

# Seek The Old Paths

*“Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths...and walk therein” (Jeremiah 6:16)*

Vol. 2 No. 1/2

Oct/Nov. 1990

## Can A Mason Go To Heaven? YES.....

IF God will accept mere men being addressed as “Worshipful Master,” “Most Worshipful Master,” and “Right Worshipful Master” or in the case of the Eastern Star, “Worthy High Priestess” or “Royal Matron,” etc. (verified by asking them the titles they give people).

IF God will accept Christians who have been blindfolded, kneeled, and with hands on the Bible taken as a solemn oath, “in the presence of Almighty God, and this Worshipful Lodge, erected to Him, and dedicated to the holy Saint John do hereby and hereupon most solemnly and sincerely promise and swear...” and be made a “Master Mason” (3rd degree); a “Mark Mason” (4th degree); a “Past Master” (5th degree); and then a “Most Excellent Master” upon taking the sixth degree. (**Handbook of Freemasonry** by Ronayne, 1943, pp.68-70, also **Duncan’s Ritual of Freemasonry**, Part I).

IF God will accept prayers worded in the following manner from Christians and non-Christians. “And when we shall have ended our labors on earth may we forever sing songs of deliverance and joy in that Heavenly Lodge where love is supreme and the ties of fraternity and friendship are never to be broken. Amen.” (**Masonic Manual**, Grand Lodge, A.F. and A.M. of Alabama, Compiled under Authority of the Grand Lodge by Oliver Day Street, 1940, Reprint 1943, p.145.)

IF God will save religious institutions other than the church of Christ. “Masonry, then, is indeed, a religious institution; and on this ground mainly, if not alone, should the religious Mason defend it.” (**Encyclopedia of Freemasonry**, McClure Publishing Co., Philadelphia, 1917, p.729.)

*(Continued on page 10, IF...)*

# FREEMASONRY AND THE CHRISTIAN

Wally Kirby

To the church at Corinth Paul wrote, *"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; casting down every imagination and every high thing that exhalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ"* (II Cor. 10:4-5).

The Christian's aim is to always please God, the eternal Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. If such is not the case, then one should examine carefully his life in light of what God expects of his children (Matt. 6:33; Rom. 12:1-2; Col. 3:1-4). In youth I was taught the principle that before engaging in an activity that called my action into question (even in a conscience matter) that I should first ask, "What would the Lord do?" or "How would the Lord answer?" This has been of great help to me in making decisions down through life.

The same principle is true with regard to a Christian's participation in the order of "Freemasonry." I have known Christians who were members of this order and were determined to remain so regardless of what the truth says on the matter. On the other hand, I have known of members of the body of Christ who have had the spirit of open-mindedness to a study of this order in light of what the Bible says and many such persons have given up their affiliation with "Freemasonry." I wish to set

forth some reasons why there is a serious conflict between a person's allegiance and worship to God through Christ Jesus and the order known as "Freemasonry."

## FREEMASONRY IS A RELIGION

Masonry is a religious order even though some try to deny it. Any religious order or rite other than Christianity as taught and practiced in the New Testament cannot, with God's approval, be endorsed and practiced by one professing New Testament Christianity. That this order is a religion is a matter stated clearly by those of rank within the masonic order. Regarding masonry and religion, Albert Pike, recognized preeminently as an authoritative figure in masonic rank, said,

*"Every masonic lodge is a temple of religion; and its teachings are instruction in religion."* He also says, *"This is the true religion revealed to the ancient patriarchs; which has taught from many centuries and which will continue to teach as long as time endures"* (Morals And Dogma Of The Ancient And Accepted Scottish Rite Of Freemasonry, Albert Pike, pp.213,214).

Another figure also recognized as authoritative among the ranks of masonry is A. G. Mackey. Mackey writes (Manual Of The Lodge, p.40),

*"As masons, we are taught never to commence any great or important under-*

*taking without first invoking the blessings of deity, and this is because Masonry is a religious institution."*

These quotes are given to show that those of rank and authority within the order of Freemasonry do not hesitate to call it a religion.

God gives all Christians the charge to contend for the faith (Jude 3). The Bible plainly states that there is but "One Faith" (Eph. 4:4-5). Is one able to claim that his participation in an order (which obviously is not the "one faith" mentioned in the Bible) in addition to New Testament Christianity will be pleasing to God? Jesus stated, "Every plant which my Heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted up" (Matt. 15:13). Masonry, as a religion, did not originate with God but with man.

### **MASONRY'S CLAIM TO BE THE GREATEST INSTITUTION EVER RAISED**

In a book titled **Monitor Of Symbolic Masonry** by Taylor-Hamilton, (p.58) the writer says,

*"No institution was ever raised on better principles or on a more solid foundation than that of ours, which takes the Holy Bible as its cornerstone; nor were ever more excellent rules or useful maxims laid down that are inculcated in the several Masonic Lectures."*

Notice the claim, "**No institution ever raised on better principles...**", in light of what the Bible says. Where does this place the New Testament church? God says that it is the **church** wherein honor and glory in serving is given to Him by mortal man (Eph. 3:21). The

**church** cost God the Father his only begotten Son, Jesus died for it (Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:25). Christ himself is its foundation (Eph. 2:20; I Cor. 3:11). Is the organization of freemasonry really the greatest institution ever raised? Does it have the most solid foundation? Read the scriptures and then decide!

### **MASONRY'S CLAIM TO PREPARE MAN FOR ETERNITY**

*"The common gavel is an instrument made use of by operative masons to break off the superfluous corners of rough stones, the better to fit them for the builders use; but we, as Free and Accepted Masons are taught to make use of it for a more noble and glorious purpose of divesting our minds and consciences of all vices and superfluities of life, thereby fitting us, as living stones, for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens"* (emphasis mine, wk).

This quote is found in Malcolm Duncan's book **Revised Duncan's Ritual** p.41. (By the way, does this not sound religious to you?) This claim goes too far in light of what God's word states. While it contains no doubt figurative language, such is more than what is allowable from God's word. Freemasonry does not and will not "fit one for that spiritual house or the heavenly habitation"; it takes God's word to do that – the message of the gospel which saves man and prepares him for eternity with God (I Peter 2:5; Acts 4:12; Rom. 1:16-17).

Masons have an apron which is called the "lambskin." The **Tennessee Craftsman** (a manual or lodge book used in lodges throughout Tennessee) says of this "lambskin" (p.17),

*"...a badge of Masonry is continually reminded of that purity of life and conduct which is necessary to obtain admittance into the celestial lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides."*

Also, the same book says on page 41, *"Wear it as an emblem of that purity of heart and conscience that is necessary to obtain for you the approval of the Grand Architect of the Universe."*

Christians do not need the "masonic lambskin" to show purity of life, for the name of Christ does such. The Christian is to glorify God in that name (I Peter 4:16); not in the order or name of "Freemasonry." Note also this quote by Albert Mackey in his work **Encyclopedia Of Free Masonry** on page 851,

*"The doctrine of a resurrection to a future and eternal life constitutes an indispensable portion of the religious faith of Freemasonry."*

On page 1035 Mackey says,

*"an active religious faith and practice leads in the end to a building not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."*

This "active religious faith and practice" as stated by him is a person's involvement in the order of Freemasonry. Surely we realize that such is not made possible within Masonry. Only through Jesus Christ (John 14:6; Luke 19:10; Acts 4:12) do we find such promises by God. Man is reconciled back to God in Christ and not within the ranks of Freemasonry (Eph. 2:16-17). Freemasonry

makes no distinction in its brotherhood and every religious denominational body is treated on equal terms. Its claim to fit a person for heaven regardless of one's religious background is wholly in error in light of the Bible.

## **USE OF TERMS USED INVOLVES A VIOLATION OF GOD'S WORD**

The lodge has a person identified by the Masons as "Worshipful Master." It is this person that all prospective candidates come before as they are initiated into the lodge. This person is the one who presides over lodge meetings and conducts funeral rites. Such a term as "Worshipful Master" is one that does not belong to any mortal man. The dictionary definition for worshipful is "worthy of being worshipped; honorable, respectable." Such a title is only to be applied to deity and not to mortal man (Matt. 23:8). Such a term belongs to Christ and not any official person within such an order as Masonry. The same reasoning is why no preacher should be called "Reverend." The Bible says such is a name that applies to God (Psalm 111:9). Likewise, Jesus is the one that we must honor as "Worshipful Master", not man. In the 32nd degree of the Scottish Rite, you find the "Shriners Club." Within this degree or rank, one is often called "Potentate." Such a term ought not to be used in reference to a man, but to Christ, as the Bible does so in I Timothy 6:5. Jesus is the "only Potentate" and man violates Biblical principles when he applies such terms unto another man (mere mortal).

## PRAYER CONDUCTED WITHOUT JESUS

The Bible tells us that our prayers are to be by or through God's Son and our mediator, Jesus Christ. Within the lodges, prayers are often heard, but one thing is lacking; that is Jesus' name. Such a name is omitted because Masonry seeks to enlist and retain people from various world religions. It seeks the Hindus, Buddhists, Jews, Moslems, and yea, people of every and any religion, be it true or untrue to God's word, the Bible. The Jew and Moslem, and who knows who else, would be offended at the use of "Jesus" in closing prayers; therefore, to accommodate these, his name is omitted. John 14:13, Colossians 3:17 and other passages show that acceptable prayer must be addressed or petitioned to God through Jesus Christ. How can a true child of God condone such practices within the lodge and become as one with them who so do?

## OATHS REQUIRED BY ALL CANDIDATES AT INITIATION

As one studies the word of God it becomes clear a Christian is not to become involved in swearing or in oath taking to the degree that it is required of those entering Freemasonry. Jim Shaw wrote in his book, *The Deadly Deception* (p.138):

*"Blood oaths on penalty of mayhem and violent death are administered at the end of the initiation into all Masonic degrees, binding the initiate to protect the "secrets" of the degrees. These*

*oaths of obligation (usually called just 'obligation') are considered unbreakable, and are (collectively) the thing that makes a man a Mason. In this way, these oaths are the cornerstone of Masonry."*

I wish to examine three oaths taken by men who enter Masonry and go up through the first three degrees. Note the treacherous extent of such oaths in these degrees.

The first degree or level is the **"Entered Apprentice Degree."** Candidates entering this degree swear to uphold the oath of,

*"...binding myself under no less penalty than having my throat cut from ear to ear, my tongue torn out by its roots, and my body buried in the rough sand of the sea, a cable's length from the shore, where the tide ebbs and flows twice in twenty-four hours. So help me God, and keep me stedfast in the due performance of the same."*

The second degree is the **"Fellow Craft Degree."** Under this solemn oath the candidate promises,

*"Binding myself 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 Jehosaphat, there to become prey to the wild beasts of the field and the vultures of the air if ever I should prove wilfully guilty of violating any part of this my solemn oath or obligation of a Fellow Craft Mason, so help me God and keep me stedfast in due performance of the same."*

The third degree of the Blue Lodge is called the **"Master Mason Degree."** Those progressing to this

level take the oath of secrecy and state the penalty:

*"...binding myself under no less a penalty than that of having my body severed in twain, my bowels taken from thence and burned to ashes, and the ashes scattered to the four winds of heaven, so that no more trace or remembrance may be had of so vile and perjured a wretch as I, should I ever knowingly or willingly violate this my solemn obligation as a Master Mason. So help me God and keep me steadfast in the due performance of the same."*

Such statements constitute a serious matter of oath taking and it is no wonder why it is so difficult to get people to talk to you about it, much less denounce it and turn against it! Such oaths would cause anyone to "think seriously" before divulging any information regarding this secret order. God's word teaches a child of God is not to become a part of such oath taking nor to be involved with such secrecy (Matt. 5:33-37; James 5:12).

Oaths of loyalty and preferential treatment to fellow brother masons is likewise made in the order of Masonry. The Bible commands to seek God and his Kingdom first (Matt. 6:33). We are to be *"in honor preferring one another"* (brother in Christ is to be preferred) (Rom. 12:10). A Christian's loyalty is not to be to the Masonic Lodge or the Masonic Brotherhood, but rather to the body of Christ, the church, and fellow members of the kingdom.

Anytime a thing is as "secretive" as the Masonic order it is time to be alarmed and suspicious. Christians are to be like the Lord, to follow and imitate

Him. Note what Jesus said is far different from what Masons say, *"I spake openly to the world; and in secret have I said nothing"* (John 18:20). I wonder, if something is so good and without question, then why is it kept so secretive? It seems to me that the "golden rule" (Matt. 7:12) would demand that it be both "told and proclaimed openly." Albert Pike in **Morals & Dogma** says (p.109), *"Secrecy is indispensable in a Mason of whatever degree."* Such is not the case with New Testament Christianity and is in opposite spirit to what the Bible teaches concerning our duties one to another.

### MASONRY'S CLAIM TO BRING MEN TO LIGHT

Jim Shaw wrote in his book, **The Deadly Deception** (p.135),

*"In Masonry, the darkness which envelops the mind of the uninitiated (non-Masons) is removed by the effulgency of Masonic light. Masons are appropriately called the 'sons of light'."*

Those being initiated into the Blue Lodge (first three degrees) are asked, *"What are you looking for?"*, and the candidate says, *"Light"* or *"more light."* The Bible says that Jesus is *"the light of the world"* (John 8:12). Christians are people who have been called forth *"out of darkness into his marvelous light"* (I Peter 2:9). To the saints at Ephesus Paul wrote, *"For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord"* (Eph. 5:8). Therefore, the claim of Masonry to bring people to the light is in opposition to what the Bible teaches regarding men coming to the

light of the world, Jesus Christ.

These tenets of Freemasonry may be denied, disregarded and repudiated by some whose loyalty and years of active service are steeped in masonry. Notwithstanding, these matters are documented and are taught and supported by pro-masonic literature. A Christian should consider these things in light of what the Bible says and with

the help of God and concerned people make the wise choice regarding participation in such an order as Freemasonry. Someday we will give an account before the judge of all the earth (Heb. 9:27; II Cor. 5:10). How will the verdict read???

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## 7 Things Wrong With "MASONIC" DOCTRINE

*James Pilgrim*

Masonry is a subject worthy of our examination for it is a false religion.

### A RELIGION

Perhaps we should begin by showing that Masonry is a religion. To do so, we quote from an authorized Masonic publication, "*All the ceremonies of our order are prefaced and terminated with prayer because Masonry is a religious institution*" (Mackey's Lexicon, Art, Prayer, Standard Freemasonry Illustrated, p.35). Again, "*I contend, without any sort of hesitation, that Masonry is...an eminently religious institution*" (Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, p.727). "*Masonry, then, is indeed, a religious institution; and on this ground mainly, if not alone, should the religious Mason defend it*" (Ibid. p.729). "*Every Masonic Lodge is a Temple of religion and its teachings are*

*instruction in religion*" (Morals and Dogma, p.213). Succeeding thoughts will show why Christians cannot be connected with such religious bodies.

### BIBLE FALSE

The Masonic work, *Morals and Dogma*, declares, "*The doctrines of the Bible are often not clothed in the language of strict truth*" (p.224). How could a Christian be connected with any religion that thinks the word of God is not strict truth? Jesus claimed to be the truth (John 14:6), and he said the word of God is truth. "*Thy word is truth*" (John 17:17). He further said we are saved by the truth. "*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free*" (John 8:32). If the word of God is not truth, we cannot be saved by the word, yet Romans 1:16 says, "*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ:*

*for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*" Beloved, **the Bible is truth. Masonry is false.**

### FELLOWSHIP WITH EVIL

*"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 God who is above all the Baalim, must needs leave it to each of its Initiates to look for the foundation of his faith and hope to the written scriptures of his own religion"* (**Morals and Dogma**, p.226). The religions above named are false religions. How can Christians unite with them in prayer and/or allow each to follow his/her own way, yet agree to walk together (cf. II John 9-11; II Cor. 6:14-18)? Only those who do Jesus' will are his disciples (John 15:14). Non-believers in Jesus are condemned (John 8:24). Such are all groups above, except Christians.

### HELL TO END

*"It is the fine dream of the greatest of the Poets, that Hell, become useless, is to be closed at length, by the aggrandizement of Heaven; that the problem of Evil is to receive its final solution, and Good alone, necessary and triumphant, is to reign in eternity"* (**Morals and Dogma**, p.847). This is a clear denial of Bible teaching. For example, "everlasting fire ...punishment" (Matt. 25:41, 46); "eternal damnation" (Mark 3:29). How dare anyone contradict these inspired statements? How could any God-fearing person be joined to that which contradicts inspiration?

### MANY REDEEMERS

The Kentucky Monitor thinks there are many saviors or redeemers. For example, they say Jesus is the Christian's savior, Krishna the Hindu's, Kioun-tse the mediator of the Chinese, and Hiram Abiff the redeemer of Masons (pp.26,27). Yet, the Bible says Jesus is the savior of all (Matt. 1:21; Acts 4:10-12; John 14:6). Masons, therefore, contradict the Lord's word. Question: Can a Christian be joined to that which makes a liar out of the Lord? Indeed, will a Christian want to be a part of such an organization, even though it does much good (cf. Ezekiel 18:24)?

### TITLES

Masons call fellow Masons "*Worshipful Master,*" "*Most Worshipful Master,*" and "*Right Worshipful Master.*" This is similar to the Catholics calling their head the Pope, Holy Pontiff. Beloved, read your Bible and you will reject such folly. For example, read Matt. 23:5-12. Let all titles belonging to deity (God) be reserved for deity (God). Let not man desire to wear titles belonging to deity. Let no person call others by titles belonging to deity. The choice is yours — God or Satan, "*for no man can serve two masters*" (Matt. 6:24).

### PROMOTES SIN

Masonry sponsors dancing, promotes oaths that are so ridiculous that they are absurd (e.g. Swearing to perform duties without any mental reservation or have their throat cut, tongue torn out by the roots, etc.), favor other Masons,

shield other Masons in everything except murder and treason, resist immorality with other Mason's wives, but not necessarily with other men's wives, etc. Beloved, read Gal. 5:19-21; 6:10; Matt. 5:34; I Cor. 7:1-2.

### CONCLUSION

Some Masons may not believe and/or go along with the foregoing. If you

do not, you need to get out of it. If you do, you need to get out of it. Nothing can be right that contradicts the Bible, either in principle or practice. No one can be right and be a part of that which is wrong, that which violates the word of God.

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### WHAT DOES IT MEAN WHEN A MASON "DEMIT?"

I do not know what individuals mean within themselves when they announce they have demitted from Masonry. It does seem odd that they would use the word "demit" in reference to Masonry and the word "repent" in reference to other sins. Do they see a difference between the two? Are such persons willing to demit but unwilling to repent? Is it a ploy to "satisfy" brethren in making them think the individual has repented?

The dictionary says demit means: "1: dismiss, 2: resign ~ vi: to withdraw

from office or membership" (Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary, p.219). "to put away, 1: to let go: dismiss, 2: to give up (as an office): resign ~ vi: to relinquish office or membership usu. voluntarily: withdraw" (Webster's Third New International Dictionary, p.599).

The term demit is often used when a mason announces to the church of which he is a member that he no longer is an active participant in Masonry. As noted above, demit means to "give up, resign, relinquish membership." Though this term is good in so far as it goes, it does not describe what a man must do to be forgiven of sins. Jesus said men must REPENT (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30). Repent means "to change one's mind for the better, heartily to amend with abhorrence of one's past sins, i.e. to repent (to feel sorry that one has done this or that). ...Used especially of those who, conscious of their sins and with manifest tokens of sorrow, are intent on obtaining God's pardon"

(Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon, p.405). Therefore, repentance is a change of the mind which leads to a change of conduct.

It is one thing to remove yourself from and no longer practice a thing (demit), but quite another to change your mind about and no longer practice a thing (repent). The two are not equal. For example: a thief may stop his practice of stealing. However, that does not mean he has repented of what he has already stolen. It does not mean he has changed his mind regarding stealing which led him to stop his practice. A fornicator may stop committing fornication without ever repenting of it. He may have been forced to stop by others or perhaps lost his opportunity, but never changed his mind towards it — genuinely repented of it — which led to his change of conduct. So likewise, it is possible that a man who demits from something, such as Masonry, may not have changed his mind regarding it at all in complete repentance, rather, he has simply changed his practice.

It is not only the "safe course," but the "right course," when one repents of all sins in his life, including being a member of Masonry. To demit is not sufficient, the Lord said repent! "*Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.*" If you are in Masonry, repent before it's too late. "*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*" (II Cor. 6:17-18). ★

(Continued from page 1, IF...)

IF, along with the church of Christ, God will accept Masonry as a divine institution. "*That the institution is of Divine origin, leaves not a shadow of doubt on my humble mind.*" (The Freemason's Monitor, Z. A. Davis, Late Past Master of Lafayette Lodge, No. 71, p.4 of the preface.)

IF God will accept the following statement about the deceased Mason made at Masonic funerals. "*As a reminder to the living of that rectitude of conduct which should characterize man in this life, we deposit this apron with the body of our deceased brother with the hope that the virtues symbolized by it will gain ready passage for him from our imperfect lodge here to that all-perfect, celestial lodge above where there is a higher, a wider and a brighter realm of life and labor.*" (Masonic Manual, p.84)

IF God will accept the doctrine that whatever a man believes to be the truth is the truth to him. (Morals and Dogma, Albert Pike, p.160.)

IF God accepts people into heaven contrary to his will (Matt. 7:21; II John 6-11).

David Brown  
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*(ORDER, Continued from back page)*

the Lodge:

*“Supreme Ruler of the Universe, we would reverently invoke thy blessings at this time. Wilt Thou be pleased to grant that this meeting, thus begun in order, may be conducted in peace, and closed in harmony. Amen”* (p.15).

Without going further, we have established the Lodge as a religious body in which prayers are offered! The religious connotation is shown in this directive:

*“The Senior Deacon proceeds to the altar, situated in the center of the room, opposite the Junior Warden’s station, as already explained, opens the Bible, usually at Psalms 133, and places upon it the Square and Compass (the latter open), with both points of the Compass below the Square”* (p.26)..

The secret meanings are explained in the following pages. The secret, furtive, mystical actions are shown:

*“The Senior and Junior Deacons both step to the altar, and from there approach the Supreme Warden’s station, to whom they communicate in a whisper the pass of a Fellow Craft—which is SHIBBOLETH.”*

Just where did this “Shibboleth” originate? Why hearken back to the Bible to a mystery in Ephraim if this is not a religion? And remember, that is under the “Worshipful Master!” But it is not under Christ! You will notice that the name of Christ is never mentioned in any prayer in the book! The Lord adds to his church (Acts 2:47). But in this mysterious order, frail human beings decide membership in the Lodge, by the mystical, hidden, secretive means

of the “black ball” method (pp.51-54)! *“One black ball is enough to cause the rejection of a candidate.”*

To further establish the religious nature of this secret order, we cite the following:

*“Freemasons, we are informed in the text books of the Lodge, are moral builders. It is said of them that, a ‘more noble and glorious purpose than squaring stone and hewing timbers is theirs, –fitting immortal nature for that spiritual temple—that house not made with hands eternal in the heavens”* (p.55).

Herein is a claim of salvation in the Lodge, thus by-passing Jesus Christ as Saviour, and the church which he saves! Not only do their prayers identify them as a false religion which spurns the Saviour, their songs mark them as a religious order! Their graveside hymn closes with the words: *“Lord of all! below, above, Fill our hearts with truth and love; When dissolves our earthly tie, Take us to Thy Lodge on high”* (p.219). The religious nature of this Lodge is seen in prayer:

*“Yet, O God, have compassion upon the children of thy creation, administer them comfort in time of trouble and save them with an everlasting salvation. Amen.”*

All members respond saying, *“So mote it be”* (p.222). Anyone who can accept such ritualistic ceremonies surely hasn’t much respect for the “fervent prayer of a righteous man” that “availeth much.”

*Dillard Thurman  
Gospel Minutes, Oct. 16, 1981*

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# Christians and the Masonic Order

I have never known a good member of the church that was a good Mason, or a good Mason that was a good member of the church. The two are incompatible since they are two different religions! Jesus Christ built the church; the Masonic Lodge was built by man. Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the church (Eph. 5:23); and I find no promise of salvation in the Masonic Lodge. This secret order has no affinity with Christ: *"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"* (II Cor. 6:17-18). God does not want his children fraternizing with secret, religious orders; nor be unequally yoked together with unbelievers (v.14).

## Jesus Christ built the church; the Masonic Lodge was built by man

I have at hand the **Handbook of Freemasonry, Revised and Enlarged**, by Edmond Ronayne, Late Past Master of Keystone Lodge, No. 439, Chicago, Ill. That which I cite can be found in this book on the page given.

First, we notice the prayer to be offered by the *"Worshipful Master"*, (and this does not refer to the Lord), of  
(Continued on page, 11, ORDER)

Eph. 5:11 demands that we *"have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."* Masonry, with its contrary teaching to the law of Christ as is shown in this issue of **Seek The Old Paths**, fits well the admonition of this verse. There is certainly no objection to their benevolent works. It is masonic doctrine that the Bible condemns. Sadly, there are members of the Lord's body that also hold membership with the masons. We plead with these to repent and get out of it (Luke 13:3; II Cor. 6:17-18).

**Seek The Old Paths** is a publication of the East Corinth church of Christ and is under the oversight of its elders. Its primary purpose and goal in publication can be found in Jude 3; II Tim. 4:2; Titus 1:13; 2:1; II Peter 1:12.

Manuscripts are welcome.

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