



MASONRY & THE SHRINE



PART I

**Note: Most of the information gathered in this study was taken from William Schnoebelen's book entitled "Masonry: Beyond the Light" 1991."

Hos 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Rev 2:4 Nevertheless I have *somewhat* against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

Below are 3 famous preachers that were members of the Masonic order:

- George W. Truett (1867-1944) pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas and president of the Southern Baptist Convention and Baptist World Alliance. (Member Dallas Lodge #760, Dallas, TX)
- Norman Vincent Peale (1898-1993), pastor of Marble Collegiate Reformed Church, New York City, editor of Guidepost magazine, and author of such books as The Power of Positive Thinking. (Member Midwood Lodge #1062, Brooklyn, NY)
- Peter C. Marshall (1902-1949), a Presbyterian pastor of churches in Georgia and Washington, DC, chaplain of the U.S. Senate, and author of such books as Mr. Jones, Meet the Master. His biography is entitled A Man Called Peter. (Member Old Monkland St. James Lodge #177, Coatbridge, Scotland, and honorary member of Temple Noyes Lodge #32, Washington, DC)

There are preachers, deacons & church leaders that are currently active in the local Masonic lodges. I know several personally and hold them as being dear friends and I believe that they are ignorant as to what they are participating in.



Shriners also perform many good works. They help children worldwide thru their generous giving and have hospitals established nationwide to help less fortunate children. A person cannot denounce the good works that they do. Many children who have suffered severe burns and other disorders are greatly assisted by their institutions. However, good deeds do not make an organization Christian anymore than it makes an individual a Christian.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:
Eph 2:9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

All good deeds, hospitals & scholarships cannot atone for sin.

Jas 2:10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one *point*, he is guilty of all.

Charities are “filthy rags” in God’s sight.

Isa 64:6 But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

We should not do good works to be seen of men.

Mat 6:1 Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.

Mat 6:2 Therefore when thou doest *thine* alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

Mat 6:3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:

Mat 6:4 That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.

You will see newspaper articles constantly reporting the good deeds of Masons and Shriners. They are even posing for the pictures to get attention. The question is, how is Jesus Christ lifted up and promoted thru these charities? While doing good deeds is great, how many times does one see a Shriner sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ? How many Shriner tracts are there telling someone how they can know they are going to Heaven when they die?

Some Facts About Free Masonry

Eph 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove *them*.

There are four official sources or books of Free Masonry:

1) The Ritual Monitors—This is the secret book. This is held as the proverbial Bible for Masons.

- 2) Authoritative writings—References, philosophical books & scholarly. Written by 33rd degree Masons. (Henry Coil, Albert Mackey, Albert Pike)
- 3) Masonic Bible—Edition of the Bible w/ Masonic seal stamped on the front.
- 4) Educational/Philosophical writings—Masonic scholars or historians of lesser note.

Quote from Henry Wilson Coil—Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia—pg. 51:

“Freemasonry has a religious service to commit the body of a deceased brother to the dust whence it came and to speed the liberate spirit back to the Great Source of Light. Many Freemasons make this flight with no other guarantee of a safe landing than their belief in the religion of Freemasonry.”

Quote from Albert Pike—Morals and Dogma of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry—pg. 213, pg. 219, pg. 213 & pg. 718:

“Every Masonic Lodge is a temple of religion and its teachings are instructions in religion. It is the universal, eternal, immutable religion. Masonry propagates no creed except its own most simple and sublime one; that universal religion taught by nature and reason. That rite raises the corner of the veil..for there it declares that Masonry is a worship.”

Masonry is a religion. In most aspects, the members invest more time in the lodge than they do their local church. The lodge in most cases receives the tithes that should go to the local church. Many of the members who are not born again Christians rely on the lodge and the good works they do thru the lodge to gain them access to Heaven. We will cover this issue later in the study.

The title of the lodge leader is “Worshipful Master”.

Luk 17:13 And they lifted up *their* voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.

Mat 4:10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Mat 6:24 No man can serve **two masters**: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

The Bible clearly states that Christians have only one “Worshipful Master” and that is Christ Jesus. Unfortunately, many Christians associate with Matt. 6:24 in that they try and serve two masters. This results in fulfilling Rev. 2:4 because they “forget their first love”. It will not be long before the Christian is putting more emphasis on the lodge than he is Jesus Christ and the local church.

We are commanded not to worship man but to worship God. No man deserves our worship here on earth.

Act 10:25 And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped *him*.

Act 10:26 But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.

Rev 22:8 And I John saw these things, and heard *them*. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.

Rev 22:9 Then saith he unto me, See *thou do it* not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

Masons take an oath to obey the Master Mason:

After placing his hand on the Bible, he repeats “acknowledge and obey all due signs and summons sent to me from a Master Masons’ Lodge or given me by a brother of that Degree, if within the length of my cable-tow.”

“All this I most solemnly and sincerely promise and swear...So help me God”.

Rom 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

What if the Master Mason asks you to do something that is contrary to Scripture? What if the Master Mason schedules an event that conflicts with your Sunday service at church and requires you to miss that service to be there?

Most Masons will promote Masonry with passion but won't come to church.

Rom 6:20 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.

The God Of Free Masonry

While Masons will contend that the God of Free Masonry is Jesus Christ and Him alone, the writings and rituals in the higher degrees prove contrary to this claim. There is Christian symbolism involved in Masonry and one will even hear gospel songs and prayers at a Masonic lodge. However, what one is not told is that any and all religions are accepted into Masonry and that there is no one way to Heaven.

The Masonic god is a generic god. He is given the title of “The Great Architect of the Universe”. This could be Allah, Krishna or even Satan.

Quote from Albert Mackey—Mackey’s Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry—pg. 409-410:
“Be assured...that God is equally present with the pious Hindu in the temple, the Jew in the synagogue, the Mohammedan in the mosque, and the Christian in the church.”

Quote from Henry W. Coil—Coil’s Masonic Encyclopedia—pp. 516-517:
“The Masonic test is a Supreme Being and any qualification added is an innovation. Monotheism has been espoused as the sole religious dogma of Freemasonry by some authors..This obviously violates Masonic principles, for it requires belief in a specific kind of supreme deity.”

William Schnoebelen, the author of Masonry Beyond the Light, was a practicing Mason for over 9 years. He personally claims that he was never witnessed to about Jesus Christ and that during his 9 years of Masonry he was also a practicing Satan worshipper. Upon initiation into the Masonic Lodge, Schnoebelen was simply asked if he believed in God. Since Lucifer was his god, he obviously said yes.

Quote from Henry W. Coil—Coil’s Masonic Encyclopedia—pp.516-517:
“Men have to decide whether they want a god like the ancient Hebrew Jahweh, a partisan, tribal god, with whom they can hide, if necessary, or a boundless, eternal universal undenominational and international, divine spirit, so vastly removed from the speck called man that he cannot be known...So soon as man begins to laud his god and endow him with

the most perfect human attributes such as justice, mercy, beneficence, etc., the divine essence is depreciated and despoiled.”

You basically create your own God. A Burger King god or Mr. Potato Head god.

Can you hide from God?

Psa 139:7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

Psa 139:8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou *art* there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou *art there*.

Psa 139:9 *If* I take the wings of the morning, *and* dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

Psa 139:10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

God has no human attributes?

Heb 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are, yet* without sin.

Quote from Albert Pike—Morals & Dogma—pg. 226:

“Masonry, around whose altars the Christian, the Hebrew, the Moslem, the Brahmin, the followers of Confucius and Zoroaster, can assemble as brethren and unite in prayer to the one God who is above all the Baalim, must needs leave it to each of the initiates to look for the foundation of his faith and hope to the written scriptures of his own religion.”

Quote from Albert Pike—Morals & Dogma—pg. 525:

“Masonry reverences all the great reformers. It sees in Moses, the lawgiver of the Jews, in Confucius and Zoroaster, in Jesus of Nazareth, and in the Arabian iconoclast, great teachers of morality and eminent reformers, if no more; and allows every brother of the order to assign to each such higher and even divine characteristics as his creed and truth require.”

Quote from Manly P. Hall, Masonic writer—The Lost Keys of Freemasonry—pg. 65:

“The true Mason is not creed-bound. He realizes with the divine illumination of his lodge that as a Mason his religion must be universal: Christ, Buddha or Mohammed, the name means little, for he recognizes only the light and not the bearer. He worships at every shrine, bows before every altar, whether in temple, mosque or cathedral, realizing with his truer understanding the oneness of all spiritual truth.”

The name means little?

Php 2:9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a **name** which is **above every name**:

Php 2:10 That at the **name of Jesus** every knee should bow, **of things** in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

That is not what the Bible teaches. You better make sure you are worshipping the right name.

He also states they are not “creed-bound”. This means the true Mason has no loyalty to the Bible or his local church assembly.

The Fork In The Road

As one progresses upward thru the degrees of Masonry, one eventually reaches a proverbial fork in the road. There are two directions to choose from:

- 1) York Rite—Most Christians are pushed towards this rite as it has Christian overtones.
- 2) Scottish Rite—Others that are not influenced as much by Christianity are urged to follow this rite.

In the York Rite, it is revealed that the lost name of God is JAH-BUL-ON.

When this name is broken down it is apparent this is not the name of God:

JAH—Means Yahweh or Jehovah

BUL—Ba'al or Bel (The false gods of Jezebel & Ahab in the O.T.) 1 Kings 16:29-33

ON—The Egyptian Sun God found in Genesis 41:45 & 50.

In the Scottish Rite the Mason is given the “sacred word of God” (17th degree). This word is “ABADDON”.

Rev 9:11 And they had a king over them, *which is* the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue *is* Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath *his* name Apollyon.

This should be no surprise to the Mason who has researched the writings of the lodge.

Manly P. Hall—The Lost Keys To Freemasonry—pg. 48:

“When the Mason learns that the Key to the warrior on the block is the proper application of the dynamo of living power, he has learned the Mystery of his Craft. The seething energies of LUCIFER are in his hands and before he may step onward and upward, he must prove his ability to properly apply this energy.”

Who Is Jesus To The Mason?

Mat 16:15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

Mat 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

1Co 10:21 Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.

Christian Masons will claim that Jesus is the “Great Architect Of The Universe”. There is a great difference in the Almighty Creator and an architect. An architect simply builds from matter that is already there, a Creator works from scratch and makes something out of nothing.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

There is only one degree found in the hierarchy of the Masonic Lodge where one is required to claim some form of Christianity and where prayers are offered in Jesus' name. This is one out of a plethora of degrees. This study doesn't take the stance that Jesus is completely absent from

the Masonic Lodge but rather he is placed on equal footing with all other “religious masters” of the world. This same York Rite, according to Duncan’s Masonic Ritual and Monitor (pg. 155, 190, 208 & 230), requires an oath be taken that insists its companions take blood oaths committing themselves to have their ear sliced off, their tongue split from tip to root, their heart ripped out and placed on a dunghill to rot, or their skull smote off and their brains exposed to the rays of the noon day sun, should they ever violate their oaths.

How can Christians take such oaths without conviction from the Holy Spirit?

At the high point of the KT initiation for this degree level involves the placing of a skull on top of the Bible. The candidate is asked to take part in 5 toasts. One to King Solomon, one to Hiram, one to King of Tyre and one to Simon of Cyrene. The 5th is taken directly from the human skull and the candidate repeats the following oath:

“as the sins of the whole world were once visited upon the head of our Saviour, so may all the sins of the person whose skull this once was, in addition to my own, be heaped upon my head, and may this libation appear in judgment against me, should I ever knowingly or willingly violate my most solemn vow of a Knight Templar, so help me God...”—Illustrated Ritual of the Six Degrees of the Council and Commandery, pg. 202.

How could any Christian repeat such an anti-Biblical oath? A Christian is literally mocking the blood atonement of Jesus Christ by taking this oath.

Heb 10:28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:

Heb 10:29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

This ritual is said to be the Lord’s Supper of the Masonic Lodge...What does the Bible teach about this?

1Co 11:27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink *this* cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

What does the Bible say about taking oaths such as these?

Mat 5:33 Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:

Mat 5:34 But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne:

Mat 5:35 Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King.

Mat 5:36 Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black.

Mat 5:37 But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

Jas 5:12 But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and *your* nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

According to Duncan's Masonic Ritual and Monitor on pg. 29, the Masonic candidate is brought to a door inside the lodge and the one leading him states:

"Mr. _____, who has long been in darkness, and now seeks to be brought to light, and to receive a part in the rights and benefits of the worshipful Lodge, erected to God and dedicated to the holy Saints John, as all brothers and fellows have done before."

Can you imagine a deacon or even a Pastor of a local church being led to a door and being described as "being in darkness" and being "brought to the light". If you are already a born again Christian, haven't you already been given the light?

Joh 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

Joh 1:4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

Joh 1:5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

Joh 1:6 There was a man sent from God, whose name *was* John.

Joh 1:7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all *men* through him might believe.

Joh 1:8 He was not that Light, but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light.

Joh 1:9 *That* was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

Mat 5:16 Let your light so **shine before men**, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

What about oaths to destroy your own Christian body?

From Duncan's Masonic Ritual and Monitor, pg. 34-35:

"All this I most solemnly and sincerely promise and swear, with a firm and steadfast resolution to perform the same...binding myself under no less penalty than that of having my throat cut across, my tongue torn out by its roots and my body buried in the rough sands of the sea, at low-water mark, where the tide ebbs and flows twice in twenty-four hours, should I ever knowingly violate this my Entered Apprentice obligation. So help me God and keep me steadfast in due performance of the same."

1Co 3:16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

1Co 3:17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which *temple* ye are.

1Co 3:18 Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.

1Co 3:19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.

1Co 3:20 And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.

What about making an oath to respect other Masons over others, regardless if they are right or wrong?

According to Duncan's Masonic Ritual and Monitor, pg. 229 & 230:

"I will keep all the secrets of a Companion Royal Arch Mason (when communicated to me as such, or I knowing them to be such), without exceptions."

“I will not speak evil of a Companion Royal Arch Mason, behind his back nor before his face, but will appraise him of all approaching danger, if in my power.”

“..employ a Companion Royal Arch Mason in preference to any other person of equal qualifications.”

This means that even if a Mason tells you he has murdered someone, you have to take an oath not to tell anyone else. This means if you are a Mason judge and another Mason stands before you, you are to do everything in your power to get him acquitted. This means if a Mason is up for a promotion at work, you are to choose him above anyone else that may be just as qualified for the position.

Pro 24:23 These *things* also *belong* to the wise. *It is* not good to have **respect** of persons in judgment.

Pro 28:21 To have **respect** of persons *is* not good: for for a piece of bread *that* man will transgress.

Eph 6:9 And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there **respect** of persons with him.

Col 3:25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no **respect** of persons.

Jas 2:1 My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, *the Lord* of glory, with respect of persons.

Jas 2:2 For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment;

Jas 2:3 And ye have **respect** to him that weareth the gay clothing, and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool:

Jas 2:4 Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?

Jas 2:5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

Jas 2:6 But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats?

Jas 2:7 Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?

Jas 2:8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:

Jas 2:9 But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

We are not to give “special” treatment to others based on who they are or what they can do for us? We are to follow the Biblical example of every man trying to help his neighbor, regardless of social status.

