
THE CHRISTIAN AND THE LODGE

A WORD OF PERSONAL TESTIMONY. At the age of 25 I became a Master Mason. I certainly do not boast about it, but I was about as godless as a young man could be. I had no regard for God, or anyone else for that matter, but to please my father I joined the Masons. For that reason, I will deal largely with them, though the other lodges are no better – and they certainly are far from Christian. As I was getting deeper and deeper into the lodge, the Lord Jesus Christ saved my soul. No one spoke to me about it, but I began to have misgivings about being a “brother” with all of those unbelievers, many of whom were just as godless as I had been. It wasn’t too long before I wrote out my personal testimony along with many verses from the Word and sent it to the head of the lodge. I never went back! Incidentally, I never heard from them. I remember one thing very vividly; they clearly taught that there were many ways to God, but John 14:6 kept coming to my mind: “JESUS SAITH UNTO HIM, I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE: NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER, BUT BY ME.” Now I am sure this article will make some individuals angry. However, Jesus Christ did not set out to please everybody, so we cannot possibly hope to. We do want to be faithful to Him and to warn others of error and danger. If you are not saved, I suppose it matters little what course you take to hell. If you profess to be a child of God through faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, I pray that you will examine the facts and obey God. “NO MAN CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS.”

IS THE LODGE A RELIGION? Many insist that the lodge is not a religion and some professing Christians defend their participation in it on that ground. Well, even if it isn’t a religion, no true believer in Jesus Christ should be a part of it. Listen to God’s Word: “BE YE NOT UNEQUALLY YOKED TOGETHER WITH UNBELIEVERS...” (II Corinthians 6:14). It makes little difference whether the yoke is religious or not, it certainly is unequal. BUT IN FACT MASONRY, THE ODD FELLOWS, AND MANY OTHER LODGES ARE RELIGIOUS. To deny it is to be deceived or deceitful. I was a Mason. Every meeting was opened by a chaplain; he says a prayer and read from the Bible (though he nor anyone else that I could discern knew anything about the Bible). They not only have chaplains, but Worshipful Masters, Grand Pontiffs (that means a priest), etc. One of the most noted authorities, Albert Mackey, a 33rd degree mason, wrote in the “Encyclopedia of Freemasonry” (p. 619): “Look at its ancient landmark, its sublime ceremonies, its profound symbols and allegories, all inculcating religious doctrines, commanding religious observance and teaching religious truth, and who can deny that it is eminently a religious institution.”

MASONRY IS PAGANISM AND UNIVERSALISM.

This may come as a shock to some, but it is nonetheless true. A booklet put out many years ago by the American Unitarian Association, in speaking of the lodges, said that they “...have as their very heart, the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, immortality, and salvation by character, principles very familiar to every Unitarian Sunday School scholar...” The Odd Fellows’ Manual, written by A. B. Grosh, says, “Judaism, Christianity, Mohammedism recognize the only living and true God (p. 297)...followers of different teachers, ye are worshippers of the one God who is Father of us all...” (p. 298). Masonry claims to have recovered the lost name of the one true God. That name is JAH-BUL-ON, usually referred to as J. B. O. The J stands for Jehovah, B is for Baal (the sun god), and O represents Osiris, the chief god of ancient Egypt. In masonry, Scripture is sometimes quoted but never the name of Jesus Christ. Of course, they view Him as just one of many holy or enlightened men. The Bible is just one of many holy books. In “Landmarks of the Order” we are told that according to Mason doctrine the Volume of Sacred Law is “that volume by which the religion of the country is believed to contain the revealed will of God.” In other words, in North America their “sacred book” is the Bible; it is the Koran in a Muslim country; the Vedar in India; etc.

LODGE SALVATION IS BY WORKS.

As we have said many times before, only God’s truth offers salvation by faith without works (see Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8-9, etc.). In the book “Symbolism or Mystic Masonry”, J. D. Buck writes, “Every soul must work out his own salvation.” All such teaching is directly opposed to the Word of God and offers no hope before God. Of course, it is exactly what fallen human nature craves. You become your own savior, and you can hardly find anyone who doesn’t think he is somehow good enough to get to Heaven. The old, modernistic theory that each man has a little bit of divinity in him is also a part of this corrupt system. The writer mentioned above also wrote, “It is far more important that men should strive to become Christ than that they should believe that Jesus is the Christ.” We do not marvel that unsaved men should be deceived by such false teaching, but we are amazed that those who profess to be born again can be so blind. It is compromise of the worst sort and it is hard to conceive of an “unequal yoke” that could be more damaging to the soul. As for the unsaved, Masonry, and lodge religion in general is a road to Hell and not to Heaven. Acts 4:12 states, “NEITHER IS THERE SALVATION IN ANY OTHER: FOR THERE IS NONE OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN GIVEN AMONG MEN, WHEREBY WE MUST BE SAVED.” Furthermore, it is gross blasphemy to bring Jesus Christ, the

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Son of God, down to the level of other men – to make Him the Logos of which Plato and others spoke. He is not merely a light, a voice, etc., BUT HE IS ALMIGHTY GOD AND THE ONLY AUTHORITATIVE VOICE FROM HEAVEN. You cannot truly believe that and link up with the lodge and all of its heresy and denial of the basic truths of God's Word.

LODGES ARE FULL OF FABRICATION. The oaths which men are required to swear to in the lodges are truly abominable. Having taken some of them many years ago, I know first hand. Some are downright blood curdling. I have heard masons say, "Well, nobody takes them seriously." Why then are they so necessary? Honest men have written of cases where these oaths were violated and the offenders paid the price. God says we are not to take an oath. Will you disobey God to please men, or to have whatever benefits may come from lodge membership? A Mason swears that he will not reveal anything a "brother" has done no matter how wrong or illegal it may have been unless it was murder or treason. Even then he is not bound to tell the truth about those two crimes. Does that sound like something Jesus Christ would endorse? He swears he will not commit fornication with another Mason's wife, daughter or sister, but it says nothing about such sin with others. All of the teachings about the antiquity of the Masons going back to the early chapters of Genesis are nonsense! (Since most know nothing of the Bible, or history for that matter, it goes unchallenged). Hiram Abiff (who according to one authority was Osiris, Persephone, Bacchus, Tammuz, etc.) supposedly cut a white stone for Solomon's temple and engraved it with Roman letters...1,500 YEARS BEFORE ROMAN LETTERS WERE KNOWN TO THE WORLD. Since I came to the Lord and He opened my eyes, I have always viewed the lodge as a game big men love to play. The tragic thing is that it is a deadly game because it has eternal consequences. I could write a book about the false teachings, Scriptural distortions, untruths, inventions, and deception of the lodge. However, I must stop here, believing that enough has been shown to make the honest person look further into the matter. If you are a true Christian and a lodge member, you are disobeying the Lord. You are compromising the truth. Ask God to forgive you and get out of the lodge before it is too late.

A FINAL WORD. Over the years I have had a number of men say to me, "Well, what about the really good men who are in it?" They may even mention the name of an outstanding Christian. If we are truly God's children, our gauge of right and wrong is not some person, or even many such persons, but what saith the Scriptures. One of the great problems of our day is that most have been conditioned to follow the crowd or some successful individual rather than

follow the Word of God. "THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH." We would repeat the advice of Mary, "WHATSOEVER HE SAITH UNTO YOU, DO IT." This is all that we really need, but I want to give you the words of some truly "good" men (we know that there is none good before God).

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS said, "If the candidate has been educated to a sincere heartfelt reverence for religion and the Bible, if he exercises his reason, he knows that all the tales of Jachin and Boaz, or Solomon's Temple, of Hiram Abiff, and Jubela, Jubelo, and Jubulum are impostures – poisons poured into the perennial fountain of truth – traditions exactly resembling those reprobated by Jesus Christ as making the Word of God of none effect."

D. L. MOODY said, "I do not see how any Christian, most of all a Christian minister, can go into these secret lodges with unbelievers. They say they can have more influence for good; but I say they can have more influence for good by staying out of them, and then reproving their evil deeds."

DR. JAMES M. GRAY (President of Moody Bible Institute 75 years ago): "I do not expect anything I say will change the mind of any lodge member, but I sincerely hope under God to be instrumental in saving some young men, especially students of the Christian ministry, from entanglement with what I consider to be a great delusion...I plead with them to separate themselves from it, because it is dishonoring to Christ, it is hurtful to the truest interests of the soul, and because it has the stamp of the dragon upon it."

DANIEL WEBSTER said, "In my opinion, the imposition of such obligation as Freemasonry requires should be prohibited by law."

In spite of all of this, some will no doubt say that lodges are all right because they do a lot of good; they have hospitals, etc. While that may be true, it does not undo all of the evil that they promote. Once again I must say that subjective judgments cannot be our guide. "WE MUST OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MEN." Christian, let them do their good...you follow the Saviour. You cannot rightly promote the mixture and corruption of the lodge and the truth of Jesus Christ. They demean your Saviour. They manipulate His Word. They are leading thousands of spiritually blinded souls to eternal destruction by their false religion. "CAN TWO WALK TOGETHER EXCEPT THEY BE AGREED?" Do you agree with the lodge or with God? You can't do both. God says, "WHEREFORE COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM, AND BE YE SEPARATE, SAITH THE LORD, AND TOUCH NOT THE UNCLEAN THING; AND I WILL RECEIVE YOU." (II Corinthians 6:17).

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