he was to begin work it was raining so hard he could not report. With nothing to do that day, he road with a friend to Eureka College. While there, seeing the college and old friends convinced him he wanted to be at school. He still needed money, but the football coach, who wanted him on the team, helped him secure a needy student scholarship and a job on campus. Thus because of a providential storm, he was back at Eureka again and set on a course that would lead him to become one of the most significant leaders of the twentieth century. Reagan would later write, "I've often wondered what might have happened to me if it hadn't been raining that day."<sup>15</sup>

This is not the only providential event in Reagan's life. There were many more, some which may have appeared insignificant at the time they occurred. After college Reagan hoped to become a radio announcer (and eventually an actor), but such jobs were scarce, especially during the depression. So after a long search in many cities for any type of job, he heard of an opening at the new Montgomery Ward store in his hometown of Dixon, Illinois. He applied with much optimism but was greatly disappointed when he did not get the job. He would later see that this was another example of God working in his life.

Reagan begins his autobiography referring to this event: "If I'd gotten the job I wanted at Montgomery Ward, I sup-

pose I would never have left Illinois. I've often wondered at how lives are shaped by what seem like small and inconsequential events, how an apparently random turn in the road can lead you a long way from where you intended to go — and a long way from wherever you expected to go. For me, the first of these turns occurred in the summer of 1932, in the abyss of the Depression." He sees this rejection as one of those "seemingly random twists of fate" that are "all a part of His plan."<sup>16</sup> Reagan went on to find a job as a sports announcer in Davenport, Iowa, a step forward in God's plan for his life and for the larger events in history that Reagan would effect.

Five years later a rain storm would again change the course of his life. As a radio sports announcer he was given the assignment to travel to Southern California to cover spring training for both Chicago baseball teams. When he first arrived in Los Angeles he planned to take a boat to Catalina Island but a terrible storm kept him from this, so instead, he looked up an old friend from Iowa, who had just landed some small parts in pictures. This revived the desire for acting in Reagan. His friend arranged a meeting with an agent. He shortly received a seven-year contract and his acting career was launched. Acting was a stepping stone for his larger providential purpose — that of restoring America on the path of liberty, destroying communism, and advancing liberty in the world.<sup>17</sup>

## God Governs for Good

Sometimes we encounter adverse events in our lives and may wonder why such things are happening. We cannot always know the ways of Providence, but as His children we know that He has good in store for us. George Washington wrote to Bryan Fairfax, March 1, 1778, from Valley Forge: "The determinations of Providence are all ways wise; often inscrutable, and though its decrees appear to bear hard upon us at times is nevertheless meant for gracious purposes."<sup>18</sup>

God has good in store for us (His children), thus His hand of providence is a comforting thing. Paul writes, "And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28, NAS). "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).

His children are of especial concern to Him, and He has good things planned for us. At times His providential direction may not seem so good, like flying in a plane that is put on a holding course, circling around in the sky for an hour. At the moment it seems to be a pain, but we must be aware of events going on elsewhere. Without the holding pattern we could be flying into great problems (storms, crowded airways, etc.). The end result is safety and arrival at our destination.

We may look at incidents as keeping us from the plan of God, but we cannot always know how things will work out. God does know, and it should give us great comfort that He is directing and controlling affairs.

While His children are of especial concern to Him, He also moves in the lives of those who do not yet know Him. In response to prayers and His purposes, He providentially moves in the lives and events of many people to draw them to Him, to prepare them, to preserve them, and to set them on the paths of His purpose.

## Means of Providential Direction

God uses all kinds of things to providentially direct our lives and to direct history. This includes dramatic events, like Washington's miraculous preservation in battle in the French and Indian War. God has often used the weather as His instrument, as seen above by the storms affecting the Spanish Armada and the storm that directed Reagan to go to college.

The weather was often a factor during battles in the American Revolution, and these seemed to almost always favor the American cause.<sup>19</sup> General Washington wrote to Connecticut Governor Trumbull: "but with you I consider storms and victory under the direction of a wise providence who no doubt directs them for the best of purposes, and to bring round the greatest degree of happiness to the greatest number of his people."<sup>20</sup> (Many people today would view Washington as a religious fanatic for holding such opinions.)

God has also used pestilences, wars, and droughts to get his people's attention and to defeat or remove His enemies. He has even used "providential accidents" to direct the lives of many. This is true for the father of oceanography, Matthew Fontaine Maury, who fell out of a tree when he was 12 years old, and hence, enabled him to attend school since his injuries prohibited him from continuing to work on the farm. Later he was thrown from a stagecoach and fractured his leg in many places which resulted in his working at a desk instead of going to sea. Both of these were important in his fulfilling his destiny.<sup>21</sup>

While at times using dramatic means, God more often uses more "normal" things to direct our lives, such as the counsel of parents. As a teenager, Washington wanted to join the British Navy, but at the last minute his mother said she did not want him to go to sea. He obeyed her counsel and stayed at home, otherwise, he may never have become the savior of his country and the world's apostle of liberty.

God most often directs our lives as we make informed decisions after seeking Him in prayer and weighing our action against the truth of His word. The greater our Biblical understanding, the better decisions we will make. Knowledge of His word gives a basis for wise choices. This is how He desires us to make most choices in our lives.

We should daily gain knowledge of His truth through reading and study. A firm foundation of wisdom and knowl-

edge is especially laid in our youth; therefore, parents should fulfill their duties to train and educate their children and teach them how to be self-governed learners. This will enable them to make wise decisions throughout their lives.

As we live everyday in accordance with His principles we will find that we are walking down the path of life that God desires for us, and that it will be for our good and His glory. This daily walk requires, among many things, perseverance, for perseverance can open many doors. Reagan labored hard in finding a job in radio, believing this was what he should be doing at the time.

During our times of decision we should seek God in prayer. He may direct us by quietly speaking to our hearts, by a strong feeling of compulsion, or a peace in our decisions. As confirmation we should also seek the counsel of spouses, pastors, and friends.

Often God uses the circumstances of life to help direct our decisions; that is, He may open or close doors. This occurred for Reagan when he did not get the job at Montgomery Ward. But open or closed doors does not always indicate God's will, for at times we may have to continually knock until a door is opened, or we may even have to break down a door. At other times doors may be wide open, but we should not walk through them. We can have the comfort of knowing that as His children He is more concerned that we fulfill His will for our lives than we are, and that He will move mightily on our behalf to see that we make the right choices and move into His plan for us.

As His children we should put ourselves in a position to experience His grace and be enabled to walk down the paths of righteousness and fulfill His destiny for us. Thus, we should hide His word in our hearts, seek Him, and obey Him in all things. We should cry out with the Psalmist: "In You, O Lord, I put my trust; Let me never be ashamed;

deliver me in Your righteousness. Bow down Your ear to me, deliver me speedily. . . . For You are my rock and my fortress; therefore, for Your name's sake, lead me and guide me. . . . Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth" (Ps. 31:1-5).

We should be aware that we can be an instrument of God's providence in the lives of others. As parents, training our children in the precepts of God sets the foundation for God's guidance throughout their lives (Pr. 22:6). Our being obedient to speak to others, to love them, and to fulfill our Christian duties toward them can be used of God to set them on the right course. As we share the message of salvation to the lost, as we instruct others in the ways of God, and as we exemplify His truth in our lives, we are making ourselves potential instruments of God's providence. Many people have been mentors to us, and we in turn can do so to others.

### Understanding God's Providence Produces Great Results

Understanding the doctrine of providence is of great importance. Seeing that God wants to use us as part of His plan and purposes in history will motivate us to be prepared and available to partner with Him in His great work of liberating mankind. We will seek to fulfill our destiny for it is intertwined with God's overall plan for man.

We will also seek to inspire others to enter into their destiny. We will inspire by our words, by our teachings, and by our example. President Reagan was able to inspire others because He understood God's providential purpose, proclaiming "You and I have a rendezvous with destiny."<sup>22</sup> America has been a unique nation in history — one where liberty and prosperity have advanced in an unparalleled way — because the early settlers and

founders of the nation understood God's providence and purposes. The Pilgrim Fathers declared:

Thus out of small beginnings greater things have been produced by His hand that made all things of nothing, and gives being to all things that are; and as one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shone to many, yea in some sort to our whole nation; let the glorious name of Jehovah have all the praise.<sup>23</sup>

John Adams said,

I always consider the settlement of America with reverence and wonder, as the opening of a grand scene and design in Providence for the illumination of the ignorant, and the emancipation of the slavish part of mankind all over the earth.<sup>24</sup>

In his proclamation for a Day of Thanksgiving, President Washington said, "it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor."<sup>25</sup> Understanding and acknowledging His providence, accompanied with obedience and gratefulness, enabled the Founding Fathers to establish the free nation of America and set her on her destiny, showing the world the fruit that comes from Christian liberty.

Believing in the providence of God will also produce in us great peace and a life of worship. Paul wrote, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:6-7). When we understand that God created all things and that He preserves all His Creation, we, along with the host of Heaven, will worship Him (Neh. 9:6).

*Endnotes on page 8*