

JEHOVAH-NISSI

The Lord our Banner

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Jehovah

The name Jehovah occurs about 7,000 times in the Old Testament. In the Psalms alone, it is used some 700 times. The name is generally printed in some capitals, LORD, and is thus distinguished from the other Hebrew words translated Lord.

LORD, Lord and lord convey different shades of thought both in Hebrew and Greek. LORD, however, is applied to Him who is known as Jehovah. This absoluteness of the divine Being, who is independent, self-existing is found in the declaration, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending saith the LORD - Jehovah - which is and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty." Revelation 1:8

Nissi

The word Nissi itself has some interesting implications and is rendered standard, ensign (Isaiah 5:26; 49:22; 62:10) as a sign in Numbers 26:10, and as a pole in connection with the brazen serpent lifted up upon it to give life to Israel. Our Savior was lifted up upon the pole and by all He accomplished upon it we have victory over the world, flesh, and the devil.

The Lord Himself is the Victory over the Amalek of our foes and He is our Banner leading us always in triumph.

While Amalek fought with Israel in Rephidim, and Joshua was conspicuous in the conflict, Moses and Aaron and Hur were on top of the hill. When Moses held up his hand, holding the rod of God, Israel prevailed; and when weary, he let his hands drop, Amalek prevailed. To avoid defeat, Aaron and Hur stayed up with Moses, propping his hands until Israel defeated their enemies and God gave them the victory. To celebrate this glorious deliverance from Amalek, "Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovah-Nissi" or Jehovah My Banner, "for he said, because the LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation." Exodus 17:15-16.

"Moses took care that God should have the glory of this victory. Instead of setting up a trophy in the honor of Joshua, though it had been a laudable policy to put marks of honor upon him - he builds an altar to the honor of God...what is most carefully recorded is the inscription upon the altar, Jehovah-Nissi: The Lord my Banner. In all our battles against the world, flesh and the devil, it is so necessary that God is before us, and with us as our Jehovah-Nissi.

No matter how strong the enemy, or continuous his attacks, He is with us, girding us with strength, teaching our hands to war (Psalm 18:32-34) and that his banner over us is Love (Song of Solomon 2:4). Actually, the term Banner has the idea of something which gleams conspicuously from afar. If we are secret disciples, shrinking from "nailing our colors to the mast" in open acknowledgment of our Lord, we can hardly look for victory over the principalities and powers arrayed against us.

There's a royal banner given for display
To the soldiers of the King;
As an ensign fair we lift it up today,
While as ransomed ones we sing-
Marching on! Marching on!
'Neath the banner of the Cross!

Fabric: Deity of God - brilliant metallics and satin.

Colors:

Blue speaks of heavenly things and places; symbolizes revelation. Among the Hebrews, the color blue was the color of Jehovah, the symbol of the revealed God. (Ex. 24:10; Ezek. 1:26) represents reward (Ungers Bible Dictionary).

Gold indicates brilliance and purity. Symbolic of righteousness. Represents choice of fine treasure.

Red is the color of fire and therefore of life: The blood is red because life is a fiery process: essential element of atonement (Isaiah 63:2; Heb. 9:22). The Old Testament declares, "without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin." The blood of Christ atones for the sin of man (1 John 1:17; Luke 22:20; Heb. 9:11-14).

White is significant due to the fact that light is white; signifies holiness, purity (Ps. 27:1); sign of festivity (Eccl. 9:8) and triumph (Zech. 6:3); symbol of glory and majesty (Dan. 7:9; Ezek. 9:3).

The Lord Himself is the Victory over the Amalek of our foes, and He is our Banner leading us always in triumph. As Dr. F.E. Marsh so convincingly states it - "The Lord in His death for us is our Banner in victory - our Standard in life - our Ensign in testimony - our Sign to all that He is the Triumphant Lord."