

The Lord My Banner

We as believers in Christ have entered into a time when the Spirit of God is preparing His people for the labor with birth pangs which is to occur. As the world gets darker believers in Christ will shine brighter.

Revelation 12:5

The woman bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.

Most of us are acquainted with the spiritual birth of the Church on the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit indwelled the believer in Christ. However, in the Book of Revelation, the birth of the male Child is referred to the physical birth of the Church. In other words, it is when the Lord will come to cloth every believer with a glorified body. It is an event Paul describes as the Harpazo or more commonly known as the Rapture.

Until then, the Lord wants His Church (you, me and every believer in Christ) to thrive in this world independently of any organization, government, or economy. By this I mean to fully live a full life, filled with His inexhaustible supply of goodness, provision, and blessing.

Zachariah 9:16

The Lord their God will save them in that day, as the flock of His people. For they shall be like the jewels of a crown, lifted like a banner over His land.

A banner is lofty signal-flag that is lifted in the forefront of a march or procession, which represents a nation, army or tribe. The time has come for the Church to be lifted like a Banner in the world for all to see her crown. God wants every believer in Christ to represent the Kingdom of God here on earth because when you are lifted, they will see the glorious Banner.

-What is this glorious Banner?

Let's look back to the Old Testament to a time where the Banner is visibly seen. Like the Church today in the world, Israel were in a desolate place called the Wilderness. The Bible states that the Children of Israel were in Rephidim, which means in Hebrew "resting places," when they were suddenly ambushed by a horde called the Amalekites.

The place of rest for you and I today, is the place of belief in the finished work of Christ. It is the belief that you and I are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. You may have suffered the hardest attacks when you were believing in the finished work of Christ the most. If this is you, then this is for you: Continue in the place of rest, trusting in Him and the finished work of His Son that has wrought victory over all works of the enemy in your life.

As the story continues, Moses asks Joshua to gather up men of valor and meet the challenge while he went to the top of a hill and lifted up the rod of God in his hand. And so it was, as Moses lifted up the rod, Israel prevailed against the enemy until Moses got tired. When Moses got tired and let down his hands, then enemy gained ground. When Aaron and Hur figured out what was going on, they each got a hold of Moses' arms so he could hold up the rod horizontally with both hands. The battle finishes with an Israeli victory over the Amalekites.

There is something the Lord showed me in this story that will answer your question, "What is the glorious Banner?"

Firstly, know that this story is not primarily about any performance or work on our behalf to live a life of victory, but encourages faith as the only means to obtain a life of overwhelming glory and victory in Christ.

Isaiah 11:10

And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a **banner** to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious.

Most importantly, when Moses stood with his arms wide open while holding the rod horizontally, it was a picture of the cross – a banner to the people. The glorious Banner is the Lord Jesus Christ!

As the Banner stood to the people of Israel, they experienced overwhelming glory and victory. For you and I today, when you lift up the Banner by believing and resting in the finished work of Christ, the Lord will go before you and bring you the success and protection that only His favor can bring in your family, career, ministry, marriage, and personal life.

When the battle was won, the Lord appeared to Moses and said:

Exodus 17:14-15

¹⁴ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Write this for a memorial in the book and recount it in the hearing of Joshua that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven."

The Lord highlighted to Moses to keep this memory fresh in his heart through the book on how the Lord has blotted out the name of the enemy that came against him. This is a picture to refresh yourself of His finished work daily through His Gospel of Grace in the Word of God.

Through the finished work of Christ, the Lord has blotted out every form of sin and death, whether disease, fear, or poverty, by conquering it through His death, burial and resurrection and giving you His righteousness as a gift. The Lord-My-Banner has gone before you to bring you overwhelming victory and glory in these dark days. Now don't be afraid but be lifted up and shine like a jewel of a crown!

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¹⁵ And Moses built an altar and called its name, The-Lord-Is-My-Banner.