

*"So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him." Isaiah 59:19*

Whenever the US flag is raised, true patriots will feel a tear welling up from within their hearts. It's just a simple piece of cloth woven with colors, but it stands forever a reminder of past loyalties and sacrifice. It caresses the coffins of our fallen, and unflinchingly waves in our battles. When an enemy sees certain colors flying, they will flee. It's not the colors that strike fear into the hearts of the foe; it's all the power and might of



whomever they represent. For example: The flag of Switzerland would not strike fear into an enemy, because they are not known to have any military force, nor do they have a history of conquering any foes. On the other hand, if you raised a Nazi flag, it would represent the instant and deadly reprisals to any who dared to oppose it. It had a reputation and history behind it. The US flag is either loved, or hated and feared. Oh, they'll burn the flag and brandish their fists and yell, but they run behind women's skirts and hide in caves when the US mounts an offensive. When the Spirit of The Lord lifts up the Word of God, the enemy flees before it. He hides his face in terror when it unfurls its mighty presence on the field of conflict. One day, even the mountains will flee in fear of that Standard. God speaks, and it is done. He spake, and it stood fast. Evil will always seek the dark. Darkness is the playground of wickedness, but when The Light comes on the scene, the wicked scatter like so many cockroaches. A story was told of a landowner who lived at the top of a steep mountain. A narrow road was the only approach to his property. He advertised for a carriage driver and two men responded. As they stood before him, he asked this question. "How close to the edge of the road do you think you can come and still recover?" One man responded quickly. "Oh, I could probably get within a foot of the edge without going over!" The other thought for a minute and said, "I really don't think I'm that good, I'd probably have to drive as close to the mountain as I could." The landowner said, "You're hired!" We don't need to see how close to sin we can get, we need to fear it. We need to cling to the Rock of God's Word to avoid pitching into the dark crevasse of sin. We need to rally around the Standard in the center of the camp, and stay away from the dark edges where the enemy lurks ready to pounce.

*"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Hebrews 4:12*