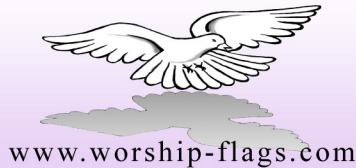


In His Shadow Creations

Advancing God's Kingdom through the Worship Arts

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The Prophetic Significance of Flags and Banners (Arnolda Brenneman)

- A. Definition of the prophetic: Rev. 19:10 –“The testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophesy”. In other words, the purpose of the prophetic is to testify of Jesus.
1. The prophetic gives understanding of things which have already taken place
 2. Also, revelation and understanding of things that are currently happening
 3. And, the foretelling of things to come
 4. The prophetic gives direction and clarity to help us to live in obedience to God’s will. “Without a vision my people perish” also translated, “Without a prophetic revelation, my people dwell carelessly.”
 5. The prophetic can actually usher changes into our atmosphere.
- B. Definition of flags and banners.
1. The two terms are interchangeable; they mean the same thing. Other words used for flags in various translations are *standard* and *ensign*.
 2. The Hebrew word for flag or banner in Isaiah 59;19 is NUAC, which means to cause to flee, to lift up a standard.
 3. The Hebrew word for banner or flag in Psalm 20:5 is DAGAL, which means, “To flaunt, to raise a flag, to be conspicuous, to set up with banners.”
- C. Flags as a biblical art form--Flags are one of many art forms mentioned in the Bible
1. **Literary Arts** – poetry, prose.
 2. **Musical Arts**
 - a. singing
 - b. instrumental music – horns, flutes, pipes, shofar, trumpets, drums, harps, lyres, cymbals, etc.
 3. **Visual Arts** – weaving, sculpture, metal working, working with gems, *flags and banners*.
 4. **Performing Arts** – dancing, story telling, drama (prophetic acts), *using flags and banners*.
- D. Examples of biblical art used prophetically
1. **Prophetic Literary Arts** -- All of the major and minor prophets prophesying through the writings of poetry and prose.
 2. **Prophetic Musical Arts** – examples:
 - a. The word of the Lord came with the playing of the harp

Expressing passionate worship through the arts.

The shofar has all different sounds, each of which has specific a meaning: a call to worship, a call to repentance, a call for warfare, etc.

b. King David, Mary, mother of Jesus, and many others, prophesying through song.

3. **Prophetic Visual Art**

a. In the Tabernacle and Solomon's Temple – All of these tabernacle and temple items have prophetic significance, because they are all pointing to Jesus.

b. Flags and banners, staffs and rods used prophetically. Example: He brought me to his banqueting table. His banner over me is love" (Song of Solomon

4. **Prophetic Performing Arts**

c. Story telling, reciting of scripture, parables.

d. Prophetic acts of the priests – sacrificial rituals in the tabernacle and then the temple.

e. Prophetic acts of the prophets – all of the many strange and unusual things the prophets did under the unction of the Holy Spirit.

f. Flags and banners, staffs and rods used prophetically.

E. **Flags as a Prophetic Art to represent the spiritual in the physical realm**

1. **The colors and movement in Heaven** -- John Paul Jackson's Experience:

John Paul Jackson is the founder of Streams Ministries. In his teaching on the Creative Spirit he relates an experience in which he went to Heaven; whether in the flesh or in the spirit; he didn't know. One of the things he experienced there was that every time God moved on behalf of mankind there were flashes of colored light and sound that went out into the earth and performed God's word. When he returned he stated that he now understood what those people with flags were doing. They were proclaiming in the natural realm in agreement with what God was releasing in the throne room.

2. **Colors surrounding the Throne of God.** -- We are told in Revelation, that rainbows of living color surround God's throne. We know that God is light, and that light is manifested or revealed in many colors. The manifold wisdom of God mentioned in Eph. 3:10 is derived from the Greek word, polupoikilos, meaning, the many-hued or multi-colored wisdom of God.

3. **The Wind of Heaven** -- We know that the wind causes movement and that the movement of God is caused by his breath, His Ruach Hochodesh, or his Holy Spirit.

4. **Representing heaven on earth** -- As with other art forms, flags are used prophetically when they represent the spiritual in our natural realm. They give us a window or a picture of what is happening in the heavenly realm.

5. **Bringing heaven to earth** -- As we flag prophetically, we are representing spiritual things that we cannot see with our natural eyes, displaying them so they are seen and manifested. We are essentially bringing the heavenly into our natural realm; actually bringing heaven to earth.

F. **Significance of Color in flags (Refer to color reference sheets)**

1. **Colors are not rigidly assigned meanings in the Bible;** for example, we are not told that blue represents the heavens or that brown represents mankind, etc

2. **Colors come to have meanings because of our associations with those colors.** Blue has come to represent the heavens because the heavens are blue; brown has come to represent mankind because man was formed from the dust of the earth and we have our treasures in jars of clay. Gold represents God's kingdom riches; purple, his royalty; yellow represents the counsel of God;

3. **Combinations of colors have meaning:** Blue and red together represent Jesus the God man because blue represents his divinity, or His heavenly nature and red represents the blood that he

had as a human being, or his humanity; red and gold, his redemption, purple and gold represent His kingship.

4. **Colors can have several meanings:** white represents purity, but also can represent surrender; orange His glory and our praise to him, as well as holy fire; light green represents new life in Christ and new beginnings, while deeper green represents maturity; red can represent Christ's blood, his power to save us, and also spiritual warfare.

5. ***For more references on the meanings of colors, refer to your handout*** on the interpretations of color meaning and their scripture references.

G. Significance of movement in flags – The movements symbolically represent the action they are prophesying. *Examples:*

1. Praise arising
2. Enemies fleeing
3. Exalting the Lord; lifting Him up
4. All the earth
5. Forever and ever; for all eternity
6. Spinning into right spiritual alignment
7. A whirlwind
8. Stirring up
9. Falling from heaven
10. Standing in awe

H. Some of the many prophetic proclamations of flags

1. Warfare
2. Safety
3. Warning
4. Surrender
5. Intimacy
6. Adoration, worship and praise
7. Authority
8. To come into agreement and alignment
9. For scripture references of more prophetic uses of flags, refer to your handout. ***“Purposes and Significance of Flags and Banners.”***

I. Prophetic Meanings of Specific Flags

- 1) Red warfare flag
- 2) Angel wing flags
- 3) Fire flag
- 4) Water flag
- 5) Names of God flags
- 6) Feather wing flags
- 7) Rainbow flags

J. Responsibility of using a flag

1. Be in right relationship –

a. First of all we as individuals have to be in right relationship with God and able to hear the voice of His Spirit. *John 10:3-4 the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by*

name and leads them out. (4) And when he puts forth his own sheep, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him. For they know his voice.

b. Secondly we must be in right relationship with the leader of the meeting. 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 *And, brothers, we beseech you to know those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and who admonish you, (13) and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.*

c. *Be in right relationship with others. Romans 12:10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.*

2. Study – 2 Timothy 2:15 *Study earnestly to present yourself approved to God, a workman that does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth.*

- a. The Biblical meanings of color
- b. The scriptural references to flags
- c. Prophetic acts in the Bible
- d. Prophetic symbols of the Bible

4. Proper use and care of flags

- a. Put them back where they belong
- b. If they are not yours, get permission to use them
- c. Don't sit on them or leave them lying on the chairs or on the floor
- d. Don't scrunch them up.
- e. Don't give large flags to little children
- f. Treat them gently and they will last a long time

5. Practice

- a. During a meeting:
 - be aware of what is going on around you
 - Note the theme of the words being spoken or sung
 - Note the mood that has been created with music, lights or silence
 - Ask the Holy Spirit what He is doing right now
- b. Put what you know into practice. How can you use a flag, what design, colors or motions will represent the themes noted above and add agreement to them?
- c. Always ask the Holy Spirit what He wants you to do and do it out of a heart of love.