

## **"FLAG, WHY THIRTEEN FOLDS?"**

*By Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.*

The next time you say the Pledge of Allegiance, you must **never forget** the sacrifice and courage that thousands of Americans have made to build our nation and promote freedom around the world. You must **remember** our duty, our honor, and our country.

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic, for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Someone has stated the following concerning the flag of the U.S.A. and I have edited it and put on a conclusion.

The **first** fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

The **second** fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.

The **third** is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing our ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of our country.

The **fourth** represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as war.

The **fifth** fold is a tribute to our country. In the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong."

The **sixth** fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The **seventh** is a tribute to our Armed Forces; it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The **eighth** fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

(continued)

(continued)

The **ninth** fold is a tribute to womanhood; for it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great have been molded.

The **10th** fold is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

The **11th** fold, in the eyes of a Hebrew, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in their eyes the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The **12th** fold, in the eyes of a Christian, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.

The **13th** fold is when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our Nation's motto "In God We Trust".

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones.

May each of us always pay respect to the flag when it is being displayed; whether it is during a parade on Memorial Day or the 4th of July. Whether we be in a athletic stadium or during the playing of taps at a veteran's funeral. We owe it to those who have sacrificed and made our freedoms available for us. America is the great nation under God's stars and we need to honor her and protect her, as others have done for us.

**Plainly, let's not get caught short changed.** Be ready to meet our Maker. The Bible teaches in the book of Acts that to avoid hell and gain heaven - one must: 1) Believe In Jesus As Savior (16:31) 2) Repent Of Sins (17:30) 3) Confess Christ Audibly (8:37) 4) Be Baptized In Water (2:38) 5) Live A Christian Life (14:22)

**KYOWVA Evangelistic Association \* 1541 S. 7th St. \* Ironton, OH 45638**  
Web Page: [www.kyowva.com](http://www.kyowva.com) \* Free Bible Course Upon Request