

The Revelation of
The Church flag
of the Bible



"Thou hast given a banner to
them that fear thee: that it
may be displayed because of
the truth."

Psalm 60:4 (KJV)

(The Flag of)
The (Ephesus)
Church of God

INTRODUCTION

God Almighty's plan for order and perfection has always been, and is and will continue on to be as is stated in *Ecclesiastes 3:14-15*, "(v14) *I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth [it], that [men] should fear before him. (v15) That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.*", and this include the application of identification.

Identifying oneself may take on, many different formats; most commonly known, the surname. So, if you are describing a large number of people as a nation or culture, how do you identify them as a whole? You would identify them by using a symbol that would be understood universally and gives vital information to characterize the whole. God put this identification process in place so the world would recognize His people. This identifying symbol is described in *Psalm 60:4*, "*Thou hast given a banner to them that fear thee: that it might be displayed because of the truth. Selah.*"

Israel had an ensign (flag/banner) to identify the people in each of their twelve tribes. Down through history many nations have carried ensigns (flags) for the same reason. Just as Israel carried a flag, so does the holy nation of God, "*... an holy nation, ... that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light : (1 Peter 2:9).*"⁴In 325 A.D., the Early Church went into apostasy (it died-losing it's light or revelation knowledge) commonly known to most Biblical students as, The Dark Ages, making it necessary to have a resurrection in order to fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah 60:1. "(vi) *Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. (v2) For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee.*", Isaiah confirms the prophecy in Chapter 52:1-2, "(vi) *Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean. (v2) Shake thyself for the dust; arise, [and] sit down, O Jerusalem: loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion.*" It is obvious here that Zion (the

Church) had to awaken - awaken from what you may ask. Zion had to awaken from death (apostasy)⁵ and resurrect on this side of the Century. The revelation of the Arise Shine of the Church was given to a prophet named A.J. Tomlinson, June 13, 1903, and Brother Tomlinson preached the Arise Shine message for many years. Particularly to a small group of people on the evening of September 16, 1933, during one of these services as he preached this divine revelation, the Holy Ghost came down and confirmed that it was time for the Church to have its ensign and this verification came via the move of the Holy Ghost through the use of the gifts of the Spirit (tongues, interpretation of tongues, "... to another [divers] kind of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: (1 Corinthians 12:10)". The flag shown below represents the revelation right given to the people at that time and this ensign is now known as the church flag of the Church of God of Prophecy.

THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH FLAG



Date of Inception

September 16, 1933

FLAG DESCRIPTION (Symbolic)

RED - Blood of Jesus

(Hebrews 9:14; 20-22)

WHITE - Purity/Holiness

(Hebrews 12:14; Ephesians 5:27;

Revelation 7:9)

BLUE - Truth

(John 14:6)

PURPLE - Christ's Kingship

(Isaiah 9:6-7; John 19:2)

The three circular designs in the center of the flag show forth the trinity; the central reigning government of God. The three designs are the star in the center (Revelation 22:16); the scepter to the right of the star (Psalm 45:6), and the crown to the left of the star shows the crown of royalty of Jesus Christ, His Church, and the crown of life we shall receive upon the completion of a faithful life (11 Timothy 4:8).

The two horizontal line in the flag represents the Jews and the Gentiles, which are the two only distinct and separate people in the sight of God. These two shall be reconciled and made one body to reign with Christ for one thousand years (Ephesians 2:15-16).

Brother Tomlinson made the comment concerning the ensign given to them:

"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... In one of the conventions... Brother O. S. Carter made mention of a flag for the Church...As I learned that I was not alone in it I thought of calling on our people to submit samples of their ideas of designs so we could take up the matter at the assembly... 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... 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 result[s] of our efforts [see above display]. If a better and more appropriate design can be found, it will 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.”

A. J. Tomlinson

***Cyclopedic Index of
Assembly Minutes***

“A primitive design was drawn up and presented to the Assembly and accepted as the official flag of the church of God. The flag received recognition by the United States Patent Office on February 7, 1939.”²

Let me interject here that we are providing information regarding a “spiritual” nation and not a natural one, so we must remember to keep the two separate; however, there are similarities that can be generated as examples for modifications. Having a flag redesigned doesn’t mean that it is being changed from its original entity. The United States redesigned “Our Glory” approximately 26 times for various reasons (ie; additional states added, status of government, etc.), and no one will deny that she still flies over the Land of the Free.

Just as in the natural, there were changes being made in the spiritual nation of the Lord with more revelation being unfolded to God’s people, so the ensign has ben modified down through the years in order to continue in the Apostles Doctrine and to fulfill prophecy which has been set before us.

“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 (Isaiah 11:11-12)”



The Church of God Jerusalem Acres

Date of Inception

February 13, 1957

The next modification to the flag was made because of the Reformation of February 13, 1957, when Bishop Grady R. Kent, St. John II, the founding Chief Bishop of the Church of God (Jerusalem Acres) made a great stride in the advancement of the government of the Church as he realized that the Church must reach the state of perfection before the return of the Lord. Bishop Kent knew in God's Word that everything must be made according to the Pattern which God gave Moses in the Wilderness on Mt. Sinai (Hebrews 8:5) because prophecy dictated it and so, to show what would be happening in the end time program relative to Zechariah 4, Bishop Kent showed in the natural those things which would come to pass spiritually in the Last Days (Romans 1:20). He placed men in the positions of the Twelve, Seventy and Two just as Jesus did with the Early Church and at a later date, the Seven which brought about the design upgrade of the Church flag. The changes made reflected the divine revelation given to Bishop Kent and this led to the design changes in the original flag (I Corinthians 13:9, 10).

The colors are the same except for the addition of gold. The gold was added in the form of a candlestick witnessed in Zechariah 4:2. The candlestick is placed in the center of the star, superimposed over a white cross in the background. The designs in the center of the circle (star, candlestick, and cross) portray Jesus, the pattern of His Church, and the complete plan of salvation.

The background of the former flag was red with white displayed in the central designs and horizontal lines. Since the foremost goal today is the perfection of the return of the Bridegroom, this background has been changed to white, and red is now displayed in the central designs witnessed in Ephesians 5:25-27.

The blue lines in the former design are now changed to purple, and whereas they did not join together, they are now formed into a foursquare, displaying twelve gates (for the twelve

Apostles), which is a display of the Holy City, (Revelation 21:6-21). The star in the former design was a five-pointed world (or Catholic) star and in this flag, the star has been changed to the Star of David. The design of the scepter in the former flag was that of a fleur-de-lis, (a flower of the Iris family) when God revealed the flag; it seemed that this was the closest design to the true scepter that could be located. Now that we know the true design of the Scepter of David, we have placed this in the modified design of the flag. This design is that of a rod (Exodus 17:9, 15) with the Star of David (otherwise known as the Shield of David or Magan David) on the top of it, and Jesus Christ, the Bright and Morning Star, shall rule on the throne of David; therefore, this is the true scepter (Psalm 45:6), and this scepter is naturally at the right of the star (the Bright and Morning Star), for God always manifests His authority by His right hand.

It was time again for prophecy to be fulfilled preparing the way for the Last Day's Gentile program. This brings us up to 1980. Ezekiel 5:1-4, *"(v1) And thou, son of man, take thee a sharp knife, take thee a barber's razor, and cause [it] to pass upon thine head and upon thy beard: then take thee balances to weigh, and divide the [hair]. (v2) Thou shalt burn with fire a third part in the midst of the city, when the days of the siege are fulfilled; and thou shalt take a third part, [and] smite about it with a knife: and a third part thou shalt scatter in the wind; and I will draw out a sword after them. (v3) Thou shalt also take thereof a few in number, and bind them in thy skirts. (v4) Then take of them again, and cast them into the midst of the fire, and burn them in the fire; [for] thereof shall a fire come forth into all the house of Israel. "*³

The prophecy stated above was fulfilled by Bishop Kent when he shaved his head and beard and scattered the parts cutoff showing the separation of three parts; however, in the Greek Septuagint, [Jezekiel 5:v1-v4] it states there are four (4) parts. In accordance with prophecy in fulfilling the three spiritual (Church) overturns, each overturn presented more prophetic truth and upon the fruition of each overturn an ensign by Divine inspiration was given. The fourth part was revealed when Bishop Robert .L. Jones on August 18, 1980 stood for truth regarding the prophetic placement of governmental authority in the Church of God and how the Gentile program described in Zechariah 4 would be

accomplished through the Ephraim principle (or 'Ox/West' Gate Ministry; Psalm 80:1-2). The Bible states in *Habakkuk 2:2-3*, "(v2) *And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make [it] plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. (v3) For the vision [is] yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.*" There is a writer of The Vision (Joseph) and there is a reader who will run with it (Ephraim). At present, through the Ephraim ministry [Robert L. Jones, Chief Bishop], via inspiration of the Holy Ghost, the ensign [flag] shown below has come to its present revelation, and shows the complete, **VISION OF ALL**, as stated in Zechariah 4.



The (Ephesus) Church of God Flag

Date of Inception

August 18, 1980

FLAG DESCRIPTION

Zechariah 4:1-14, "(v1) *And the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep, (v2) And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all [of] gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which [are] upon the top thereof: (v3) And two olive trees by it, one upon the right [side] of the bowl, and the other upon the left [side] thereof. (v4) So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What [are] these, my lord? (v5) Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my*

lord. (v6) Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This [is] the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts. (v7) Who [art] thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel [thou shalt become] a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone [thereof with] shoutings, [crying], Grace, grace unto it. (v8) Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying (v9) The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. (v10) For who hath despised the day of small things? For they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel [with] those seven; they [are] the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth. (v11) Then answered I, and said unto him, What [are] these two olive trees upon the right [side] of the candlestick and upon the left [side] thereof? (v12) And I answered again, and said unto him, What [be these] two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden [oil] out of themselves? (v13) And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these [be]? And I said, No, my lord. (v14) Then said he, These [are] the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth.”

The golden candlestick shows the Governmental pattern spoken of in Hebrews 8:5 which had been given to Moses in the Mount Sinai. The hierarchy is the Twelve (foundation), the Seventy and Two (knops and flowers) and the seven (flames on the candlestick). This pattern was given as God's order of Government known as Theocracy and was to be used for the government, doctrine, rule, faith, practice and discipline.

The red/orange flame of fire presiding around the outer walls represents the wall of fire found in Zechariah 2:5, *“For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her”*.

The semi-circular patterns represent the twelve gates of the city or the twelve early apostles (Jewish House) and the foundation of the walls that the semi-circular patterns are in are the twelve Last Day's apostles (Gentile House) as stated in Revelation 21:12-21.

The two olive trees shown with the extended branches and the pipes growing forth pouring precious oil into the

candlestick represent Jesus who was the Jewish Branch (Isaiah 11:1) and St. John 1 (the Revelator) (Pipe); and St. John 11 (Joseph-Gentile Branch) and Ephraim (Pipe); the Vision of All - Two houses brought together to form one perfect church (man) *Ephesians 2:15, "Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, [even] the law commandments [contained] in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, [so] making peace;"*

"Thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in [their] arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon [their] shoulders (Isaiah 49:22)."

"Lift ye up a banner upon the high mountain, exalt the voice unto them, shake the hand, that they may go into the gates of the nobles (Isaiah 13:2)."

"And he shall pass over to his strong hold for fear, and his princes shall be afraid of the ensign, saith the LORD, whose fire [is] in Zion, and is furnace in Jerusalem (Isaiah 31:9)."

"(v9) They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. (v10) And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious (Isaiah 11:9-10)."

The Bible states in Isaiah 59:19, "... when the enemy shall come in like a flood, the spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard (banner/flag) against him." This is the promise given to God's holy nation that we have an ensign of protection given to the Church of God that will give an account of the true nation of God, and what is about to take place in the Last Days.

Published By:

The (Ephesus) Church of God

Jonesboro, Arkansas

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