The Symbols on the Dollar Bill

*Mystery Meanings*

*Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD (Ps. 33:12).*

When listening to the news media, one might get the false impression that America was designed to be a secular state. I believe a study of the symbols on the Dollar Bill will prove otherwise.

The Dollar Bill is the basic unit of American currency. Its design is laden with symbolic imagery. The symbols on the dollar bill inform us about the theology, philosophy, and values of colonial people building a new nation. Though the bill has experienced design changes, the fundamental values of Americans living in 1776 have been preserved on the bill.

{Because of the work of revisionists in history and the work of humanist to eradicate Christianity and to secularize our institutions, it is getting more and more difficult to trace our Christian heritage in present historical works. This research is provided so that revisionists do not have the last and final say. I have done my best to represent the truth in my research on the topic of the “Meaning of the Symbols on the Dollar Bill.” However, like all research on such subjects, the reader is encourage to conduct his own investigation and draw his own conclusions.}

**THE WORD DOLLAR**

The word *dollar* comes from the German *taler* (or *thaler* or *daler*), a name given to German coins made in 1519. The coin was named as it was minted in Joachimsthal, a town in what was then Bohemia; the name meant "St. Joachim's Valley". Two million of these coins were struck between 1520 and 1528. One side of the coin showed a crucified Christ and the other side showed the image of a serpent hanging from a cross. Near the head was the abbreviation “NU” and on the other side the number “21.” The dollar sign ( $ ) is a symbol of the serpent on the cross. The dollar sign is a reminder to all men that spiritual healing begins with Christ,
not money.

The word *dollar* is linked with a holy number. For example, the Hebrew word *serpent* is written vHN (pronounced *na cha sh*) and had a numerical equivalent of 358.

\[
\begin{align*}
N &= 50 \\
Ch &= 8 \\
Sh &= 300 \\
\text{Total} &= 358
\end{align*}
\]

The Hebrew word for *Messiah* is written hiiyvm (pronounced *mashach*) and has a numerical value of 358 creating a mystical connection between the hanging serpent and Christ.

\[
\begin{align*}
Ma &= 40 \\
Sh &= 300 \\
A &= 10 \\
Ch &= 8 \\
\text{Total} &= 358
\end{align*}
\]

There is no dollar sign on the dollar bill. Despising the spiritual meaning of the dollar sign (\$), the international bankers were able to effectively remove the symbol off the American dollar bill.

**GEORGE WASHINGTON**

The portrait of Washington was commissioned by Martha Washington and painted by American artist Gilbert Stuart in 1796. Interestingly, the frown on his face was due to the fact that President Washington had recently been fitted with a new set of false teeth.

Washington is perhaps the most influential man in American history. He not only led the patriots to victory over the British, the most powerful military power in his time, he was the chairman the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia and the first President of the “united States.” It was said that his presence gave such civility to the assembly. Not one representative dare loose his demeanor in those heated debates in the baking, soggy summer of 1787.

The face of George Washington (1732-1799) is in the center of the dollar bill suggesting that the *spirit of Washington* is still the guiding spirit of American history. If you fold a dollar bill in half, it will fold in the center of the right eye of Washington to suggest to all Americans that we should be guided by his vision, his character, and his faith.

Washington’s diaries are full of prayers and expressions to “the Almighty Ruler,” “hand
of providence,” “to Almighty Father.” He prayed “Bless us with Thy wisdom in our counsels, success in battle, and let all our victories be tempered with humanity” (1779). As a member of the “pure” Anglican Church he repeated the Apostle’s Creed regularly, “I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only son, our Lord.”

Henry Muhlenberg, pastor of the Lutheran church near Valley Forge said of him,

“I heard a fine example today, namely, that His Excellency General Washington rode around among his army yesterday and admonished each one to fear God, to put away wickedness that has set in and become so general, and to practice Christian virtues. From all appearance, this gentleman does not belong to the so-called world of society, for he respects God’s Word, believes in the atonement through Christ, and bears himself in humility and gentleness. Therefore, the Lord God has also singularly, yea, marvelously, preserved him from harm in the midst of countless perils, ambuscades, fatigues, etc., and has hitherto graciously held him in His hand as a chosen vessel.”

The Washington Monument, which stands over 555 feet high, has among others the following engraved on it, “Search the Scriptures (John 5:39; Acts 17:11), “Holiness to the Lord,” and “In God we trust.”

**THE OMEGA FRAME**

The frame around Washington is the Omega symbol of the Greek Alphabet-a symbol of the end of things (W). Washington himself was guided by the One who said, “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending,’ saith the Lord,” (Rev. 1:8). This symbol links Washington with the future to which America strives. His faith and His God is still guiding the destiny of America.

The letter A is also a prominent theme on the dollar bill suggesting that America’s beginning has also been guided by the Alpha and Omega. The Greek word for A is alpha. The Latin letter for alpha is A. The Hebrew alphabet begins with an aleph. The word “America” begins and ends with the letter A. It is the hope that Alpha and Omega of Eternity will be with America until the end of time.

The letter A contains a triangle which is a symbol of the Trinity. If truncated in the middle, the letter A symbolizes an incomplete pyramid- a reminder that America is an unfinished work.

If we take the word AMERICA we can form a pyramid with the angles in the letter A.

If one takes a straight edge from the A in dollar to the final A in America, one will see that the line passes through the stars in the constellation above the American Eagle.

There are thirteen examples of the letter A on the front of the dollar bill.
THE DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY SEAL

The scales are a symbol of justice. The key is a symbol of service. The thirteen stars are symbols of the thirteen colonies arranged on what is believed to be a carpenter’s square—a symbol of an even cut. The symbolism communicates to us that the government is a public fiduciary and that its servants are to be guided by truth in the performance of its limited duties. Before 1862 only dollar coins were issued. At the time of the signing of the Constitution, the people had little faith in paper currency due to the constant depreciation of paper money during the Colonial period. There is a need for government officials to be reminded of their call to be just and fair.

THE GREAT SEAL

The two roundels on the dollar bill are based on the Great Seal of America. These symbols have undergone an evolution in design in American history (from 1782), but the meaning has remained basically the same. F. D. Roosevelt is responsible for the modern design of the Great Seal on the dollar bill (1935).

The Eagle Symbol: Because of its keen eyesight and mystical powers, the eagle has been chosen as a symbol of wisdom and foresight in mythology. In Christian literature, the eagle is a symbol of the highest authority—the authority of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:32). The eagle is shaped in the form of a five-pointed star—an obvious reference to Jesus Christ, the star out of Jacob (Num. 24:17). William Barton chose the eagle to represent Congress—the highest authority in America. Today, the Bald Eagle is a symbol for victory. He is not afraid of a storm; he is strong, and he is smart enough to soar above it. He faces left as a preference for peace. He wears no material crown showing we are not under a monarchy.

The thirteen arrows in the eagle’s left talon are Jonathan arrows (Num. 20)—symbols of Congress’ ability to declare war if threatened by an enemy. The fact the arrows are together demonstrate the strength in unity. The olive branch in the right talon represents...
Congress desire and preference for peace. There are thirteen leaves on the branch and thirteen berries on the image, which represent the thirteen colonies.

The shield, or escutcheon, is shown on the breast of the eagle without any support, indicating the self-reliance of the United States. Breaking from England, the nation was now on its own to defend the life, liberty, and property of its sovereign citizens.

Thirteen red and white stripes appear on the shield, representing the 13 original states. The red color represents hardiness and valor, and the white represents purity and innocence. Blue signifies vigilance, perseverance, and justice. These stripes support and unite with the top blue band, which represents Congress. At the top of that shield a white bar signifies Congress as the unifying element of the nation.

**Thirteen is a lucky number.** You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13th floor. But consider this:

- 13 original colonies,
- 13 signers of the Declaration of Independence,
- 13 stripes on our flag,
- 13 steps on the Pyramid,
- 13 letters in the Latin above,
- 13 letters in "E Pluribus Unum",
- 13 stars above the Eagle,
- 13 bars on that shield,
- 13 leaves on the olive branch,
- 13 fruits,
- 13 arrows,
- And, for minorities there is the 13th Amendment.

The motto, "E Pluribus Unum," is Latin meaning "Out of many, one." It conveys Americans have come from many countries to make one new nation. Correct Latin spells the motto, “Ex Pluribus Unum.” The X was left out so there would be thirteen letters in the motto making the number of letters equal to the number of original colonies. Calvinistic Christians under the influence of postmillennialism saw America as a new Israel based on the work of Christ. In Ephesians 2:11-22, God unified Jews and Gentiles into a new nation in Christ.

America was a **celebration of unity**, but today you would never know this. Now, everything is about "celebrating our differences", "moral relativism," and moral equivalency." Today, many Americans believe all religions are equal and that no set of beliefs are superior to other beliefs. Group rights "Balkanize" people against other Americans to elevate one group over another. The New Order teaches that our country is no longer a "melting pot" where people should assimilate into one (E Pluribus Unum), rather it is a "salad bowl" where all the pieces remain separate and distinct. If you don’t like the tomatoes, you can pluck them out and trash them.

Above the dollar bill is a cloud with **thirteen stars**. The stars represent a constellation because America was viewed as a new constellation in the universe of nations at the time
of its formation. The cloud represents troubles and difficulties. The fact that the stars shine through the cloud symbolize America’s triumph over adversity. Clouds have power, but nothing can diminish the power of truth as found in Christ.

Look at the thirteen stars you will notice that they form a six-pointed star or two interlocking triangles. This is the **Seal of Solomon** or Star of David. The symbol points to the hope that Jesus Christ will guide America through her difficulties.

**The Pyramid Symbol:** On the other side of the Great Seal is the central image of a pyramid with thirteen tiers representing the thirteen colonies. The idea of the pyramid is of Masonic origin is disputed. Notice the face is lighted, and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. A pyramid is a symbol of strength and duration through time. As a new nation, the Founders felt the need for God’s help in building a nation that would last and endure the tests of time.

Above the pyramid are the words, “**ANNUIT COEPTUS**” meaning “He has favored our Undertakings.” On March 11, 1792 Washington wrote, “I am sure that never was a people, who had more reason to acknowledge a Divine interposition in their affairs, than those of the United States.”

Below the pyramid are the words “**NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM**” meaning, “New Order for the Ages” The phrase was chosen because the Framers were aware of the advancement of Christianity in the west and the difficulty of merging Kingdom principles with earthly governments. Because Christ ascended into heaven and was seated at the right hand of God, the Framers hoped to establish a new world order based on the truths of Christianity and the guidance of providence. America was the new world order.

The Roman numerals, **MDCCLXXVI**, appear on the base of the pyramid and translate to 1776, the year of independence.

The unlade “**capstone**” is in the form of a triangle. The triangle is an obvious symbol of the Trinity.

The capstone has its origin in Christian symbolism because Jesus Christ is called a “stone” (1 Pet. 2:6) and a “capstone” or “cornerstone” (Eph. 2:20) in Scripture. The meaning here is obvious. The triangular image symbolizes America as an unfinished work. The image is a reminder that this nation will not achieve its purpose and endure the tests of time without the help of the one, personal, infinite, triune God of the Bible.

A famous symbol called the **tetractys** was also in the form of a triangle in 1776 and it had the Hebrew name “**LORD**” or YHWH (hwhy) in the triangle. The numerical value of hwhy in the triangular tetractys 72.
The “eye” in the capstone is sometimes associated with the eye of Horus, an Egyptian symbol. However, people forget that pagan symbols were often redeemed by Christians and given a Biblical meaning. This is most certainly the case here. The Eye of Providence represents the omniscience of Almighty God and His superintendence over the affairs of nations: “The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good” (Proverbs 15:3).

On the front side of the pyramid there are seventy-two blocks. Seventy-two (72) is a magical number. In 1776 it was believed there were 72 ways of writing and pronouncing the name of God. Without the help of the Almighty, America has no hope. Because symbols are often misunderstood, the phrase “In God We Trust” was printed emphatically on the dollar bill in 1957 reminding this nation that the great pyramid cannot be completed without trusting Him for direction and guidance.

The phrase “IN GOD WE TRUST” and the word “ONE” lie between the two roundels. The word “ONE” is really an adjective that should be included in the motto as “IN THE ONE GOD WE TRUST.” Look at a five dollar bill and the same construction cannot be created for it would read “IN FIVE DOLLARS GOD WE TRUST.” That is, the intent that the word “ONE” could be used as an adjective in the phrase “IN THE ONE GOD WE TRUST” was by design.

Look closely at the word “ONE” and you will see three lines for each letter that cause the word “ONE” to appear shaded. The three-tier layering was by design and is intended to represent the Trinity. That is, the “ONE” God we trust is the one, infinite, personal, virtuous triune Spirit of the Bible.

**LEGAL TENDER**

Not all is well with the American dollar. George Washington would be ashamed to have his picture associated with our modern dollar bill.

Note the phrase, “THIS IS LEGAL TENDER FOR ALL DEBTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE.” In 1886 the one-dollar-silver-certificate said, “Silver Certificate ONE DOLLAR in silver payable to the bearer upon demand.” Our present Federal Reserve Note says it is legal tender, but legal tender based for what?

What happened to Article 1, Section 8, U.S. Constitution: “The Congress shall have power . . . to coin Money, regulate the value thereof?” Congress has no power to emit bills of credit.” What happened to Article 1, Section 10, U.S. Constitution which states: “No State shall . . . coin Money, emit Bills of credit [paper money]; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts”?

Because the value of paper money can be changed by inflation at the whim of Congress, its true value fluctuates. For example, if we use the consumer index guide we can see the
slippage of value of the dollar (Bureau of Labor Statistics):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1913</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>$1.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>$2.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>$3.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>$13.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>$19.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Today it takes almost 20 dollars to buy what one dollar could purchase in 1913.

The problem with paper money led George Washington to say, “Paper money is Theft.”

May God help us!

**CONCLUSION**

As we look at the symbols on the dollar bill, we should be reminded that America was founded by Christians. They hoped that God would rule this people and that Biblical principles would govern this country. Let us remember the eye of George Washington who stated on November 19, 1794 in his sixth Annual Address:

“Let us unite, therefore, in imploring the Supreme Ruler of nations to spread his holy protection over these United States; to turn machinations of the wicked to the confirming of our constitutions; to enable us at all times to root out internal sedition, and put invasion to flight; to perpetuate to our country that prosperity, which his goodness has already conferred, and to verify the anticipation of this government being a safeguard to human rights.”

**Sources**


Truth or Fiction.com

http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0001519.html

Howstuffworks.com