

In 1863, the government of the United States was in a state of confusion. It was in need of help to support the war, and the people were in a state of confusion. The government was in a state of confusion. The people were in a state of confusion. The government was in a state of confusion. The people were in a state of confusion.



It has been carried under this flag.  
The soldiers are dedicated to God under this flag.  
This flag will cover his coffin.  
This is a flag of hope in a world without stars.

## THE FLAG OF THE SALVATION ARMY

In 1865 the reverend William Booth began his work in East London. He tried to help the submerged tenth, poor people with no hope and no help. In 1878 the name of his group became "The Salvation Army". The primary aim of the enthusiastic people of the Salvation Army was to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to men and women untouched by common religious efforts.

Mrs Booth designed a flag and the first corps flag was presented by her to the Coventry Corps in September 1878.

The colours of this flag are symbolizing:

RED... the Blood of Jesus Christ. He gave a supreme sacrifice. In what this sacrifice meant the Salvationist tries to spread the Gospel.

YELLOW... the Fire of the Holy Spirit. The Salvationist is of opinion that he cannot do his task without the help of the Holy Spirit.

"They're helpless nobodies", our enemies boast. But they forget that with us comes the almighty Holy Ghost.

BLUE... the purity. The Salvationist thinks that we must do our utmost for the people around us. We can help the people in the best way if our life is pure, clean. We are total-abstainers.

THE STAR... shining in the night. Many men and women are without hope. Destitute, helpless and poor people is waiting for a ray of light. Our Blind School in Nassau therefore is somewhat symbolic, like it is sung:

Till the day dawns and the shadow flees away  
Guide me, oh my great Redeemer,  
Keep me faithful all the way  
Till the day dawns and the shadow flees away.

Ou, en français:

Je suis la lumière,  
a dit le Seigneur  
Avec moi, mon frère,  
ouvre lui son cœur.  
Le monde est plein d'hombres:  
Brillens, brillons bien,  
toi dans ton coin sombre  
Et moi dans le mien.

Our flag waves in 80 different countries. It covers 87 various branches of social work.

Under this flag the Salvation Army reaches the multitudes who would not enter a place of worship. Flags, brass bands and religious songs set to secular tunes are means of attraction. And thus the Army's composers have made many new songs.

Under this flag we wish to serve Mankind. One of our leaders called the Salvationists "servants of all". This high vocation is worked out in all the Army's activities.

Under this flag we want to be a friend of the prisoner, the needy people, the forgotten children, the destitute leper, the starving masses, the blind, the crippled, the sick.

In many places you'll find this flag. The Salvationist is sworn in on it as a member of the vast world organization.

He has been married under this flag.

His children are dedicated to God under this flag.

This flag will cover his coffin.

It is a flag of hope in a nearly hopeless world.

It is a flag of peace in a world full of wars.  
It is a flag of service to millions who were down to the ground.  
It is a flag of an open door to homeless people.  
It is a flag of an opportunity to many fine young people who want to  
serve their neighbour at next door and far off.  
It is a flag of brotherhood of many men and women from all different  
countries, races, upbringing.  
It is a world flag of high ideals !



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**Note:**

A Salvation Army youth combo's performance was the setting of this enthusiastic and spontaneously brought testimony by the dutch Army Headquarter's public relations officer.