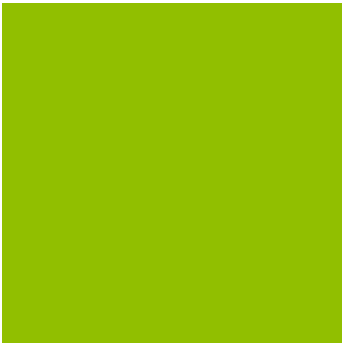




His Banner Over Me Is Love

By Jean Mabry



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Song of Solomon 2:4

Banners In The Bible

I think we are all familiar with the first mention of banners in the Bible, Exodus 17:15, "And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovah-Nissi: The Lord My Banner". Another well known verse, Isaiah 11:10, speaks of Messiah as an ensign, "And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse which shall stand for an ensign of the people". It is also translated as standard in Jeremiah 51:27, "Set ye up a standard in the land". In Numbers 2 we see that each tribe had their own standards, and one of my favorite verses speaking of banners is The Song of Solomon 6:4, "Thou art beautiful, O my love, as Tirzah, comely as Jerusalem, terrible (majestic, awe-inspiring) as an army with banners".

How We Began

Three members of our dance team, Pam Stott, Hannah Simpson and myself returned from the 1991 Feast of Tabernacles in Israel, stirred in our spirits after experiencing the beautiful silks of Efrocine Auerbach. We desired with all our hearts to dance with silks, yet knew the places we minister usually wouldn't accommodate the hanging of such long pieces. Our troupe, Benote Zion, also does mostly circle dance using Israeli Folk Dance as our base, so we knew we needed something a little different. We weren't sure just what that would be, but felt the urging of the Holy Spirit to begin, and so we did.

After purchasing some yardage of fabric, we called our group together to begin banner dances under the direction of the Holy Spirit. It's amazing what happens when those banners begin to move! There is such peace, joy, healing and creativity under there. The Wind of the Spirit is truly felt! The Holy Spirit breathed through those banners that day, and we rejoice in what He has done! Our beginning movements were very simple, just billowing, walking in the Seed Thrower and Canopy movements. But soon the Holy Spirit began giving us new movements which became intercession, as you can see by the names we have given the movements.

New Movements And Ministries

Over the past four years God has been birthing new movements, manifesting what He is saying in certain areas. These banners and movements are truly visual intercession. For example, when we participated in a parade in a local town, the Holy Spirit had us doing the Birthing Movement and Thresher all the way along the route. In the spirit I felt we were a huge piece of machinery, boring through a mountain and preparing the way.

The Holy Spirit showed us that these banners would bring healing to marriages and lives, as husband and wife teams flow together using music and color in visual intercession. In E.W. Bullinger's book, "Number in Scripture" a reference is made to color having sound and being related to the notes of the scale. So depending on the colors chosen, different melodies may be heard in the heavenlies! Such a thought! How wonderful are Gods works.

You will find these banners are bridges into churches and lives that are fearful of the movement ministries. They are so gentle and acceptable. Many people who feel that they could never dance, will readily take the edge of a banner and begin to gently wave them. What a joy to see their faces light up with excitement as they rejoice in a wider worship experience.

These are also wonderful for nursing homes. Where else is the gentle breeze of the Spirit needed more? The residents love to take the end of a banner (especially if it is offered by one of the children) and billow with us. Comments from them always include words such as peaceful, gentle, sweet and precious.

Our First Silks

In 1993 Kathy Wilder-Brown batiked our first silks picturing the furniture of the Tabernacle. Up to this point we were using a polyester fabric called Silk Essence. Silk Essence is a wonderful fabric and works well for practice and is especially appropriate for working with children. The real silk banners however, are so much more graceful and flowing as they move. There is a sense of energy and light expressed about the silks that is not felt with the polyester. Yet Silk Essence has served us well, and we rejoice that the Father has supplied us with this very versatile fabric at a fraction of the cost of silk. Most of our garments and all of the practice pieces are made of Silk Essence.

As we began praying about the colors and designs for our silks, we felt directed to the Tabernacle in the wilderness. Soon the colors of the rainbow and the Tabernacle furniture began weaving together a visual of God's presence. As we set the tabernacle up by arranging the banners in rainbow order, we advance from the Outer Court right into the Holy of Holies. How awesome is our God and mighty are His plans for stirring hearts and drawing all men unto Himself!

In Jerusalem

The silks were finished the very day we left for Jerusalem to participate in "Preparing the Way" and the 1993 Feast. Silks had their debut in Jerusalem to Johnathan Settel singing, "Ram V-Nesa HaMashiach" (High and lifted up is the Messiah. He is clothed in Glory and Majesty.

Here in my heart dwells the Messiah in His temple). Every piece of Tabernacle furniture speaks of Messiah, and so do the colors of the rainbow, I believe.

While we were there in Jerusalem, the Lord gave us a new movement as we were "laboring" at the Baptist House - the Jerusalem Kiss! How awesome is our God! He has given us two new banners in 1995. They have the four living creature of Ezekiel 1 and 10 on them. Kathy is also doing these for us and they should be done by Feast time. We don't know yet how they will be used, but feel they will show the wheel within the wheel and the chariot of our God.

Making The Banners

Dancing with banners is very easy. My three and four year old, "Little Praisers" class is able to use them and my, how they love them! They get so excited they just squeal! Some adults squeal too! I use nine foot pieces for those little ones.

A good size for most age groups is twelve feet. That size is also easier to fit in most churches. Our silks are fifteen feet long and of course give a larger billow and more movement. I suggest the fifteen-foot lengths when you decide to put out the money for silk. For practice and children the twelve-foot Silk Essence is best.

It washes, dries, and travels wonderfully. One caution, don't use dryer sheets as they will stain the fabric. We use Downy in the rinse water to control static cling. Joann Fabric stores are the best places to find Silk Essence. They have the best prices, sales and colors. They are located all around the U.S.A. If you can't locate Silk Essence, look for a fabric that is lightweight, similar to silk. You can also contact me for a price list if you'd like to purchase the Silk Essence banners already made up.

Movements



BILLOW

- Banner goes up
- Banner comes down on it's own



JERUSALEM KISS

- Billow up
- Meet at center
- Return to starting place

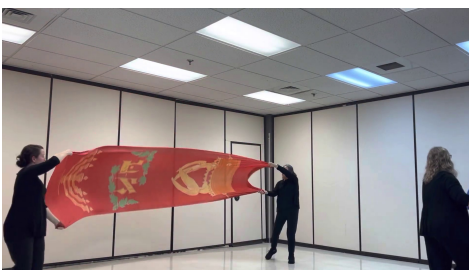
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UkZ8cuAcGOk>



KISSING TURN

- Billow up
- Meet at center
- Move right exchanging places
- Return to opposite starting place

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UkZ8cuAcGOk>



BIRTHING

- Banner is held on it's side while walking forward allowing air to billow the banner sideways



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_FW4rNB9ao

TUNNEL

- Using 4 or more banners lined up in a row, billow up together



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P72unPv0lf4>

TUNNEL AND BIRTHING

- Banner at end of Tunnel moves forward through Tunnel in Birthing position
- When Birthing banner reaches front it lifts up and over to begin the Thresher



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P72unPv0lf4>

THRESHER Over and Under

- Stay inside banner going under holding banner with both hands
- When reaching front hold banner with outside hand make half turn out lifting banner and walk towards the back
- Once at the back make half turn in holding banner with both hands again and repeat

CANOPY

- Billow up
- Banners on left side (except for the last one) move under all banners to opposite sides while everyone else follows into a circle formation



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-XJszgTL_I



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-XJszgTL_I

STAR

- In Canopy formation turn banners on side – same direction - with all middles close to the floor
- Walk in circle making sure that banners stay centered in the middle



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6FYew9m2WU>

HALLELUJAH TURN

- In Canopy formation make complete turns in same direction to avoid twisting banner
- Can be done in the Canopy formation peeling off around the circle, then finishing move with a zap



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2nLcHb0Fx8A>

WHEEL

- In Star formation turn banners on side – same direction - pulling tight so that middle of banner is at waist height
- Walk in circle making sure that banners stay tight and close in the middle and each banner holder is evenly spaced



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2nLcHb0Fx8A>

TYING/UNTYING

- In Canopy formation top banner holders move under billowed banners to their right to tie all banners in the center
- When untying, same banner holders move under to their left



SEED THROWER

- In Canopy formation, upper banner ties up
- Walk in circle with banners on side



STARBURST

- In Canopy formation 2nd banner ties up allowing top banner to billow
- All lower banners walk in Seed Thrower formation
- Depending on how many banners are used, both the top and the second banner can be left untied having them billow together while walking

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iphOBy0024>



CARROUSEL

- In Canopy formation, top banner ties up
- Banners move in a circle while billowing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2nLcHb0Fx8A>



GATES

- In Canopy formation, from highest point of billow, the two center banners "Open the Gates" and all dancers move toward the back making a nice drape of the banners

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xymookeUhl>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhdB1UZj2o4>

PAVILLION For entry or exit

- Banner holders will face same direction instead of facing each other
- Banner holder at front will walk in with banner over head
- Once in place banner holder will turn around to face partner without twisting banner

RAPTURE

- In Canopy formation, let banner rise to highest point of billow, then release!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jQPghwKQ0MY>

TRANSLATION FROM CANOPY

- In Canopy formation lift banners to highest point one person from each banner will let go, while the other person will turn around carrying banner overhead while exiting



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9lfi9tidaU>

TRANSLATION FROM TUNNEL

- In Tunnel formation one person from each banner will let go, while the other person will turn around carrying banner overhead while exiting



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzOZquona1c>

Contact Us

We hope this booklet will be helpful for instruction in banner dances. We would love to hear from you as to how the Holy Spirit is directing visual intercession in your areas, along with new movements, healings and miracles that may take place.

Below is my email address and that of Kathy, if you wish to contact her regarding the making of silk banners. She can do anything you can conceive!

We would like to thank Efrocine Auerbach for her wonderful silks and for the fertile seedbed from which these silk "bridges" have sprung. One person plants and another waters and the garden of the Lord continues to produce.

Shalom and Love,

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His
Banner

Over
Me

Is
Love



Jean Mabry

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