

FREEMASONRY AND CHRISTIANITY

Compiled by Thurman Scrivner

The following report is information taken from material printed on the order of the Masonic Lodge and Scripture from the Holy Bible.

References:

The King James Bible

The meaning of Masonry by W.L. Wilmshurst (Past Provincial Grand Registrar, Masonic Lodge.)

Morals and Dogma by Albert Pike (The Prince Adept, Mystic, Poet, and Scholar of Freemasonry)

Encyclopedia of Freemasonry by Albert Mackey

Several other works written by leading masons

Matthew 12:30 He that is not with me is against me.

John 12:48 He that rejecteth me and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him; the Word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

- **Jesus Christ is God manifest in the flesh; apart from him, the True God can neither be known, worshipped, nor acknowledged.**
- **Salvation is by faith in the atoning blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, apart from all human works.**
- **It is the supreme obligation of every saved person to obey the Lord Jesus Christ in all things.**

MASONRY CLAIMS TO BE A RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION

Refer to *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry* by Mackey, under the article on “Religion.”

Dr. Mackey discusses fully the right of Masonry to be called a “religious institution.” Dr. Mackey gives in full Webster’s definition of “religion” and proves conclusively that Freemasonry meets every requirement of Webster’s three primary definitions of religion and sums up the proof in the following words: (Quote) Look at its ancient landmarks, its sublime ceremonies, its profound symbols and allegories – all inculcating religious doctrine, commanding religious observance, and teaching religious truth, and who can deny that it is eminently a religious intuition...? Masonry the, is indeed a religious institution; and on this ground mainly, if not alone, should the religious Mason defend it. (End quote) This is only one of many times in different articles this claim is made in this book.

Lexicon of Freemasonry by Mackey, page 404: “The religion then of Masonry is pure theism on which its different members engraft their peculiar opinions, but they are not permitted to introduce them into the Lodge or to connect their truth or falsehood with the truth of Masonry.”

Dr. J.D. Buck, M.D., 32nd Degree, says in the “*Mystic Masonry*”, pages 113, 114: “Masonry is not only a universal science, but a world-wide religion, and owes allegiance to one creed, and can adopt no such sectarian dogma as such without ceasing thereby to be Masonic...that “Masonry is;

the universal religion only because and only as long as it embraces all religions.” *Webb’s Monitor of Freemasonry*, by Robert Morris, page 280, reads as follows: “So broad is the religion of Masonry, and so carefully are all sectarian tenets excluded from the system, that the Christian, the Jew and the Mohammedan, in all their numberless sects and divisions, may and do harmoniously combine in its moral and intellectual work with the Buddhist, the Parsee, and Confucian, and worshipper of deity under every form.”

Masonry rates Christianity as a “sectarian religion” while boasting of its own “universality.”

From *Mackey’s Encyclopedia*, page 439: “If Masonry was simply a Christian institution, the Jew and the Moslem, the Braham and the Buddhist could not conscientiously partake of its illumination; but its universality is its boast. In its language, citizens of every Nation may converse; at its altars men of all religions may kneel; to its creed, disciples of every faith may subscribe.”

Masonry does not confess Jesus Christ as Lord and God. Therefore, the God of Masonry is not the true God.

The God of Masonry is “G.A.O.T.U.” The initials stand for the name, “Great Architect of the Universe.” From the “*Masonic Hand Book*,” page 184: “Whether you swear or take God’s name in vain does not matter so much. Of course the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, as you know, does not amount to anything. But May-Hah-Bone – O, Horror! You must never, on any account, speak that awful name aloud. That would be a most heinous crime – unMasonic – unpardonable.”

J.D. Buck makes this declaration in his “*Mystic Masonry*,” pages 119, 128: “It has been shown that every act in the drama of the life of Jesus, and every quality assigned to Christ, is to be found in the life of Krishna.” (*Sun god of Hinduism*)

Mackey’s book, page 404: “A Christian Mason is not permitted to introduce his own peculiar opinions with regards to Christ’s mediatory office into the lodge.”

Mackey’s book, page 162: “Freemasonry is not Christianity, nor a substitute for it. It does not meddle with sectarian creeds or doctrines, but teaches fundamental truth.”

In the *Freemasons Guide* by Daniel Sickles, page 196: “We now find man complete in morality and intelligence, with the stay of religion added to ensure him of the protection of deity and guard him against going astray. These three degrees (1st, 2nd, and 3rd) thus form a perfect and harmonious whole, nor can it be conceived that anything can be suggested more, which the soul man required.”

In Mackey’s book, page 16, under the word “Acacian”: “Acacian,” a term signifying a Mason who by living in strict obedience to the obligations and precepts of the fraternity is free of sin.

Albert Pike, in *Morals and Dogma*, - page 718, wrote: “Masonry propagates no creed except its own most simple and sublime one; that universal religion, taught by nature and reason.”

J.D. Buck, in *Symbolism of Mystic Masonry*,” page 57, wrote: “In the early church, as in the secret doctrine, there was not one Christ for the World, but a potential Christ in every man; every soul must work out its own salvation.

WHAT IS A MASONIC LODGE?

Albert Pike, *Morals and Dogma*, page 213: “Every Masonic Lodge is a temple of religion; and its teachings are instructions in religion.”

IS MASONRY BASED ON THE BIBLE?

Digest of Masonic Law, pages 207-209, reads: “Masonry has nothing whatsoever to do with the Bible, that it is not founded on the Bible, for if it were it would not be Masonry, it would be something else.”

Albert Pike, in *Morals and Dogma*, page 11, read: “The Bible is an indispensable part of the furniture of a Christian lodge, only because it is the sacred book of the Christian religion. The Hebrew Pentateuch is a Hebrew Lodge, and the Koran in the Mohammedan belongs on the altar; and one of these, and the square and compass, properly understood, are the great lights by which a Mason must walk.”

I assume you noticed the “Bible” is considered only a piece of furniture and not the Living Word of God.

Is a man allowed to pray in the name of Jesus Christ in the Lodge? From the *Masonic Handbook*, page 74: “When a brother reveals any of our great secrets... “Whenever, for instance, he tells anything about Boaz, or Tubalcain, or Jachin, or that awful Man-Hah-Bone, or even whenever a minister prays in the name of Christ in any of our assemblies, you must always hold yourself in readiness, if called upon, to cut his throat from ear to ear, pull out his tongue by the roots, and bury his body at the bottom of some lake or pond. Of course, all this must be done in secret, as it was in the case of that notorious man Morgan. For both law and civilization are opposed to such barbarous crimes, but then, you know you must live up to your obligation and so long as you have sworn to do it, by being very strict and obedient in the matter, you’ll be free from sin.”

Romans 1:17: “The just shall live by faith.”

Albert Pike, in *Morals and Dogma*, page 732: “The dunces who led primitive Christianity astray, by substituting faith for science... have succeeded in shrouding in darkness the ancient discoveries of the human mind; so that we now grope in the dark to find the key of the phenomena of nature.” Page 737 reads: “The absolute, is reason; reason is, by means of itself. It is because it is, and not because we suppose it, it is, where nothing exists; but nothing could possibly exist without it. Reason is necessity, law, the rule of all liberty, and the direction of every initiative. If God is, He is by reason.”

MASONIC MORALS AND ETHICS

“Masonic Handbook, page 74: ”If your wife, or child, or friend, should ask you anything about your initiation – as, for instance, if your clothes were taken off, if you were blindfolded, if you had a rope around your neck, etc., you must conceal... Hence, of course, you must deliberately lie about it. It is part of your obligation, nevertheless. But, you know if you live in strict obedience to your obligation, you will be free from sin.”

“Masonic Handbook” page 183: “Whenever you see any of our signs made by a brother Mason, and especially the Grand Hailing Sign of distress, you must always be sure to obey them, even at the risk of your life. If you are on a jury and the defendant is a Mason and makes the Grand Hailing Sign, you must obey it. You must disagree with your brother jurors if necessary, but you must be sure not to bring the Mason guilty, for that would bring disgrace upon our order. It may be perjury, to be sure, to do this; but then you are fulfilling your obligation and you know if you live up to your obligations, you will be free from sin.”

“Masonic Handbook”, page 184: “If you cheat, wrong, or defraud any other society or individual, it is entirely your own business. If you cheat the government even, Masonry cannot and will not touch you, but be very careful not to cheat, wrong, or defraud a brother Mason or a Lodge, whoever else you may defraud; live up to your obligation, and you will be free from sin.”

“Masonic Handbook”, page 183: “You must conceal all the crimes of your brother Masons, except murder and treason, and these only at your own options. Should you be summoned as a witness against a brother Mason be always sure to shield him. Prevaricate, don’t tell whole truth in this case, keep his secrets, and forget the most important points. It may be perjury to do this, it is true, but you are keeping your obligation and remember if you live up to your obligation strictly, you will be free from sin.”

“Masonic Handbook”, page 184 - *The Chastity Covenant of the Master Mason*: “Furthermore, that I will not violate the chastity of a Master Mason’s wife, mother, sister or daughter, knowing them to be such. This gives you full permission, my dear sir, to do as you please outside of the Masonic order, but you must always respect the female relatives of Masons.”

OATHS AND OBLIGATIONS

History of Initiation, page 82: “These rites,” he says, “were known under the high and significant appellation of the mysteries, and even in them subdivision had been made, because it was thought dangerous to entrust the ineffable secrets to any but a select few, who were prepared for a new accession of acknowledge by processes at once seductive and austere, and bound to secrecy by fearful oaths and penalties of the most sanguinary character. Death shall be his penalty, who divulges the mysteries.”

First Degree Oath: “I do most solemnly and sincerely promise and swear, without the least equivocation, mental reservation, or self evasion of mind in me whatever; binding myself under no less penalty than to have my throat cut across, my tongue torn out by the 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; so help me God, and keep me steadfast in the due performance of the same.”

Second or Fellow Craft Degree: “I do most solemnly and sincerely promise and swear without the least hesitation, mental reservation, or self evasion of mind in me whatsoever; binding myself under no less penalty than to have my left breast torn open and my heart and vitals taken from thence and thrown over my left shoulder and carried into the valley of Jehospat, there to become a prey to wild beast of the field, and vultures of the air, if ever I should prove willfully guilty of violating any part of this my solemn oath or obligation of a fellow craft mason; so help me God, and keep me steadfast in the due performance of the same.”

Third or Master Degree: “I do most sincerely promise and swear, with a fixed and steady purpose of mind in me to keep and perform the same, binding myself under no less penalty than to have my body severed in two in the midst, and divided to the north and south, and my bowels burnt to ashes in the center, and the ashes scattered before the four winds of heaven, that there might not the least track or trace of remembrance remain among men, or masons, of so vile and perjured a wretch as I should be, were I ever to prove willfully guilty of violating any part of this my solemn oath or obligation of a Master Mason. So help me God, and keep me steadfast in the due performance of the same.”

Masons entering the ancient Arabic order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine (Shriners) are required to take their vows on the faith of a Moslem...”On my voluntary desire, uninfluenced and of free accord do hereby assume, without reserve, the obligations of the nobility of the Mystic Shrine, as

did the elect of the Temple of Mecca, the Moslem and the Mohammedan. I do hereby, upon the Bible, and on the mysterious legend of the Koran, and its dedication to the Mohammedan faith, promise and swear and vow on the faith and honor of an upright man, come weal or woe, adversity or success, that I will never reveal any secret part or portion whatsoever of the ceremonies I have already received...(this oath is very long and carries a terrible penalty)...In willful violation whereof may I incur the fearful penalty of having my eyeballs pierced to the center with a three-edged blade, my feet flayed and I be forced to walk the hot sand upon the sterile shores of the Red Sea until the flaming sun shall strike me with a livid plague, and may Allah, the god of Arab Moslem, and Mohammedan, the god of our fathers, support me to the entire fulfillment of the same.

We must ask here just what sort of a god is it that would listen to such horrible and barbarous oaths as those sworn to by Masonic candidates? Surely it is not the God of the Bible. They would be much more suitable as prayers to Satan.

Pikes, *Morals and Dogma*, page 209: "And so in our day every Masonic Lodge represents the Universe."

Ed Ronayne's book *The Masters Carpet*, page 301-302: "The Lodge room then is brought before us as a symbol of the universe, governed by the sun god, and its cubical form expressed in the language of the ritual is made to represent the united power of light and darkness, and the constant conflict which is supposed to be always going on between them. In other words, the Lodge Room is the real heaven (in miniature), where the "god of nature," The G.A.O.T.U...always presides; where his symbol is always displayed; where his worship is always practiced; and when the good Mason dies. He is simply transferred from this lower heaven or this lodge below, to the Mount Olympus of the Craft, called the Grand Lodge above." G.A.O.T.U. (Great Architect of the Universe).

Mackey's book, page 55: "The orientation of lodges or their position east and west is derived from the universal custom of antiquity. The heathen temples, says Dudley, were so constructed that their length was directed toward the east and the entrance was by a portico at the western front, where the altar stood so that votaries (candidates) approaching for the performance of religious rites, directed their faces toward the east, the quarter of sunrise. The primitive reason for this custom undoubtedly is to be found in the early prevalence of sun worship, and hence the spot where that luminary (the sun) first made his appearance in the heavens was consecrated in the minds of his (the sun's) worshippers as a place entitled to peculiar reverence. Freemasonry retaining in its symbolism the typical reference of the lodge to the world and constantly to the sun in his apparent diurnal revolution, imperatively requires, when it can be done that the lodge should be situated due east and west, so that every ceremony shall remind the Mason of the progress of that luminary (the sun)."

Mackey's Book, page 43: "Our ancient brethren met on the highest hills, and the lowest valleys, the better to observe the approach of cowards and eavesdroppers, and to guard against surprise.

Ed Ronayne's book *Masters Carpet*. Page 247: So then, because our ancient brethren, the old sun worshippers, met on the highest hills to worship Baal, or the sun god, and Freemasonry being that same worship revived, it must necessarily follow, that Masonic Lodges must be held in the highest room of building, to carry out the coincidence."

Mackey's symbolism of Freemasonry, page 157 "Darkness, like death, is the symbol of initiation. It was for this reason that all the ancient initiations were performed at night. The celebration of the mysteries was always nocturnal. The same custom prevails in Freemasonry and the explanation is

the same.”

Pierson’s *Traditions of Freemasonry*, page 39: “The candidate has represented man when he sank from his original estate and like the rough ashlar is unfit to form a part of the spiritual temple. He maintained the same character in the mysteries. Emphatically a profane, enveloped in darkness, poor and destitute of spiritual knowledge and emblematically naked. The material darkness which is produced by the hoodwink (blindfold) is an emblem of the darkness of his soul.”

Can you imagine any Christian, and especially a scholar of the Bible wearing such a blindfold, an emblem of the darkness of his soul, a soul which has been redeemed by the shed blood of Jesus Christ?

Ed Ronayne’s book *Masters Carpet*, page 257: “If he (the candidate) was about to be initiated into the secret worship of the god of ice or cold, if any such existed, he would naturally be warmly muffled up, but being about to be initiated into the secret worship of the sun god, he must be neither naked, or clad. He presents himself in darkness to indicate, that from the sun god proceeds all light, and so he must present himself semi-nude to indicate, that from the sun god proceeds all warmth and comfort.”

In the first degree the candidate is led into the lodge with a rope around his neck. In the second he is led in with a rope around his upper right shoulder; and in the third degree he is led in with a rope around his waist. From what source did this ritual come?

Pierson’s *Traditions of Freemasonry*, page 29: “In the mysteries of India (that is in the secret worship of the pagan gods of India), the aspirant (candidate) was invested with a consecrated sash, or girdle, which he was directed to wear next to his skin. It was manufactured with, many mysteries ceremonies, and said to possess the power of preserving the wearer from personal danger. It consisted of a cord composed of three – three times three threads, twisted together and fastened at the end with a knot and was called a zennar. Hence comes our cable tow (rope).”

There is much to say about all the different rituals that are performed behind locked doors and destructive oaths that are performed behind locked doors and the destructive oaths. But I think it is time to go to the Word of God and see what God has to say about these things.

Numbers 30:1-2 *And Moses spake unto the heads of the tribes concerning the children of Israel, saying, This is the thing which the LORD hath commanded. If a man vow a vow unto the LORD, or swear an oath to bind his soul with a bond; he shall not break his word, he shall do according to all that proceedeth out of his mouth*

Deuteronomy 23:21-23 *When thou shalt vow a vow unto the LORD thy God, thou shalt not slack to pay it: for the LORD thy God will surely require it of thee; and it would be sin in thee. But if thou shalt forbear to vow, it shall be no sin in thee. That which is gone out of thy lips thou shalt keep and perform; even a freewill offering, according as thou hast vowed unto the LORD thy God, which thou hast promised with thy mouth.*

Leviticus 5:4-5 *Or if a soul swear, pronouncing with his lips to do evil, or to do good, whatsoever it be that a man shall pronounce with an oath, and it be hid from him; when he knoweth of it, then he shall be guilty in one of these. And it shall be, when he shall be guilty in one of these things, that he shall confess that he hath sinned in that thing.*

Matthew 12:35-37 *A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you,*

*That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned. **Matthew 5:33-37** 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: But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.*

James 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.*

Titus 3:5 *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*

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

Titus 3:5 *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost*

It is very clear that Lodge oaths are contrary to God's Word. The very thought of a Christian brother offering his body for mutilation before an altar of idols cuts me to the heart. Hear the Word of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 6:16-18 *And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.*

John 14:6 *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

John 8:32 *And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

One cannot be constantly mixed in secular society without unknowingly losing some of his interest in the Divine Society of God and of angels, where he belongs by his new birth. Our citizenship is in heaven, my Christian brothers, and we ought to be careful where are are living and refuse to be attracted by a system that is a rival of the blood bought church of the redeemed.

NOTE: *All research material is available in the Masonic Blue Lodge at 507 S. Harwood, Dallas, Texas, 214-747-6200, or across the street in the larger library of the Shiner's Temple.*