

#1299 The Mark of the Beast – The Great Seal proposal of the Deliverance through the Red Sea, part 1

First Great Seal Committee.

Late on the afternoon of July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress appointed Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and John Adams to create a coat of arms and Great Seal for the new United States. Although these distinguished committee members were among the ablest minds in the new nation, they possessed little knowledge

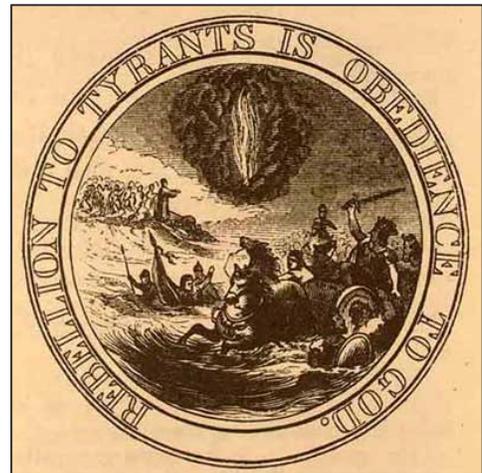


of heraldry and were not really qualified to compose a suitable design. Therefore, to help translate their vision, they chose the artist Pierre Eugene Du Simitiere to work with them. A talented portrait artist, this man had many skills and interests; most importantly, he knew something of heraldry and had experience in designing seals. The four men consulted among themselves between July 4 and August 13, and each one brought before the committee a proposal for the Great Seal.

Franklin's proposal (pictured on the *right*, in an artist's later realization) is preserved in a note of his own handwriting:

Moses standing on the Shore, and extending his Hand over the Sea, thereby causing the same to overwhelm Pharaoh who is sitting in an open Chariot, a Crown on his Head and a Sword in his Hand. Rays from a Pillar of Fire in the Clouds reaching to Moses, to express that he acts by Command of the Deity.

Motto, **Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God.**



Jefferson liked this motto so much that he later used it on his personal seal. Also, this motto inspired the motto above the pyramid and eye on the final Great Seal: *Annuit Coeptis* (God has favored our undertakings).

Jefferson's proposal for the front of the seal was similar: children of Israel in the wilderness, led by a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.

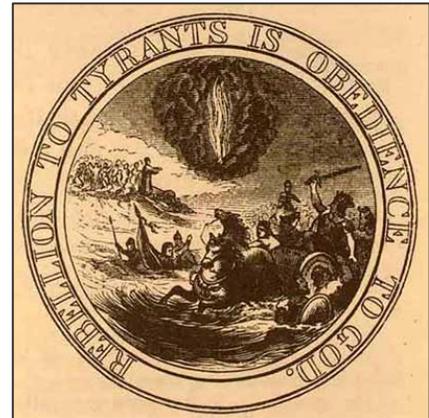
Key Understanding #1: *Franklin's Great Seal proposal likened American independence to the deliverance of the Jews from Pharaoh's Egypt.* Benjamin Franklin's proposal as a member of the original committee for the drafting of a Great Seal of the United States was one commemorating the historic scene in Exodus of the children of Israel escaping from the

bondage of the Egyptians, thus directly likening King George III and Great Britain to Pharaoh and Egypt, and American independence to the deliverance of the Jews from the bondage of Pharaoh.

Psalm 66:6 (KJV) HE TURNED THE RED SEA INTO DRY LAND: they went through the flood [the waters] on foot: there did we rejoice in him.



Key Understanding #2:
The Mark of the Lord and Israel's exodus; the Mark of the Beast and America's birth. Because the exodus of Israel from the bondage of Egypt was tied to the Mark of the Lord in the



Old Testament, the Lord ordained Benjamin Franklin's original proposal for a Great Seal – which cast Americans in the same light as the children of Israel – to make the prophetic statement that the Mark of the *Beast* was reflective of the spirit and purpose of the July 4, 1776, birth of the United States. The Great Seal motto of “Rebellion to Tyrants is Obedience to God” echoes the July 4, 1776, Declaration of Independence.

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