

DID JESUS CARRY A FLAG?



Don't laugh.

All over the earth people are trying to put a flag in Jesus' hands.

And why not?

Think of all the nations that were established on Christian principles.

"In God we trust."

"God, keep our land, glorious and free!"

In these dark times why shouldn't Jesus carry a flag to help us keep things going in the right direction?

*Our father's God to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing.
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King!*

Bad news.

Jesus cannot carry a flag.

His hands are full.

He carries a cross.



For all nations.

For all people.

For good people and bad.

For rich people and poor.

For high people and low.

Yes, Jesus is risen from the dead, but the power of the cross goes wherever he goes.

And here's the kicker:

If we want to follow Jesus,
our hands will be too full to carry anything but a cross.

And he said to all, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake, he will save it.

For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?

For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels."

Luke 9



Invitation

Ramone Romero

If we are crucified with Christ,

if we carry a cross in our hearts...

We belong to God.

We are aliens and exiles in this world, just like our Lord.

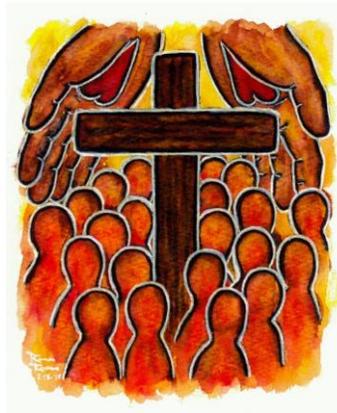
We vote and pay our taxes, but our real citizenship is in God's kingdom.

And our power is the cross we carry day and night.

I am crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.

And the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2



People of the Cross Ramone Romero

Prayer Jesus may our souls be so brimming with your Holy Spirit, our hearts so drawn to you, our feet so willing to follow after you and our hands so full with carrying your cross that we have no room or desire to carry anything else. May our hearts sing... "you are who we belong to, Precious Lord...not a flag...not a cause...to you beloved Lord. We love you; we trust you and you alone are our banner."

Maranatha Mirror

Message: REB November 2021

Featured Art: Ramone Romero weeping-jeremiahs.blogspot.com

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