



*Christ in Gethsemane, painting by Carl Heinrich Bloch, study for the final altarpiece painting, 1875 (oil on copper), The Museum of National History at Frederiksborg Castle. The colors of Liberty (red, white and blue) are best expressed in the Atonement of Christ. Some who have seen Christ's suffering in Gethsemane claim He wore robes of blue and white, stained in His own red blood. The Prophet Joseph Smith said, "The fundamental principles of our religion are the testimony of the Apostles and Prophets, concerning Jesus Christ, that He died, was buried, and rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven; and all other things which pertain to our religion are only appendages to it" (Joseph Smith, TPJS, p. 121).*

## The Colors of Liberty

*As symbolized in the Atonement of Jesus Christ*  
*Val Brinkerhoff & Tom Cryer*

Christ was born that he might die for us as the lamb of God. His sacrifice involved three colors tied to our ultimate liberty from sin, death, and hell. These three colors are reflected in the American flag, the design of which was given to a special committee put together to create the various emblems of this new nation in the 18th century. On September 13 of 1775 the Colonial Congress appointed this committee to design a new flag for the emerging free nation of America, then under the rule of Britain. The committee was made up of five men at the time. Eventually it would include a unique elderly gentleman called "the Professor", and one woman by his request, making a total of seven members. They included:

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Benjamin Franklin, <i>Chairman</i> | 4. Thomas Lynch                                   |
| 2. General George Washington          | 5. An unnamed additional male participant         |
| 3. Benjamin Harrison                  | 6. The Professor                                  |
|                                       | 7. And an unnamed female participant, the seventh |

Betsy Ross was not the designer of the American flag, nor was Benjamin Franklin or George Washington, though the two men were on the original committee which approved it, the design of which was given the committee by "*the Professor*". This mysterious stranger seemingly "came out of the blue" for the purpose of helping the American flag design come forth in an appropriate way for this new nation founded upon the principle of liberty. The Professor disappeared just as quickly.

*The Professor*      The flag committee met in Cambridge at an unspecified home on Dec. 13 of 1775. According to Robert Allen Campbell, there happened to be visiting there, "a very peculiar old gentleman who was a sojourner with the family". Campbell states, "He was evidently far beyond his three score and ten years; and he often referred to historical events of more than a century previous just as if he had been a living witness of their occurrence; still he was erect, vigorous, and active - hale, hearty, and clear-minded - as strong and energetic in every way as in the mature prime of his life. He was tall, of fine figure, perfectly easy, and very dignified in his manners; being at once courteous, gracious and commanding. He was, for those times and considering the customs of the Colonists, very peculiar in his method of living; for he ate no flesh, fowl, or fish; he never used as food any "green thing," any roots or anything unripe; and he drank no liquor, wine or ale; but confined his diet to cereals and their products, fruits that were ripened on the stem in the sun, nuts, mild tea and the sweets of honey, sugar or molasses. He was well educated, highly cultivated, of extensive as well as varied information, and very studious. He spent considerable of his time in the patient and persistent conning of a number of very rare old books, and ancient manuscripts, which he seemed to be deciphering, translating or rewriting. These books and manuscripts, together with his own writing, he never showed to any one; and he did not even mention them in his conversations with the family, except in the most casual way; and he always locked them up carefully in a large, old fashioned, cubically shaped, iron bound, heavy, oaken chest, whenever he left his room, even for his meals. He took long and frequent walks alone, sat on the brows of the neighboring hills, or mused in the midst of the green and flower-gemmed meadows. He was fairly liberal - but in no way lavish in spending his money, with which he was well supplied. He was a quiet, though a very genial and very interesting, member of the family; and he was seemingly at home upon any and every topic coming up in conversation. He was, in short, one whom everyone would notice and respect, whom few would feel well acquainted with, and whom no one would presume to question concerning himself - as to whence he came, why he tarried, or wither he journeyed"<sup>1</sup>

When the committee met with the host of the home, Benjamin Franklin recognized the nameless "Professor" and with the approval of all, made him a sixth member of the committee. The Professor's first recommendation as a committee member was to suggest that a *seventh* member be added. He stated that, "by the introduction of an element that is usually objected to - in all national and political affairs. I refer to woman - the purifying and intuitional element of humanity". This was an usual recommendation to a group of Freemasons who were used to excluding women from their meetings. Yet the committee, seeing that the female counterpart was a missing key, unanimously endorsed the suggestion and invited the hostess of the home to act as secretary in the committee. They then adjourned until the afternoon for a more formal session.

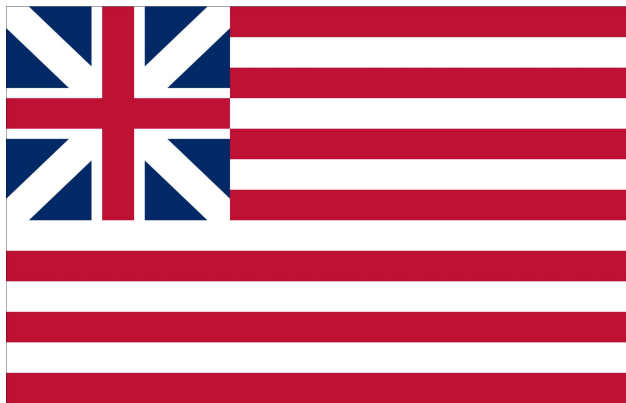
Previous to the afternoon meeting, Benjamin Franklin and the Professor met privately. As Franklin took the floor, he turned time over to the Professor, who subsequently presented his own design to the committee, giving reasons for its adoption. The Professor spoke with authority on the principles of allegiance and the determination of the colonists to secure justice and liberty from their mother country. He predicted that the rights the people hoped for could not be secured as British colonists, but only as united citizens of a free and independent American nation. He prophesied of the birth of this nation, and that it would rise above subordination to any other nation. He further prophesied that General Washington, in the months to come, would lead this new nation of liberty.

### *The First Flag Design*

The Professor had a flag design ready to present to the committee. It contained both familiar and unique new elements in order to reflect the colonist's allegiance to their mother country, and at the same time, a regard for the inevitable change of allegiance that was to come, apart from England. The familiar element was the Cross of St. George Union, adopted from the Cross of Christ used by the Christian armies of the crusades. The new feature of the flag was its field of 13 alternating red and white stripes, not seen in the American colonies. The stripes were common among the ancient Native Americans, however. The Professor was somehow a "living witness" to their use of this ancient symbol of blood and sacrifice on this land. The alternating red and white stripe design has been used by the Hopi in their ceremonial kilts. It is also found in pre-Columbian codices, as applied to the bodies of sacrificial victims, intended to be surrogates of "god himself". The red stripes have clear ties to this land, a land redeemed by the shedding of blood.

The Professor provided a drawing with his suggested design, adding that the design mixing the Union Jack with new Native American stripes would be a temporary one, a way to transition from allegiance to England to complete independence. He then revealed, "There are other *weightier* and *eternal reasons* for a flag having the field [of stripes] I suggest". He reserved further elaboration for a future point in time when the final design would be established. The Professor's design featured thirteen alternating red and white stripes (7 red, 6 white) leading away from the Union Jack and its Cross of Christ. The committee enthusiastically endorsed it, especially General George Washington and committee chairman Benjamin Franklin. Following the meeting, a full-sized flag was made in strict accordance with the Professor's drawing.

On January 2nd of 1776, at Cambridge, General Washington personally hoisted this new flag upon a "towering and specially raised *pine tree liberty pole*." British officers, seeing it from afar, saluted it with *thirteen* hearty cheers and an official *thirteen* gun salute. This act became "one of the most singular, most mysterious and most prophetic procedures of Revolutionary days". It would foreshadow the importance of the number 13 in the Great Seal of this nation (one dollar bill).



*The first Unofficial flag of the American Colonies  
Used from Dec., 3 1775 - June 14, 1777 (1.5 years)*



*The first official flag of the new nation  
Used from June 14, 1777 - May 1, 1795 (18 years)*

### *New Independent Design*

After the original Cambridge committee meeting, the Professor then privately presented to Washington and Franklin a new modified flag design to be used once the New American Nation took its place among the recognized governments of the world. The Professor then completely disappeared, never to be seen again. This second design featured the removal of the Union Jack, replacing it with a square field of blue, upon which were thirteen white, five-pointed stars; one surrounded by twelve. The blood stripes no longer proceeded from a cross but from a field of stars representing heaven, with ties to the twelve stones of the twelve tribes of Israel, those Joshua set up at Gilgal (Josh. 4:20-24). The Gilgal circle of stones was a reunion center, the place where all Israel gathered to renew the kingdom, receive a new leader, and review the history of the people (1 Sam. 11:14-15). This circular arrangement was secretly revealed by Jesus as He stood in the center while the twelve Apostles surrounded Him in a linked prayer circle. A similar order of prayer is utilized by Native Americans who dance in a circle around an altar of light - the sacred fire. It also mirrors the heavens above us, with thirteen signs of the zodiac revolving around the sun, our source of light. The divine design reflected both ancient Egyptian and Hebrew thinking. A pole with cloth streamers attached was a sign for God in ancient Egypt. The Hebrews utilized holy banners at the head of their armies and had inscriptions upon them denoting particular tribal symbols. The second flag design with the circle of twelve stars around one became the *first official* American flag, heralding the beginning of the nation's independent existence - its *liberty*.

Betsy Ross was later asked to make this first official flag from a rough drawing given her by General Washington. Originally its stars were six-pointed, later changed to five-pointed stars more closely resembling the human body. One of the central themes of this flag (and the millennial 13-part kingdom symbols on the back of the one dollar bill) is the message, "IN GOD WE TRUST". God created the Constitution of this land, utilizing wise men like Washington and



Franklin whom He raised up for the purpose of establishing a new nation founded on the principle of liberty, liberty He provided all in the Atonement (see D&C 101:80). This was the whole purpose of our Lord's mission, to release the willing and repentant from sin, death, and hell with His own blood. The ties to God in the first American flag are now mostly forgotten and certainly politically incorrect in an increasingly secular world. They are no longer understood or taught.

### The Three Colors of Liberty

*The Flag of Deseret* According to B.H. Roberts, “This ensign in the minds of the Mormon Pioneers concerned not one nation but all nations; not one epoch or age, but all epochs and all ages, not nationality but humanity, in its scope and concern. It was the sign and ensign of the Empire of Christ; it was a prophecy of the time to come when the kingdoms of this world would become the kingdom of our Lord, and of Christ; and he shall reign forever and forever.”<sup>2</sup> The early pioneers referred to this ensign as “the Flag of the Kingdom” or “the Flag of Deseret”.<sup>3</sup> The 5-pointed star at the center of 12 stars around it points to Christ in his role as Savior and King, possessing all knowledge, truth, and power; our Creator and Redeemer, the ruler over the whole earth. “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...And he shall set up an *ensign* for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and *gather* together the dispersed of Judah from the *four corners* of the earth” (Isaiah 11:10, 12, italics added). “Behold, thus saith the Lord, it is a descendant of Jesse, as well as of Joseph, unto whom rightly belongs the priesthood, and the keys of the kingdom, for an ensign, and for the gathering of my people in the last days” (D&C 113:6). “And the LORD their God shall save them in that day as the flock of his people: for they shall be as the [12] stones of a *crown*, lifted up as an *ensign* upon his land” (Zech 9:16, italics added). The blue and white colors of this Ensign to the Nations may symbolize the purity (white color) of those who rule with authority, authorized by the God of heaven (blue color, see chap. 9). The ensign represents a united people under God seeking truth and liberty (freedom to choose).

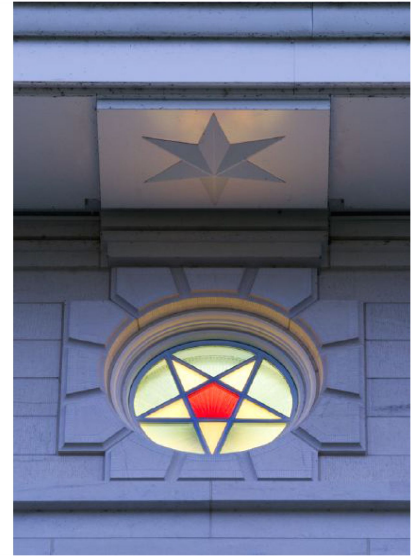


*Christ Centered Flag Designs, left to right: The Colonial Flag (union jack motif) was the First unofficial Flag of the U.S. hoisted by George Washington on January 2, 1776 at Cambridge on a pine tree liberty pole, and later in the Continental Army. The red portion of this double cross motif has connections to the Cross of Christ used by the early Crusaders. Its 8 points may also have Venus connections; Center, The Cowpens Flag, first official US flag (approved by Congress) and used at the Battle of Cowpens in South Carolina in 1781; Right, a modern Ensign to the Nations flag, similar to the one hoisted atop Ensign Peak on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 1849 by early pioneers. This flag, along with a current U.S. flag and a State of Utah flag fly at the base of Ensign Peak today; the first temple site in Utah Territory.*

Such was the case with the young military leader Moroni in Alma 46, who raised the title of liberty to unite his people. As a token of their covenant to never forsake God they rent their garments and threw them, “at the feet of Moroni saying: We covenant with our God that we shall be destroyed, even as our brethren in the land northward, if we shall fall into transgression; yea he may cast us at the feet of our enemies, even as we have cast our garments at thy feet...Moroni said unto them; we are a remnant of the seed of Joseph, whose coat was rent by his brethren into many pieces...let us remember to keep the commandments...or our garments shall be rent by our brethren...Even as this remnant of garment of my son hath been preserved, so shall a remnant of the seed of my son be preserved by the hand of God” (Alma 46:22-24). This represents the blood penalty portion of covenants.

*First Official American Flag* As presented earlier, the first *official* American flag also featured 12 stars surrounding a 13<sup>th</sup> at center (above, center), but with the added red color in the cross design at left. It points to **liberty** obtained by blood, and the **liberty of mankind obtained by the blood of Christ**. Titled the Cowpens Flag, it was first used at the Battle of Cowpens in South Carolina in 1781. Accepted on June 3, 1877 in

Philadelphia, this flag design was approved by Congress and featured the now familiar 13 red and white colored stripes emerging from a heavenly blue field of 12 white stars, all surrounding a single 13<sup>th</sup> at center. Each of them are *upright* and 5-pointed. Because many of the early founding fathers were devout Christians, and many of them Freemasons (an organization supportive of faith in God), it may be possible to connect this circular star pattern to the Twelve in Jerusalem surrounding Christ in a more divine form of government. The earlier Colonial flag used by George Washington features 2 intersecting crosses (previous page, left), an early symbol for Christ. (*The Cross of Christ* used by crusaders made use of the single, 4-part red-cross. The 8-part 'Union Jack' motif resembles 8-part motifs in ancient Babylon and the 8-part star of the Sacramento California Temple. Both have relationship to 2 sets of 4 year Venus cycles (a common motif in Mesoamerica and at Parowan Gap in southern Utah, for example.) As discussed earlier, the origin of the two earliest American flags has ties to the mysterious "Professor".



*Left to Right; The Nauvoo Temple Day Star Windows under lighting at night, during the day, and at dusk. The red pentagon at the center of the pentagram may symbolize the centrality of the atonement.*

### **Liberty Colors in the Nauvoo Temple Day Star Windows**

The pentagram-based stained-glass windows on the Nauvoo Temple first attract us through their symbolic color. What do these 3 colors potentially teach us? How are they tied to liberty?

#### *Color as a Symbol for Life*

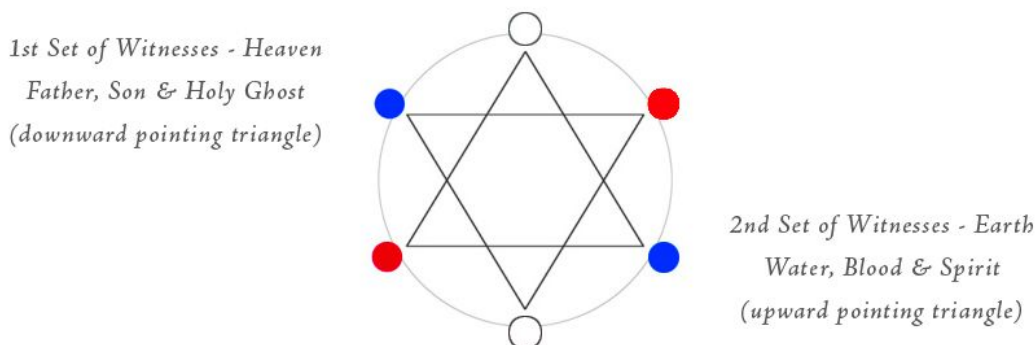
Sir Isaac Newton proved that light makes color possible. It serves as a flag for life, enlivening our planet and renewing life each spring. We see this as colors burst forth in the spring and then fade as winter approaches. In representing life, color points us towards Christ, who is not only the light of the world, but also, "the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25). He demonstrated this literally when he brought Lazarus back to life in Bethany. He promises life after death to all through the resurrection, and eternal life to those who are obedient. He stated, "In me shall all mankind have life, and that eternally" (Ether 3:14). According to Parley P. Pratt, gospel theology, "is the science of *life*—endless and eternal, by which the living are changed or translated, and the dead raised."<sup>4</sup> Elder Dallin H. Oaks stated, "Jesus Christ is the life of the world because of his unique position in what the scriptures call 'the great and eternal plan of deliverance from death' (2 Nephi 11:5). His resurrection and his Atonement save us from both physical and spiritual death."<sup>5</sup> Color usage in LDS temples is most frequently connected to the Savior's *life*-giving qualities. It is found in greatest quantity and intensity, for example, in the later, higher ordinance rooms, those associated with *eternal life*. Lower rooms are drab by comparison. Color is life.

### **Red, White & Blue**

#### *2 Sets of 3 Witnesses*

Hungering after light and knowledge leads to searching and finding. The temple is a good place for this search. Thirsting after righteousness was taught by Jacob in 2 Ne. 9:50, where he stated, "Come . . . every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters [Christ as living water]. . . come buy wine and milk

without money and without price.” Water reflects the blue sky and relieves thirst, but does not provide nutrition. Red wine provides some nutrients, yet is not complete. White milk, on the other hand can sustain life indefinitely. Like the parable of the sower or the 3 degrees of glory in D&C 76, there are increasing levels of seeking and finding that lead to greater light – to Jesus Christ.



2 Sets of 3 Witnesses in Heaven and Earth: Father – blue water, reflecting heaven; Purification, Son – red blood – Sanctification; and Holy Ghost – white spirit—Justification

**Three Witnesses** Another potential meaning behind the 3 colors of the day star windows may be tied to 2 sets of 3 witnesses mentioned in scripture bearing record of Jesus Christ and His gospel—3 on earth and 3 in heaven. We find that righteousness is sent from heaven to earth (the first 3 witnesses), and that truth is sent forth throughout the earth by missionary labors (the last 3 witnesses). “And righteousness will I send down out of heaven: and truth will I send forth out of the earth, to bear testimony of mine Only Begotten” (Moses 7:62, Psalms 85:11; Isaiah 45:8, Ether 5:4). From heaven these 3 witnesses are God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost: “there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one” (1 John 5:7). There are also 3 complimentary witnesses on the earth; “there are three that bear witness in the earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one” (1 John 5:8).

In ancient Israel red (scarlet), white, and blue, like the covenants of the temple, served to *separate* the covenant people from the outside world. Blue, for example, consistently pointed to God’s priesthood power and its *purifying* effects in separating the righteous Israelites from the gentiles. White was associated with purity and cleanliness, of becoming *justified* through his spirit. Red symbolized the *sanctifying* blood of the future Christ via the substitute animal sacrifices at the temple. Each pointed to the Savior’s last, great sacrifice in the winepress of Gethsemane—the red blood covering His body there (and our sins), and shed at the later scourging, and upon the cross (Moses 6:59). All 3 colors came together in the High Priest’s clothing as well as the ancient temple veil. In his daily service, the High Priest wore blue priesthood robes over white undergarments (Exodus 39:22). On the Day of Atonement, however, he replaced the blue robe with all white clothing for his entrance into the Holy of Holies.<sup>6</sup> (He also wore only white during the rare red heifer sacrifice.) He then sprinkled the scarlet blood of the sacrifice upon the Ark, for himself, his family, and all Israel.<sup>7</sup> Upon completing this service, his white robes were covered in red blood, mirroring the bloodstained clothing of Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane, and His return at the Second coming dressed in the red robes of judgment.<sup>8</sup>

Birth and the covenants of the temple involve the 3 elements of water, spirit and blood coming together; apparent symbols for each member of the Godhead as a witness, in conjunction with *purification*, *justification*, and finally *sanctification*. The names of all 3 members of the Godhead are invoked in 3 of the gospel’s most important priesthood ordinances. The first, baptism, is performed “in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost” (Matthew 28:19). These 3 names—as witnesses—are used in the prayers of 3 sacred ordinances; as part of baptism, marriage sealings, and the highest temple ordinance. Each is connected with cleansing.<sup>9</sup> Each also appears to be found in the word *Ahmen* ending these prayers.<sup>10</sup>

The shape of the day star windows (12 stones surrounding a circular window) resembles a temple baptismal font atop 12 oxen. These 3 colors there appear to signal our journey towards perfection through Christ, pointing out the need for 1. The blue waters of *purification* used in baptism (administered by the priesthood of *God the*

Father); 2. The white purity of *justification*, granted by sealing the promised blessings upon the righteous (originally promised in the anointing), through *the Holy Spirit* of Promise, and 3. The red blood of *sanctification* (provided in the *Savior's* mediating Atonement). As we perfect ourselves through His grace and mercy, we may then receive Him as the Second Comforter (see chapter 10). Exaltation is only possible with this last step of sanctification. In D&C 88: 21 we read, "And they who are not sanctified through the law which I have given unto you, even the law of Christ, must inherit another kingdom, even that of a terrestrial kingdom, or that of a telestial kingdom."

We read in the book of Moses that "all men, everywhere, must repent, or they can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God, for no unclean thing can dwell there, or dwell in his presence...and inasmuch as ye were born into the world by water, and blood, and the spirit...even so ye must be born again into the kingdom of heaven, of water, and of the Spirit, and be cleansed by blood, even the blood of mine Only Begotten; that ye might be sanctified...For by the *water* ye keep the commandment; by the *Spirit* ye are justified, and by the *blood* ye are sanctified" (Moses 6:57, 59, 60).

Some who have witnessed our Savior's suffering in Gethsemane claim they saw the Master in clothing with these three colors. They state He wore robes of blue and white color, stained in red color of His own blood.

## End Notes

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<sup>1</sup> Robert Allen Campbell, *Our Flag or The Evolution of the Stars and Stripes*, Chicago, 1890, p. 37 (see also pages 50, 51 & 61), cited in Tom Cryer, *Visual Testament*, self-published, p. 78. Who is the Professor? Some believe he may be the translated being John the Beloved. The angel Moroni is another possibility. He has special connections to this, the Promised Land. D&C 27:5 informs us that Moroni holds keys to the "record of the stick of Ephraim", the Book of Mormon.

**13 Stripes** Of the 13 stripes on the American flag, the 6 white stripes and the 7 red stripes may both have reference to purity, as supplied in the Atonement by Christ's blood. Isaiah stated that "*with His stripes we are healed*" (Isaiah 53:5. See also 1 Peter 2:24). His body was also scourged with stripes (perhaps 39 of them) before he was placed on the cross (John 19:1). The Hopi connect red stripes with blood from heaven in association with the Son of God, and revelation (rain from clouds) with white stripes. The stripes are seen in both the Hopi ceremonial kilt and pre-Columbian codices. In the codices these stripes were applied to the bodies of sacrificial victims intended to be surrogates for "God himself." (Krickeberg, 50:51, in Tom Cryer, *Visual Testament*, pps. 78, 82.) The Hopi Indians may be the "remnant" that Joseph Smith first sent missionaries to in the west. They retain religious rituals with many parallels to LDS temple worship. Scourging, a type of whipping in ancient Israel, often involved the use of a cord with 3 separate ends that laid down 3 stripes on the skin simultaneously. The Apostle Paul stated, "Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one" (2 Corinthians 11:24. Hence to get 40 stripes "minus one", one has only to strike the condemned 13 times. A total of 39 stripes was the norm as part of the maximum penalty for various crimes for they were never to exceed 40, the number for "purification." (See Alfred Edersheim, *The Temple: Its Ministry and Services*, Hendrickson Publishers, p. 43. See also Frankel and Teutsch, *The Encyclopedia of Jewish Symbols*, Jason Aaronson Inc., p. 175.)

**13 Stars** The Early US Flag (first official flag), LDS Kingdom of God Flag, and the U.S. Medal of Honor (for the Navy, Army and Air Force) all feature 13 Stars on them – normally one larger star surrounded by 12 smaller stars. The flags also feature 13 alternating stripes (red and white or blue and white).

**13 Lights: 12 Lights around 1** The 12 Signs of the Zodiac circle around the Sun over the course of "the Great Year" (the *Precession of the Equinoxes* – 25,920 years). All things testify of Christ, the Great Creator God who sits enthroned in the midst of it all. Like the sun, He is the light and the life of the world.

**Christ Surrounded by the 12 Apostles** Christ often stood in the middle of the 12 Apostles, the number 13 associated with *divine governance* (the number 12 throughout scripture and the human body is tied to governance – we have 12 systems governing our bodies, including the respiratory, endocrine and nervous systems, etc.)

**The Temple Surrounded by the 12 Tribes** The ancient Tabernacle (13<sup>th</sup> object) was set up in the middle of the 12 Tribes of Israel each time it was moved (3 each in the north, south, east and west).

**13 Tribes** There are 8 Sets of 13 objects found on the back of the U.S. one dollar bill. These are tied to ancient Israel and specifically to the 13<sup>th</sup> Tribe of Israel (or Jacob) – Manasseh, those mostly in the New World (America). This is seen in the symbolism on the back of the One Dollar bill. Many believe this is Masonic, when in reality, much of it is Biblical. Joseph's two sons Ephraim and Manasseh received the Patriarchal blessing of Joseph's father Jacob, along with Joseph's 11 brothers. Ephraim takes the place of Joseph as the 11<sup>th</sup> son (Benjamin was the 12<sup>th</sup>), and Manasseh then becomes the 13<sup>th</sup> Tribe. The symbols for Manasseh included the olive branch and the arrow, 13 of which are held in each of the two feet of the eagle on the Great Seal. Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh of the New World) will eventually be united with the Judah of the Old World in the last days (see Ezekiel 37). They will lead out as the two primary tribes, Judah with rights of Kingship and Joseph with rights to the Priesthood. America is the land of Manasseh, the 13<sup>th</sup> tribe, that of Lehi and his posterity who were promised this land.

*13 Gifts* There are 13 Gifts of the Spirit listed in D&C 46 (the 13<sup>th</sup> is the gift of Eternal Life).

*13 Petals* Most red [blood] roses have 13 petals (5 larger outer petals [life] and 8 smaller inner petals [rebirth]), The rose and its red color are both closely tied to Christ as the loving God who shed his blood for us.

*13 Orbits* Venus orbits the sun 13 times in 8 years. (The numbers 3, 5, 8 and 13 are sequential in the *Fibonacci Sequence* of “creation” numbers found throughout nature.)

*13 Moons* There are 13 New Moons in the Year (12 months of 28 days each)

*13 Articles* The 13 Articles of Faith mirror in content the 13 Steps of progression into the Divine Presence of Messiah (13<sup>th</sup> letter).

*13 Places* There are 13 Places of blessing upon the body (anointing), for the purpose of reversing the “blows of death.” The human body is the temple of our Spirit or Soul.

*13<sup>th</sup> Letter* Messiah is the 13<sup>th</sup> Letter of the Hebrew Alphabet (it is a timeline of the earth – with *God* as #1 and *judgment at the end* as #22); Messiah came in the meridian or “middle” of this alphabet of time - #13. Note the beginning, middle, and end below in red.

<i>Gematria</i>	<i>Hebrew Letter</i>		<i>Meaning/Graphic</i>	<i>Gematria</i>	<i>Hebrew Letter</i>		<i>Meaning/Graphic</i>
1	<b>Aleph</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>God [God]</b>	12 (30)	Lamed	L	Justice [power-priesthood]
2	Beth	B	Mother [house, creation]	<b>13 (40)</b>	<b>Mem</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>Messiah [2<sup>nd</sup> Comforter]</b>
3	Gimal	G	Cycle [faith]	14 (50)	Nun	N	Angel
4	Daleth	D	Mortality [repentance]	15 (60)	Samekh	S	Resurrection
5	Hei	H	Life [covenants]	16 (70)	Ayin	—	Deliverance [gentiles]
6	Vav	O	Nail [order-law]	17 (80)	Peh	P	Voice
7	Zayin	Z	Time [spiritual gifts]	18 (90)	Tzadhe	Ts	Devotion
8	Cheth	CH	Gate [rebirth]	19 (100)	Koph	K, Q	Mercy
9	Tet	T	Serpent [revelation]	20 (200)	Resh	R	Scythe
10	Yod	Y	Spirit [perfection]	21 (300)	Shin	S, Sh	Womb
11	Kaph	K	Palm [call and election]	<b>22 (400)</b>	<b>Tav</b>	<b>T, Th</b>	<b>Jud[<i>end</i>]</b> Joseph

<sup>2</sup> B.H. Roberts, *Comprehensive History of the Church*, 3:275-78.

<sup>3</sup> See *Journal of Mormon History*, vol. 9, pp. 85-111, David L. Bigler, *Forgotten Kingdom*, p. 48, John D. Lee Journal, January 13, 1846, Church Historical Department, and Wilford Woodruff Journal, May 29, 1847, Church Historical Department.

<sup>4</sup> Parley P. Pratt, *Spirituality: Key to the Science of Theology*, Cedar Fort, p. 71, italics added.

<sup>5</sup> Elder Dallin H. Oaks, *Jesus Christ is the Light, Life, and Hope of the World*, Ensign, Dec. 2008, p. 59.

<sup>6</sup> He was to bathe his whole body before putting these all white clothes on, not just cleansing his hands and feet as normal.

<sup>7</sup> See Hebrews 9:3-7; Leviticus 16:23, 26-32; Numbers 29:11.

<sup>8</sup> The work of Israel’s high priests (Exodus 25:4; 28:33) represented Christ, the great High Priest (Hebrews 3:1).

<sup>9</sup> This last ordinance is that granting the Fullness of the priesthood, often called “the Second Anointing.” Water, blood and spirit are all connected to cleansing. The earth was cleansed in the *watery* flood of Noah. Christ’s atoning *blood* was absorbed into the earth at Gethsemane, the scourging, and the cross, helping to purge it. The earth will be cleansed by *fire* at the Lord’s second coming.

<sup>10</sup> The Godhead is invoked a 2<sup>nd</sup> time as witnesses during the eternal marriage ceremony, and a 3<sup>rd</sup> time in receiving the fullness of the priesthood. The word *Amen*, or rather *Ahmen* provides another witness of the Godhead. According to Sampson, Joseph Smith felt that the most holy name of Deity was AH ME N through his study of Hebrew, Kabbalah, and work with Joseph Smith’s Egyptian Alphabet and Grammar. Sampson believes that AH (or Ah) is symbolic of the great bull or sire, the first being holding supreme power, that ME (or M) is symbolic of the owl (Messiah), who will come in the meridian of time, and that N (or eN) is symbolic of the hawk, a speedy, winged messenger, angels or the Holy Ghost.