

Flags

Written by David McNabb

Monday, 26 January 2009 17:07 - Last Updated Sunday, 28 June 2009 07:30

The Flags of The People of Truth

"Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth" (Psa. 60:4)

"We will rejoice in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners, the Lord fulfill all thy petitions" (Psa. 20:5)

"All the inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and when he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye" (Isa. 18:3)

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of His people ... and He shall set up an ensign for the nations" (Isa. 11:11,12)

History of the Church Flag

God, in His great wisdom, by holy men of old, foretold the day when He would reveal to His Elect the necessity of having a flag in the last days. This was part of the hidden wisdom of God concealed in the Holy Writ which has now been brought forth through His chosen ones.

Even though the idea of a flag had been discussed, these prophecies began to be fulfilled on September 16, 1933. As Prophet A. J. Tomlinson presided over a gathering of God's chosen people, he began to quote many prophecies of the Scriptures (some of which are listed above) to verify his belief that in the last days, the time had come for the Church of God to raise up an ensign.

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Bishop Tomlinson's words to this General Assembly of the Church are quoted from the Cyclopedic Index of Assembly Minutes

, as follows: "For more than ten years I have been contemplating suggesting a flag specially designed and prepared for the Church of God. The idea has kept growing in my mind without saying much about it to anyone. In one of the conventions this year, Brother O. S. Carter made mention of a flag for the Church in one of his discourses. As I learned that I was not alone in it I thought of calling on our people to submit samples of their ideas so we could take up the matter at the Assembly and decide about it and if it was passed upon favorably at the Assembly, steps could be taken to decide upon the design.

"I suggested that we prepare a design and submit it to the Assembly. He [Brother A. D. Evans] made a little suggestion and I added to it until I told him to try to get a drawing developed. It suited me fine, but studying over the scriptures as they came before me I finally decided it would need a scepter and a crown to make it complete. Then we made a search for a picture of a scepter.



Figure 1 "The All Nations Flag"
(*Flag of the Church of God of Prophecy*)

This was finally produced and the drawing we already had was taken to an artist to have the scepter and crown added thereto. The next thing was to get a flag made as a sample to display at the Assembly. And here is the results of our efforts (Fig.1)

"If a better and more appropriate design can be found, it will be satisfactory to me, but I think the time has come for the Church to have a flag with a design of its own, and which cannot be duplicated by any other institution or government."

Flag Colors and Design:

The colors of the flag are red, white, blue and purple; colors used throughout the Scriptures. The red represents the blood of Jesus Christ. The white represents purity. The blue stands for truth. The purple stands for royalty.

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The emblems for the All Nations Flag are the scepter, star and crown. All three represent some aspect of Jesus Christ. The scepter stands for authority. The star stands for the star of Bethlehem. The crown stands for kingship.

The blue stripes do not meet at top or bottom. This shows that all God's people who are scattered abroad over the face of the earth are not as yet gathered together in one.

More Perfect Design of the Flag

Brother Kent made certain adjustments to the flag after the Reformation on February 13, 1957. On that day, Bishop Grady R. Kent made a great stride in the advancement of the government of The Church of God as he realized that the Church must reach a state of perfection before the Lord's return. The reformed organization that came forth necessitated a reformed flag.



Figure 2

The Church of God Flag
(1957)

The colors – red, white blue, purple and gold – are the same as the previous flag, except for the addition of gold. These five colors were found on the Vail of the temple of Solomon.

The background of the former flag was red, with the white displayed in the central designs and in the horizontal lines. Since the foremost goal was the perfection of the Church for the return of Christ the Bridegroom, the background was changed to white, and the red was moved to the central designs to be displayed with the other symbols representing Jesus, as He shed His blood also for the perfection of the Church (Eph. 5:25-27).

The central designs themselves were modified as well. In the center circle, the five-pointed star of the former design had been changed to a six-pointed "Star of David," representing Jesus, the Bright and Morning Star. The two horizontal white stripes are now blue, and were shown to represent the only two distinct and separate peoples in the sight of God: Jew and Gentile.

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