

JOHN 3:16

Mashiach – Light of the WORLD

This banner is the first in a series of 10 banners. The inspiration for this group of banners was a CD, which a dear friend of mine, Ronen Shalom, recently recorded and is titled the *Songs of the Bride*. When this series of banners are complete there will be a banner that goes with each of the ten songs on his CD.

The first song on the CD was titled John 3:16. It was only fitting that the name of the first banner include that as part of the title. When I prayed for inspiration and a design for this banner I instantly saw a Menorah. Since there is always a scripture basis or character trait of the LORD that is always behind each work that I do, each piece must begin with searching the scriptures and through other books as the Holy Spirit leads me. So I began to research on the symbology of the Menorah.

In reading *“Living Emblems Ancient Symbols of Faith”* by John Garr, I discovered that since ancient times the Jewish people have considered the Menorah as a representation of Yahweh’s light. John Garr writes in his book,

“The sages have suggested that the light that pervaded the universe for three of creator’s days before the formation of the sun, moon, and stars was light of God’s Word, the Torah. With this fundamental Hebraic understanding, the Apostle John’s observations concerning the person and work of Jesus take on a new significance: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God . . . In him was life, and the life was the light of men” (John 1:1, 4)

So here we have the Menorah as an emblem of Yahweh’s light and his Word. For Yeshua HaMashiach is the living Torah and the light of Yahweh! The Menorah was not lit by candles but by oil held in the seven bowls. Since oil has often been used as a symbol for the Holy Spirit, this says we cannot partake of the Light and the Word unless we are allowing the Holy Spirit to write the Torah on our hearts and our minds.

Much of the design has specific colors and numbers involved. I do not claim to be an expert by any means about numbers and colors. I can only share what I feel the Holy Spirit has shown me over the years about some of these colors and numbers. Since my banners are prophetic in nature I never completely know why the Holy Spirit has me to put certain things in the design.

On the menorah there are seven crystal gems for each branch of the Menorah, which complements the seven branches of the Menorah. These branches have their own meaning based on scripture. The number seven can mean divine completion and I believe that to be the representation in these seven gems. Yeshua was the divine completion to Abba’s plan of salvation. There are three crystal gems on the center branch representing the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. There is a button on the base that contains five little gems. As we know the number five represents grace. It is by Abba’s grace we are able to receive our salvation through Yeshua. There are two more gems one in each corner of the stand. I felt that these represented Ephraim and Judah’s restoration as Israel, one in Yeshua.

The colors have various representations. The fire fabric behind the Menorah represents the refiner’s fire. In that section of the banner there is the Hebrew letters, which spell Mashiach. We cannot become like our Messiah unless we submit to the refiner’s fire. There is purple for royalty, green for new life/new beginnings, gold for perfection, turquoise for living water, and blue for revelation. All characteristics of Yeshua. I am sure there are many other symbolic meanings of the colors and designs in this piece . . . but I will leave that to you and the Holy Spirit to discover those together.

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