

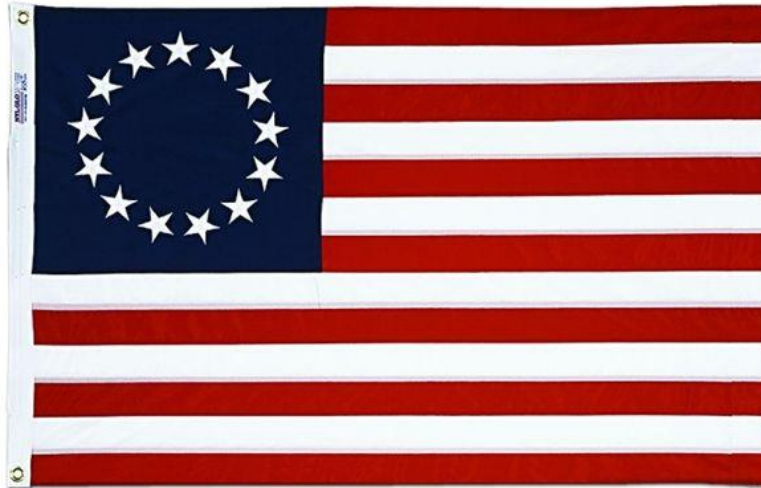


# *Last Days Beacon*

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## **THE HIDDEN MEANING OF AMERICA'S FLAG – FINALLY REVEALED**

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### WHY ARE ALL OF THE FLAGS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION LOST?

Imagine you're on a game show and the question is asked, "What does the American flag mean?" You say, "Freedom" and the buzzer sounds. No. The person next to you says, "Democracy." Buzzer sounds again. No. The third person says, "Separation of church and state" and the buzzer sounds again. So, what is the flag saying? The reason you don't know is because the true meaning has been deviously and systematically hidden ever since 1795 when the Revised Version of the Stars and Stripes eliminated the star circle in the canton of the Revolution Banner, giving us the dress pattern of stars.

Not only has the meaning of America's flag been hidden for most of American history (200-plus years). All of the American Revolution Stars and Stripes flags are missing.

The original name, given to the Stars and Stripes by the Revolution Congress – “a new constellation” – has been swept under the rug. America’s history elites deny that Betsy Ross sewed the first Stars and Stripes – the flag pictured above. And they deny that flag had a star circle in the canton.

This is just the tip of the hide-the-flag’s-meaning conspiracy. But it’s not just the meaning of the flag that is being hidden, but also the very important colonial history and spirit that inspired America’s Revolution. So first we must look at the context of America’s Revolution and the ideas that produced the original American Revolution Stars and Stripes.

### **AMERICA’S REVOLUTION WAS THE CLIMAX OF 140-SOME YEARS OF COLONIAL PROPHECY BELIEFS**

Let’s return the American Revolution back to its colonial context. Many academic historians – no friends of the “Religious Right” – have documented the amazing facts of colonial and Revolution history that are being concealed. The ideas that motivated America’s Revolution go back nearly three centuries earlier to Columbus’ discovery of the Americas. Who today can believe that Bible prophecy beliefs were the foundational platform of modernity? Although he is hardly alone, one expert on the early modern period (1500 – 1800) has been reporting for decades that Bible prophecy beliefs were at the center of the mind of early modernity. “There is nothing in the least liberal, democratic or scientific about the apocalypse [the book of Revelation],” writes Arthur Williamson, “but none of these developments would have occurred without it” – the program for modern science and democracy.

“The apocalypse underwrote the Protestant Reformation in the sixteenth century, the British [Puritan] Revolution in the seventeenth century and the American Revolution in the eighteenth century. Apocalyptic ideas and expectations during the early modern period exercised the European social imagination quite literally from Moscow to Mexico City, from Scotland to Yemen,” he added. “They would shape the world in profound and enduring ways.”<sup>1</sup>

Nowhere were these Last Days prophecy beliefs that Williamson describes in his book more obvious than in colonial America. The popular idea that America’s

Revolution was inspired by an adolescent rage for freedom from England, the colonial parent, was not the direct cause of the Revolution. As many American historians have written, it was the colonial belief that Last Days prophecies were manifesting in real time in America that drove her Revolution.

Two in particular – Daniel’s Fifth Empire prophecy in the Old Testament (Daniel 2:35) and Christ’s Millennium prophecy (Revelation 20) in the New Testament were the major ideas that galvanized the minds of colonial leaders.

These big truths are covered over by ruling class myths dispensed in the Media-Education Complex (MEC). The Declaration of Independence is “an Enlightenment document,” say the mythmakers and the Revolution was an “Enlightenment rebellion.” Were the words of the Declaration issued today, it would be attacked by the media as “fundamentalist.”

And the Revolution was the polar opposite of an Enlightenment idea. The Enlightenment was all about “reason.” America’s Revolution was not just unreasonable it was stone cold crazy. How could a tiny collection of farmers and tradesmen win a war against the best-trained and most experienced army in the world? Even in the colonies, as John Adams pointed out, only a minority (one in three) of the colonists fought in or supported the Revolution. And most of those were Christians.

### **AMERICA’S REVOLUTION STARTED IN AMERICA’S ORIGINAL “BIBLE BELT” – PURITAN MASSACHUSETTS**



Benjamin Franklin’s “Exodus” Great Seal Proposal

Let’s remember that the Revolution began in America’s original “Bible Belt,” Puritan Massachusetts – not the Tory-filled, Crown-loyalist South. As historians have written, America’s Revolution was inspired by and modeled on England’s Bible-inspired Puritan Revolution.

<sup>1</sup> Quotations from the back cover of *Apocalypse Then: Prophecy and The Making of the Modern World*, Arthur H. Williamson, 2009, Praeger Series on the Early Modern World, Westport CT/ London

That is where America's Rebellion got its motto – "No king but King Jesus."

It was the founders' belief that the American Revolution would be a *déjà vu* of the Hebrew Exodus in the second book of the Bible. How do we know that? The first two proposals for the Great Seal of the new nation were issued shortly after the Declaration was read. Both (see Franklin's proposal) were pictures of God rescuing the Hebrew slaves from Egypt in the book of Exodus.

There are more than a few that will say this was just a passing fancy. However, seven years later, when the Revolution was won, Washington was widely called "the American Moses." And 20 years later, when he passed away, eulogies honored him as "America's Moses," an idea that lasted well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### WHERE DID THE NAME "A NEW CONSTELLATION" COME FROM?



After 17 months of fighting under the first Revolution flag, the confusing "Grand Union", which had England's Union Jack in the canton – the founders raised the Stars and Stripes banner, naming it "a new constellation." This was the first symbolic statement of the Revolution mission and the identity and destiny of the new nation. But what does it mean? The "new constellation" name was issued without explanation, kind of like the tight-lip statement of an attorney after a contentious trial. To understand what "new constellation" means we have to go back to London exactly a half century before the Declaration was read.

### THE MAN WHO PREDICTED AMERICA WOULD BECOME HISTORY'S GREAT NATION

**George Berkeley** is one of the mystery men of American history. He was one of England's most brilliant thinkers, a minor official in the Church of England, and one of the great philosophers of early modernity. He

founded the philosophy of *Idealism*. Most Americans have never heard of him, but *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy* gave 12 pages to Berkeley. *The World's Greatest Thinkers* devoted a third of the book to Berkeley. He was instrumental in setting up America's higher education system.

Berkeley, California and Berkeley University were named after him and on the East Coast, Yale's Berkeley College is named for him for his involvement with Elihu Yale in founding one of America's greatest colleges. Virtually every educated American has heard about the Democrat Party's darling, John Locke; but Locke's major critic was Berkeley who wrote that Locke's ideas if implemented would end in disaster.

In his poem, "Verses on America," issued exactly a half-century before the Declaration was read, Berkeley predicted that the British colonies would become a nation – and would then become History's Great Nation. He based these ideas on the English belief that this most westerly land on the globe would be the manifestation and evolution of Old Testament Prophet Daniel's Fifth and Final Empire prophecy. Of course, many regard the fulfillment of this Old Testament prophecy as delusional, but there is no question Berkeley was correct on the first two of his ideas – Britain's colonies did become a nation. And that nation did become History's Great Nation.

Hidden today is the great significance and effect of Berkeley's 1726 prediction about America's identity and destiny. And while this important fact of history is hidden today, it wasn't for most of American history. (1) George Bancroft, the "father of American history," subtitled his 19<sup>th</sup> century "A History of the United States of America" with the once famous words of Berkeley's poem, "Westward the star ("Course") of Empire makes its way."

(2) And did you know that those words are inscribed on the wall of the west staircase of the Capitol? (3) Ralph Waldo Emerson showed that all Americans knew of Berkeley's poetic prophecy of America's identity and destiny. In an 1864 article in *The Atlantic*, titled "Walking," Emerson wrote, "I hardly need remind Americans, that westward the star of empire makes its way."

(4) During the first presidential election of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, President William McKinley's re-election campaign chose Berkeley's famous words – "Westward the Course of empire makes its way" as its motto. Why don't Americans know about Berkeley today?

## DID BERKELEY'S PROPHECY INSPIRE AMERICA'S FIRST GREAT AWAKENING?

Berkeley's poem reached America more than a decade before America's First Great Awakening. Because of his position as one of England's great thinkers, Berkeley's ideas had great weight in both America and England. Significantly, it was after Berkeley's poetic nomination of the British colonies as the outworking of Daniel's Stone Mountain Empire that English evangelists, George Whitefield and the Wesley brothers (founders of Methodism) made the difficult trip to America to preach.

Jonathan Edwards, the central figure of the First Great Awakening, and ranked as America's greatest theologian, announced that Christ's Millennium would begin in Massachusetts. And it was around this time, approaching the middle of the 1700s, that New England became a hotbed of millennial thinking. Historians have analyzed the First Great Awakening as the spiritual motor that drove the Revolution.

### WESTWARD THE COURSE OF EMPIRE

Nearly half of America's founders had been educated at seminaries, especially Princeton, where Edwards was hired as president. They would have learned about Edwards idea that Christ's Millennium would begin in New England and of Berkeley's poetic prophecy. Here are the critical lines of Berkeley's poem, "America or the Muses' Refuge: A Prophecy."

"Westward the Course of Empire  
takes its Way.

The four first Acts already past,  
A Fifth shall close the Drama with the Day;  
Time's noblest Offspring is the last."

### DECODING BERKELEY'S POEM

(1) The first line describes the westerly movement of history and empire from East to West, from Egypt and Babylon to Rome, Spain, England and then England's colonies. (2) The second line alludes to Daniel's prophecy of the last four of the five great empires of history, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome. (3) "A Fifth shall close the Drama with the Day" points to the fifth and last of the five empires God told Daniel about roughly 2,200 years earlier.

"Closing the Drama with the Day" is a poetic metaphor for the divine "Drama" of time in its last phase. (4) And

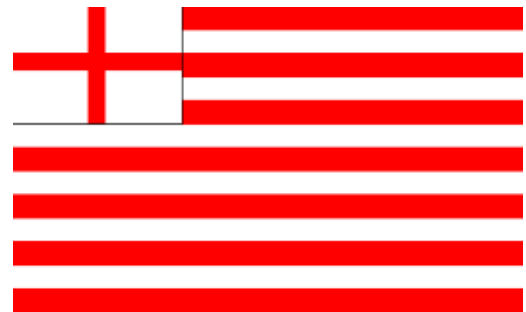
"Time's noblest Offspring is the last" points to the last great empire of history, Daniel's "Stone Mountain" – which is the same thing as Christ's prophecy of a thousand-year Millennium.

"Time's noblest Offspring" identifies the new nation as History's Greatest Empire, and indeed, America is greater than even Rome, the greatest of the ancient empires. This idea of Daniel's Fifth Empire being fulfilled in real time began in 1492 when Columbus returned with the big news of his discovery of a vast "New World." His financiers, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain had come to believe that Spain was the miraculous outworking of Daniel's Fifth Monarchy.

Within a century, England believed God had reassigned Daniel's Last Great Empire baton to England after the Spanish Armada failed to drag England back into the Roman Empire Church. It was a little more than a century later that Berkeley named Britain's colonies as the true manifestation of Daniel's prophecy. This was the idea that America's founders were working with in organizing the new nation.

### SO WHAT IS THE SYMBOLISM OF AMERICA'S FLAG COMMUNICATING?

**1 – THE STRIPES** – The first symbol on America's Revolution flag is the 13 red and white stripes. We find the meaning of them from the British flag from which they were taken. The East India Company (EIC) banner was one of Britain's most famous flags because it flew on EIC ships that sailed across the globe, all the way over to India and China.



The founders borrowed the stripes from the East India Company flag.

This famous British flag was a brilliant shorthand symbol of the essential *good news* message of Jesus. The red cross symbolizes the Roman cross on which Christ was executed. And the stripes symbolize the punishment-judgement-pain that he suffered as the atoning substitute for all who elect him their king and savior.

Christ's execution was foreseen by the prophet Isaiah centuries before it happened when he wrote that the Jewish Messiah would receive "stripes," the ancient symbol of flogging and punishment. Isaiah wrote, "with his stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5).

**2 – STARS AND STRIPES** – Together Stars and Stripes symbolize the beginning and the climax of God's salvation plan. It begins with stars and ends with stripes. In Genesis 15, God points Abraham to the sky asking him to count them. God says the stars symbolize Abraham's descendants and how many there will be. Those descendants include those who will elect His Son as their King and Savior. God's Genesis 15 Covenant ceremony with Abraham represents the beginning of God's salvation plan. That plan climaxes with Jesus' crucifixion.

#### **GOD VOWED TO PAY FOR THE SINS OF ABRAHAM AND HIS DESCENDANTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE BIBLE**

In Genesis 15:9-12,17, God prophesied in the ancient legal ritual of the Suzerain-Vassal Covenant ceremony that He made with Abraham that He would pay for any violation of the terms of the covenant – i.e., sins. This Suzerain-Vassal Covenant ceremony that God entered into with Abraham was a widely practiced ancient contract ritual. A number of animals would be killed, cut in half and then each part placed across from the other, with a path in between. The two kings making the contract, which usually involved a protective military alliance, would walk down the corridor between the animal parts swearing oaths.

The most important of the oaths was that if either of the parties violates the covenant terms, they would be killed, like the sacrificial animals. What was shockingly different in the Genesis account is that only God, in the form of a smelting pot, proceeded down the corridor alone.

By doing this without Abraham, God signified that He would take the penalty for Abraham, and by extension Abraham's descendants, for any violations of the covenant – all sins. Thus, the idea that God would pay for all the sins of those who enter into a contract with Him (i.e., choose His Son as their King and Savior) was first set here in the first book of the Bible.

So – Christ's last words on the cross, "it is finished," were not referring to his execution, his death or his

ministry (which continued with the Holy Spirit). He was referring back to God's Suzerain-Vassal pledge to pay the painful, devastating price for all of the sins of Abraham and his descendants. Another way of interpreting Christ's last words is, "it is done, I've fulfilled God's vow to Abraham at the beginning of His salvation plan." Centuries after Isaiah's "with his stripes we are healed" – after Jesus rose from the dead – Christ's apostle Peter wrote in the past tense, "by his stripes we have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24).

**THE STARS** – The original star circle, symbolizing "a new constellation," was drawn from Berkeley's poetic prophecy. A circle of stars was chosen to represent America because it was in the circular shape of the Zodiac – the path around which the sun, moon and principal planets travel. Berkeley's poem pictured the ancient empires as constellations and America as a new empire, "a new constellation" in the heavens.

The idea of a "new empire" was what Berkeley was predicting – that the United States would be the outworking of Daniel's Fifth and Final Empire of history – a "Stone Mountain." When decoded according to Bible iconography, "Stone" symbolizes God and His Son, the Messiah and "Mountain" represents an empire – Christ's Empire.

**Stars-and stripes thus symbolize the bookends of God's salvation plan.**

**3 – RED, WHITE AND BLUE** – This color combination evolved beginning with the Roman Catholic Red Cross. The cross is red because of the divine blood that Christ shed on Rome's execution device. White symbolizes Christ's pure, sinless body. These are the colors of Holy Communion. Blue symbolizes the heavens, or the sky – light blue during the day and dark blue at night. These colors were borrowed from England's red-white-and-blue Union Jack, whose color symbolism is identical to that of the American flag.

The red-white-blue color triad became popular in the Reformation era, with the Protestant Netherlands' and England's red, white and blue flags. Because in the 1600s, Christendom had been focusing on Christ's Second Coming and the Millennium he would bring, there is a larger symbolic meaning to red, white and blue.

Red (wine) and white (bread) are the colors of Christ's body in Communion and blue symbolizes the heavens.

The 19<sup>th</sup> chapter of Revelation, “Armageddon,” shows Christ returning from heaven (blue) on a white horse wearing a blood-spattered robe (red and white).

**Thus red, white and blue is the symbolic color language of Christendom’s focus on Christ’s Return.**

### WHAT DOES AMERICA’S FLAG MEAN?

America’s flag defines America’s identity and destiny according to Bible prophecy. The flag symbolism was inspired by Berkeley’s nomination of America as the outworking of the last of the great empires of the world, Daniel’s Fifth Empire. Bible scholars will rightfully and justifiably contest this idea as “eisegesis,” i.e., the attempt to fit American history into Bible prophecy. And yet, strangely, America has indeed fulfilled some of Daniel’s Fifth Empire prophecies.

For example, Daniel prophesied that the Fifth Empire would destroy the ancient system of monarchy and theocracy. And even atheist historians have named the American Revolution as the root cause of this geopolitical phenomenon.

And how very strange that the Bible-scoffing Media would use that word “Millennium” that is exclusively connected with Christ to name the most Bible-phobic, anti-Christian generation in US history. The Bible says the various people of the world will flock to Israel in the Millennium. And coincidentally, no other nation has had more people from all the nations of the world flock to it, like America, the most utopian-millennial nation in history. And, of course, America does not replace Israel.

### THE FLAGS OF THE WORLD NOMINATE AMERICA AS HISTORY’S GREAT NATION

Americans are unaware of the enormous effect America’s flag symbolism had on the nations around the world. A survey I did of the 198 nation flags of the world, showed that around half were influenced by America’s flag. Some are obvious, like Liberia, Malaysia, Greece, Uruguay and Togo. But even America’s communist enemies show signs of shoplifting symbolism from the Stars and Stripes. Communist North Korea on the eastern border of the world and Communist Cuba on the western border have both threatened America with nuclear weapons. And yet, oddly, both have star-and-stripe-red-white-and-blue flags.

### THE FLAG OF THE EUROPEAN UNION BORROWED THE STAR CIRCLE CANTON OF THE ORIGINAL STARS AND STRIPES, THE “NEW CONSTELLATION.”

Is the EU claiming that it, not the US, is the outworking of Daniel’s Fifth and Final Empire?



And even Israel and its Jordanian neighbor both have star-and-stripes flags with two of the three colors on America’s flag. Strangely, China’s flag has the uniquely American five-point stars. Why in the name of Mao Tse-tung would America-loathing China borrow America’s unique contribution to international flag making – five-point stars – and then locate them in the upper left-hand corner – where America’s stars are?

The Media Education-Complex have for decades insisted that the world hates America. However, if imitation is the sincerest form of admiration, then it looks like half the world’s flags – including America’s enemies – have secretly honored America as the globe’s alpha dog, the greatest nation in the world. Didn’t George Berkeley predict America would become History’s Great Nation a half-century before the American Revolution began?

*Editor’s Note: Paul-Warren Dinger is an ordained minister, an American history scholar and a descendent of a Revolutionary War soldier.*

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