

No.13 and the American Eagle

The Israel nation of the Old Testament was to be identified and led by two main families. On one hand there was to emerge a "company" or "multitude" of nations inheriting the national Israel promises through Ephraim, the younger son of Joseph. Likewise, there was to emerge a "great people" through the elder son of Joseph, namely Manasseh. In GENESIS 48 we read that the patriarch Jacob (Israel) blessed these two sons of Joseph and said, "...and let my name be named on them." Manasseh, as well as Ephraim, was to carry the Israel name.

Joseph, one of the 12 whose descendants constituted the 12-tribed House of Israel, divided his inheritance between his two sons as already shown. Thus a thirteenth portion fell to Manasseh, which became the thirteenth tribe.

Flag of the President of the USA



On his death-bed Jacob (Israel) blessed his two grandsons, Ephraim and Manasseh, and divided the inheritance of their father Joseph between them. This raised the number of tribes to thirteen; Manasseh becoming the thirteenth. The people of the United States today have every identification of the descendants of Joseph.

13 Constellations or Moons: In a dream Joseph saw his mother as the moon. Israel is depicted in Scripture as a woman (GENESIS 37).

13 Stars: In this same dream Joseph likened his brothers to stars bowing to his superiority. Israel's seed was to multiply as the stars of heaven for number (GENESIS 22). The woman (Israel) is depicted as having a crown of 12 stars (REVELATION 12). (Later in Israel's history the priestly tribe of Levi was absorbed into the remaining sections, thus forming the 12 tribes again.)

13 Berries: Israel is likened to the olive tree. The apostle Paul uses this illustration strongly in Romans 11. Joseph was to be "a fruitful bough" (GENESIS 49:22). Manasseh carries the olive branch, and the branch is fruitful, with 13 berries.

13 Letters: The inscription "E Pluribus Unum" means "One Out of Many." It happens to contain 13 letters, and refers to America's designation as one carrying the Israel inheritance.

13 Arrows: ""The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him"" (GENESIS 49:23).

The bow and arrow has ever been a symbol of military prowess. The prophet Balaam said of Israel: ""...he shall eat up nations... and shall pierce them through with his arrows"" (NUMBERS 24:8).

The United States of America is looked upon today as the main bulwark of the free world. The illustration shown here was imprinted on every uniform button and every cap badge worn by every G.I. during World War II. The American Eagle stands with the British Lion as a symbol of military strength and purpose. The arrows might well be a warning to the aggressor, for Isaiah wrote: ""No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper... this is the heritage of the servants of the LORD"" (ISAIAH 54:17).

13 Stripes: These stripes are shown as representing the original 13 states of America, but are we not justified in referring back to the birth of America's inheritance as a ""great people"" and blood brother to the British Commonwealth of Nations?

Shoulder Stars - Authority: Note the four stars on the right shoulder of the eagle. They denote authority. ""...and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."" So wrote Isaiah of our soon-returning Saviour, and so, too, we see His coming authority over His people Israel thus depicted. Truly God has done nothing but that He has revealed it to His servants the prophets.

The Gospel: The woman (Israel), to whom were given the wings of an eagle, was to have ""...the testimony of Jesus Christ"" (REVELATION 12:17). America has heard the Gospel. Along with the British people, Manasseh has promulgated the Word of God to the nations of the world; through their combined efforts the Bible has been translated into more than 1,000 languages and dialects. The tragedy is that sin remains in Anglo-Saxon Israel. Apostasy has robbed us of the personal blessings Christ gave us at Calvary. The land of America handles the Gospel - but with unsanctified hands.

Manasseh-America truly has a secret weapon today, and it is not a product of the scientific laboratory. They have inherited this weapon - it is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.