





But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. 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. 1 Corinthians 10:20-21

On the surface, Freemasons are known as a gentile, male dominated fraternity which has bonded around the principles of self discipline, self advancement, and doing good. There is far more beneath the surface. It has been said that Freemasonry is a fraternity within a fraternity, and couched within that fraternity lies one of the world's most damning of all religions. As a mystery religion, it is a pure, creation based, polytheistic expression of ancient Gnosticism which in turn embodies the essence of both Babylonian and Egyptian religion. It is the ultimate ecumenical religion, administered to its initiates in small but compounding doses.

1. Understand Basic Masonic History

It is generally agreed that the first Masonic lodge was founded around 1717 in London, England. While some Masons claim their roots can be traced to the days of Solomon and the building of his temple, Freemasons as we know them trace their origins to 13th century guilds of cathedral building stone masons who united for purposes of sharing their skills and opportunities. They eventually expanded to include other men from the community. While they were religiously inclusive from the beginning, it is difficult to trace the blending of their various pagan and religious beliefs because of their secretive and oathbound practices which emerged over the centuries.

As with all groups, certain personalities have risen to give expression to the movement. To understand Masons, one needs to read the works of Albert Pike, an American who lived during the 19th century¹. The influence of Pike's own occultic tendencies are well documented in Freemasonry.² It is this teacher's view, however, that Pike's views were not so much new infusions into Masonic teaching, but rather, were expressions of their long established place in Freemasonry. The more "ancient" an organization is,

the more recognizable its true values are.

2. Understand the First Principle of Freemasonry

When Freemasonry comes under consideration there is a temptation to move directly to the discussion of its occultic practices. Anyone with a penchant for conspiracy theories is never happier than when he is studying this movement because it lends itself to speculation on many levels. The more fanciful the accusations become, the more humored the everyday Mason is because he sees little of these excesses in his initial Masonic experience. This is because the mystery aspects of Freemasonry are reserved for those who go beyond the Blue Lodge.

In past years, the contrasting experiences of the everyday Mason and his more "enlightened" brethren allowed the Freemasons to obscure their real values. Due to the fact that so many have come out of the system, most everything about this fraternity is now freely accessible.

Freemasonry is all about *enlightenment* and all initiates openly proclaim that they were lost and in darkness before coming into the lodge. Believers well know that the Lord Jesus Christ is the light of the world, and that we step from darkness into light through Christ, (John 8:12; 12:35-46).

The enlightenment of Freemasonry is Gnostic enlightenment.

Gnosticism is a system which begins with the dualistic assumption

that there are two kingdoms, a kingdom of light and a kindgom of darkness (which resulted from an accidental act by a demiurge). The kingdom of darkness and the material world are the same in essence. The goal of man is to ascend into the kingdom of light through both *mediums* and *methods*. The men and methodology of Freemasonry helps elevate men toward this ultimate, enlightened state. See chart on last page.

Anyone can witness to a Freemason with hardly a shred of knowledge of Masonic belief. However, one cannot fully understand Freemasonry who does not understand its Gnostic roots.

The exotica of Freemasonry is not its property alone. All of it is traceable to earlier Gnostic expressions and Gnosticism itself can be traced back to Babylon. These occultic expressions go well beyond the scope of this paper, but merit serious research. We recommend the reader take time to view a typical history of occultism as it relates to the one-world movement³.

While a full understanding of Gnosticism is not required, the witness should understand that one's experience with everyday Masons, and Masons who have gone beyond the Blue Lodge, will be noticeably different. The lower Mason will be more likely to showcase his own good works and the great acts of his fraternity, while the more "mature" Mason will view the witness condescendingly, as one who is unititiated to deep truth. In either case, the Bible speaks prolificly about the needs of both of these dear folks and admonishes us to

bring both under the non negotiable message of the gospel and the only One who can save men. In short, get to the gospel as quickly and efficiently as possible when witnessing to Masons.

3.) Understand Freemasonry's Low View of the Scriptures and of God

Freemasons and the Bible. According to GotQestions.org, "The Bible is only one of several 'Volume(s) of Sacred Law,' all of which are deemed to be equally important in Freemasonry. The Bible is an important book, only as far as those members who claim to be Christians are concerned, just as the Koran is important to Muslims. The Bible is not considered to be the exclusive Word of God, nor is it considered to be God's sole revelation of himself to humankind; but only one of many religious sourcebooks. It is a good guide for morality. The Bible is used primarily as a symbol of God's will, which can also be captured in other sacred texts, like the Koran or Rig Vedas." ⁴

While the witness for Christ will want to be able to defend the inspiration of the Bible (see our article: <u>Five Things About the Inspiration of the Bible</u>) it is more important simply to *use* the Bible than it is to defend it.

Freemasons and God. The Elohim of the Bible is *not* the Elohim of Mormonism. The Jehovah of Watchtower is *not* the Jehovah of the scriptures. Allah is *not* Jehovah God, and neither is the

GAOTU (Great Architect of the Universe) of Freemasonry the God of the Bible. We do not worship the same God in different ways. To declare otherwise is to commit the most heinous of all sins, to attribute to God the works and characteristics of the devil (Exodus 20:3, 1 Corinthians 10:14, Rev. 21:8).

Freemasons and Jesus Christ. An advanced Mason will own Jesus Christ as a messiah, but not as the Messiah. The following quotation from 4Truth.net gives a succinct summary: "Many of the recommended readings for advanced degrees contain pagan and occultic teachings. Several of these Masonic writers deny the uniqueness of Jesus Christ. For example, Rex Hutchens wrote: "The purpose of teaching the concept of a Messiah in Freemasonry is to point out its near universality in the well—developed religions of the ancient world. We see references to Dionysius of the Greeks, Sosiosch of the Persians, Krishna of the Hindus, Osiris of the Egyptians, Jesus of the Christians. The purpose of these varying cultures' messiahs was to find in human form a source of intercession with Deity; in particular one who, as a human, had been tempted and suffered the daily pangs of life and so could be expected to possess a particular sympathy and understanding; in a word, the messiahs expressed hope." ⁵

Clearly, Masons do not embrace Jesus Christ as the only way (Acts 4:12, and 1 Timothy 2:5). Those who love Christ simply cannot allow their testimony to be darkened by such false teaching.

4.) Understand Freemasonry's Degraded View of Salvation

For a fraternal organization which claims *not* to be religious⁶, Masons argue that, notwithstanding the death of the Redeemer, man's salvation must also be secured through works, and all will be "brought before the Court of the Dead to determine if they are deserving to dwell among the gods." A rose by any other name is still salvation by works. See our article on Works Based Religion for biblical support.

5.) What the Mason Needs to Hear

- 1. He must not take the witness of men over God's witness. Our own religious feelings must be second place to what the Bible teaches (2 Peter 1:18-20). If the Masonic teachings were true they would not contradict God's Word. We must not allow the good works, good fellowship, and friendship of men hinder us from receiving the truth of the gospel (John 10:7-10).
- 2. The Mason, along with the whole human race, has enslaved himself to sin and cannot remedy this through works, no matter how wonderful. (Romans 3:10, 23). Our sin separates us from God and no amount of good works can remedy this. Seeking to gain the merits of heaven through our good works only adds to our debt (Rom 4:4-9).
- 3. A Freemason can know he has eternal life by believing on the Son 6

(John 3:16-18,35). To have the Son is to have life. To deny this truth is to make God a liar (1 John 5:10-12).

4. A Freemason can become a new creation in Christ, with new life (2 Corinthians 5:17).

- 1. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Albert_Pike
- 2. http://www.patheos.com/blogs/panmankey/2013/07/pike/
- 3. http://www.emfj.org/index.html
- 4. http://www.gotquestions.org/free-masonry.html
- 5. http://www.4truth.net/fourtruthpbnew.aspx?pageid=8589952787
- 6. and 7. Rex R. Hutchens, A Bridge to Light (Washington D.C.: The Supreme Council, 1988), p.300-301 as cited by www.4Truth.net

Recommended Resources:

http://www.emfj.org/index.html



ANCIENT WISDOM - THE BASE OF ALL RELIGIOUS THOUGHT

Spiritual World

Commonly referred to as the Kingdom of Light

Re-absorption (Enlightenment) or Return Effected by:

Methods

Mediums or Intermediaries

The spirit world -

Principalities

Powers

The Basis of all Gnostic teaching is between the physical and spiritual finding a way to bridge the gap

Good Works - Law Keeping - Gnosia Reincamation, Festivals Calendars -Human Merit - Chants & Altered States Ceremonies Philosophies -

Echelons of Angels,

Wise Men

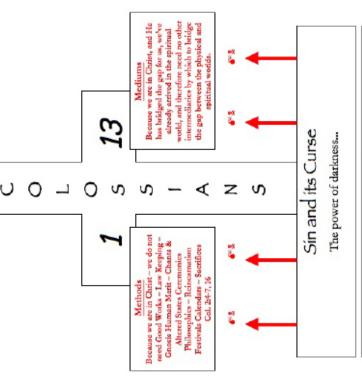


Sometimes referred to as the Kingdom of Darkness



Spiritual World

The kingdom of his dear Son...



In 2 Peer 340,12 the word carrier this meaning, Figuratively it refers to the elements of first principles of the Christian docurine (Heb 542). Paul calls the ceremonial ordinances of the Mosaic Law worldly elements (Gal 4t3, Col 245,20). In Gal 4t9 he calls them weak and poor 4747. SIGNED OF ACCOUNTS, In the PL. & Exhibitia, the basic parts, radiments, elements, or components of something. Among the ancient Greek philosophers, it designated the four basic and essential elements of which the universe consisted, namely, earth, water, six, and fire. elements when contrasted with the great realities to which they were designed to lead. These elements contain the radineents of the knowledge of Christ. The Law, as a school-crasser, was to bring the Jews to this knowledge (Gal 324).