

The Baptist Examiner

A nation-wide, independent paper, standing foursquare for the distinguishing doctrines of Baptists, and shunning not to declare all the counsel of God.

"To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isa. 8:20).

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Whole No. 23

THE EVILS OF SECRETISM

(By THE EDITOR.)

I desire to call your attention to some scriptures which give basis and authority for a treatise on this unpopular subject:

"Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people people their transgression" (Isa. 58:7).

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine" (2 Tim. 4:2).

"Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Eph. 5:11).

It is not pleasant to the flesh to attack that which is held in high esteem by so many people, but the duty of the preacher is very plain in the light of the foregoing scriptures. Whether it pleases him or not, if he will be faithful to his commission, he must "cry aloud" with reproof and rebuke; and show God's people their transgressions. He must preach the word both in season and out of season. He must declare all the counsel of God.

Secretism a Great Evil

Secretism today presents one of the most widespread, pernicious, and insidious forms of evil that has ever been lifted up against truth and righteousness. Some preachers seem to think that it is too trivial a thing to merit their attention. But they are sadly deceived. THE CHURCH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST TODAY HAS NO GREATER FOE THAN SECRETISM. Secretism is unexcelled because it is an organized evil that rivals and threatens the true religion of Jehovah. It is an evil that blinds, enslaves, and damns. It is an organized power for the advancement of the kingdom of darkness. IT IS ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING PIECES OF DECEPTION THE DEVIL HAS EVER INVENTED. It is the perpetuation, in a somewhat refined and disguised form, of that system of false religion that has from time immemorial sought to overthrow and displace true religion. IT IS NOTHING MORE, NOR LESS, THAN MODERNIZED BAAL WORSHIP. The maintaining of closed lips toward this evil, on the part of the majority of preachers today, only shows how far the present-day ministry has strayed from the spirit of the prophets. While the preacher who affiliates with a secret order, occupies a position analogous to that of the prophets of Baal.

Why I Am Opposing Secretism

I held aloof from the task of opposing secretism as long as I could. I anticipated the immensity and the seriousness of the undertaking. I knew that it would cause me much inconvenience and that it would cost me dearly. I hesitated to wound the feelings of friends that were members of secret orders. But finally, like Jeremiah, I can say: "His word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay" (Jer. 20:9). And having been convinced by a close study that, beyond the chance of a doubt, this system is perpetrated and indwelt by "the prince of the power of the air;" and having a deep impression from God, in addition to the commission expressed in the scriptures given at the outset, I can do nothing less than take a firm stand on this matter. And this I do without fear, "For the Lord God

will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded; therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed" (Isa. 50:7).

The Motive of This Paper

And now, before proceeding further, I want to say that I am inveighing, not against individuals, but against a system and an institution in the interest of individuals who have been deceived by it. It will be natural and needful for me to say some things which are applicable to individuals, yet this I do through no malice for them, but rather in order to awaken them to a realization of their sin. I disclaim every motive in discussing this subject other than a desire to see the truth advanced "for truth's sake," and for the sake of those who are walking in error, whom I covet for the truth.

The Paper Confined to One Form of Secretism

Inasmuch as it is impossible in the compass of this paper to analyse and discuss all of the multitudinous forms of secretism, it is expedient that I select the outstanding form and confine myself to it. According to the words of a respected writer among secretists, this is a sound policy. This writer says: "The analysis of one secret order is the analysis of every one." And he gives as his reason for this statement that they are all "fashioned after the same idea." So while I shall discuss one form only, yet in a general way my remarks will be more or less applicable to other forms, and let it be explicitly understood that the author is unalterably opposed to every form of secretism from the Knights of Columbus to the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. One is singled out only for the reasons stated. A member of another secret order will be able to see that his lodge is enough like its mother to stand condemned.

Freemasonry

As the one form of secretism upon which we shall center our attention, I shall select the oldest, most pretentious, and most prevalent one of all, which is Freemasonry. Freemasonry is the mother of all secret orders. In the world it enjoys the reputation of being the best and most venerable, but from the standpoint of God and his truth it is the most perverse and deceitful.

I Commend Myself to Masons

And now, as I turn to point out the evils of Masonry (by which familiar name I shall from now on refer to it), I commend myself to Masons on the ground of the reverence they profess for the light and truth. They profess to be in search of the truth, and to be constantly desiring "more light." And truth and "more light" are in store for them in this discussion. In fact, I hope that this discussion may be used of the Lord to actually bring many Masons "from darkness to light." "God said, Let there be light," and let all "the redeemed of the Lord say so." And let none rebel at light. If any do, then Jesus described them when he said, "Men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Then I commend myself to Masons on another basis: the testimony of one of their renowned and illustrious, often-tried and never-denied

brethren, Dr. Daniel Sickles. In his *General Ahiman Rezon and Freemasons Guide*, on page 53, he says: "We are convinced by a long and extensive observation that Masons need a truer and deeper insight into the nature of our esoteric work." We will also give two more significant quotations concerning the need of "more light" by Masons. W. H. Russell, in "Masonic Facts for Masons," on page 7, says: "Nearly every Mason thinks he knows all about Masonry and also what speculative Masonry is. As a matter of fact, however, he does not." Then J. D. Buck, in "Symbolism or Mystic Masonry," on page 26 of his introduction, says: "The most profound secrets of Masonry are not revealed in the lodge at all. They belong only to the few."

I. THE FALSE CLAIMS OF MASONRY

The first evil which I shall charge against Masonry is its false, absurd, and presumptuous claims. One of the seven things which God hates is "a lying tongue" (Prov. 6:17). That being true, God must hate Masonry "with a perfect hatred" (Psa. 139:22).

The Claim To Antiquity

The first one of these false claims which we shall notice is the claim to antiquity. It is a very common thing to hear Masons talking of Masonry going back to Solomon's temple, or even to an earlier time. The ritual of Masonry constantly implies, and in some places explicitly states, that Masonry began with the building of Solomon's temple. Now if this were true, what would it prove? NOTHING! ABSOLUTELY NOTHING! "The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness," but the hoary head offers no atonement for sin; nor is it a guarantee of righteousness. Suppose Solomon was the founder of Masonry? What would that prove? Nothing more than that he was guilty of devising a cunning scheme for perpetuating the idolatry he engaged in. It would not have surprised me if Solomon had founded Masonry. That achievement would have found a congenial place among his seven hundred wives, his three hundred concubines, and his worship of heathen gods. I am quite sure, the only reason Solomon did not originate Masonry is that he did not think of it. If some one else had begun Masonry in Solomon's latter days, no doubt, he would have been one of the first to be "desirous of being brought from darkness to light and receiving a part of the rights and benefits." Masonry would have exactly suited Solomon as a cloak for his sin. And in it he would have found fellowship in his heathen worship. See 1 Kings 11.

Solomon Had Nothing to Do With Modern Masonry

But the truth of the matter is, there was never anything more false and absurd than the claim that Masonry goes back to the building of Solomon's temple. SOLOMON DID NOT HAVE ANYTHING MORE TO DO WITH THE FOUNDING OF MASONRY THAN JULIUS CAESAR HAD TO DO WITH THE DIGGING OF THE PANAMA CANAL. Listen to some Masons of high standing, who think more of fact than fancy, and who, consequently, condemn this myth in no uncertain terms. Dr. Dalcho, one of the leading Masons of the world, and the compiler of the book of constitutions for South Carolina, says: "Neither Adam, nor Noah, nor Nimrod, nor Moses, nor Joshua, nor David, nor Solomon, nor Hiram, nor St. John the Baptist, nor St. John the evangelist were Freemasons. HYPOTHESIS IN HISTORY IS ABSURD. There is no record either sacred or profane to induce us to believe that these holy men were Freemasons; and our tradition does not go back to those days. To assert that they were Freemasons may make the vulgar stare, but it will rather excite the contempt than admiration of the wise." Then, in referring to the same, Prof. T. S. Parvin, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, and Grand Orator of the Commandery of Iowa, in an oration before the latter, said: "Now, in all candor and with all proper respect to our brethren, to this audience, not overlooking my own self respect as a Mason and a man of ma-

ture age, I must declare that all such stuff, while it may possibly be 'told to the marines,' certainly to all such heresies we may apply the injunction of David in his lament over Saul, 'tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon.' Such tales will surely, sooner or later, return to our hurt as they ever should." Furthermore, George Thornburg, a Past Grand Master, and a thirty-third degree Mason, says on page 7 of his *History of Masonry*: "The day of accepting vague traditions is rapidly passing and intelligent Masons are inquiring for themselves for historical facts, as well as for authentic traditions. In their zeal for the antiquity of the Fraternity, orators and writers have traced it back to the Garden of Eden. Less enthusiastic ones have contented themselves with stopping at the building of Solomon's Temple. The latter, by reason of the symbols and language used, are less unreasonable, BUT THE TRUTH IS, THERE IS NO REAL HISTORICAL RELATION BETWEEN KING SOLOMON'S TEMPLE AND SPECULATIVE FREEMASONRY." Also, from *The Illinois Freemason*, we read: "It is a mighty hard thing to get Masons to understand that Freemasonry had nothing to do with the building of Solomon's Temple. Freemasonry cannot longer lay claim to absurd tradition which they have inherited from a superstitious past." Finally I will refer you to the words of the Grand Lodge Report of Illinois for 1873 (page 63:): "And while it is true that the fools are not all dead, it may be safely said that he who teaches that Adam, Seth, or Solomon were Freemasons, sins against light and knowledge and ought to be excluded from the platform of instruction."

Where and when, then, did Masonry of today actually originate? The answer is *Speculative Masonry*, which is the Masonry of today as distinguished from *Operative Masonry* of earlier times, is the product of a gradual evolution from within the operative guilds; which evolution was consummated in London in 1717.

The Real Origin of Masonry

The following should give a somewhat adequate conception of how modern Masonry has come about. **First**, in one way or another, certain religious and philosophical symbols and principles, which formerly had belonged to ancient secret sun-worship, were adopted by some of the operative guilds. **Second**, the religious and philosophical elements seem gradually to have taken the ascendancy to such an extent that, at least, as early as the middle of the seventeenth century, there seems to have been Masonic associations composed wholly of devotees of the religious and philosophical elements, with a total absence of the industrial feature. **Third**, the full and final transformation of Masonry into an exclusively religious institution, however, did not take place until early in the eighteenth century. This transformation was begun when "selected gentlemen," who were not masons by trade, being "accepted" into the operative guilds and not being permitted to take all of the degrees, "chafed under the discrimination." And "they also concluded that Operative Masonry was too narrow in its teachings for men who were not actual Operatives, and they conceived the idea and undertook the work of broadening the teachings and elevating the morals of the Fraternity" (*History of Masonry*—Thornburg). **Fourth**, the final touches were applied in 1717; at which time four lodges of London went into the organization of the first Grand Lodge, subsequent to which the ritual was revised and elaborated and the legend of the third degree (the real essence of Masonry) was adopted from the Ancient Mysteries (ancient secret sun-worship) by a Scotch Presbyterian preacher by the name of James Anderson.

Is Masonry Based on the Bible?

Another spurious claim that is often heard, is that Masonry is based on the Bible. IF THIS WERE TRUE, IT WOULD NOT GUARANTEE DIVINE FAVOR. There are hundreds of sects over the world professing to be founded on the Bible. Is this proof that all of them are divinely sanctioned? Most certainly not. An institution or organization enjoys divine

favor only so far as it teaches the truth as it is in Christ Jesus. For an institution to profess to be founded on the Bible and then teach heresy, only aggravates the guilt that attaches to the teaching of false doctrine.

But Masonry is not based on the Bible, and cannot truthfully make that claim. All that can be truthfully said, is that in Christian countries, a copy of the Bible is one of the necessary pieces of furniture; that it is used in the taking of oaths; that parts of it are read in the conferring of degrees; but only such of its teaching are owned by Masonry as are supposedly common to all religions. Mackay, in his *Manual of the Lodge*, page 49, says: "The furniture of the lodge consists of a Holy Bible, square and compass." These are called "the three great lights of Masonry." Then from *A Digest of Masonic Law*, by Chase, page 207, we read: "The Jews, the Chinese, the Turks, each reject either the New Testament, or the Old, or both, and yet we see no good reason why they should not be made Masons. IN FACT BLUE LODGE MASONRY [the first three degrees] HAS NOTHING WHATEVER TO DO WITH THE BIBLE. IT IS NOT FOUNDED ON THE BIBLE; IF IT WAS IT WOULD NOT BE MASONRY; IT WOULD BE SOMETHING ELSE." And then from Mackey's *Lexicon* comes the following enlightening comment: "The Bible is used among Masons [NOT AS AN INSPIRED REVELATION BUT ONLY] as a symbol of the will of God, however it may be expressed." This matter is further elucidated by the following quotation from the same author's *Text Book of Masonic Jurisprudence*: "It is a landmark that a 'Book of the Law' shall constitute an indispensable part of the furniture of every lodge. I say advisedly a 'Book of the Law' because it is not absolutely required that everywhere the Old and New Testaments shall be used. THE 'BOOK OF THE LAW' IS THAT VOLUME WHICH BY THE RELIGION OF THE COUNTRY IS BELIEVED TO CONTAIN THE REVEALED WILL OF THE GREAT ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE. Hence in all lodges in Christian countries the 'Book of the Law' is composed of the Old and New Testaments; in a country where Judaism was the prevailing faith, the Old Testament alone would be sufficient; AND IN MAHAMMEDAN COUNTRIES AND AMONG MAHAMMEDAN MASON, THE KORAN MIGHT BE SUBSTITUTED." Still more light is thrown upon this interesting question by the following words quoted from J. D. Buck's *Symbolism or Mystic Masonry* (page 46): "Masonry is only a universal science, but a WORLD-WIDE RELIGION, and owes allegiance to no one creed [then it does not owe allegiance to the Bible, and, therefore, is not founded on the Bible], and can adopt no sectarian dogma [the Christian doctrine of salvation through the vicarious atonement of Christ, and of Christ's mediatorial work for instance], as such, without ceasing thereby to be Masonic. Drawn from the Kabalah, and taking the Jewish or Christian verbiage or symbols, it but discerns in them universal truth which it recognizes in all other religions." These quotations are plain enough that any intelligent person can understand them sufficiently to see that I have established the statement I made in the beginning of this paragraph. But I have a more serious charge to make.

Masonry Dishonors and Profanes the Bible

NOT ONLY IS IT TRUE THAT MASONRY IS NOT FOUNDED ON THE BIBLE, BUT MASONRY GROSSLY DISHONORS AND PROFANES THE BIBLE. **First**, Masonry dishonors and profanes the Bible by making it ONLY ONE OF THE GREAT LIGHTS, when it is THE ONE AND ONLY LIGHT. Proof: Isa. 8:20. **Second**, Masonry dishonors and profanes the Bible by using only such parts of it as suit its purposes, while absolutely ignoring the remainder of it and teaching things that are as antagonistic to it as darkness is to light. **Third**, Masonry dishonors and profanes the Bible by considering it ONLY AS A SYMBOL OF GOD'S

WILL, and not as it truly is, THE INFALLIBLE, COMPLETE, AND EXCLUSIVE WRITTEN REVELATION OF GOD'S WILL. **Fourth**, Masonry dishonors and profanes the Bible by putting it on a level with the uninspired books of other religions. **Fifth**, Masonry dishonors and profanes the Bible by grossly and maliciously misapplying portions of it. Scriptures that refer to Solomon's temple, to the second temple, and to the church are made to apply to Masonry. And scriptures that were written of and to God's own people, are STOLEN and applied to the mixed and motly multitudes of Masonry. **Sixth**, Masonry dishonors and profanes the Bible by using it in the administration of BLASPHEMOUS OATHS. This is not all I could say here, but for lack of space it must suffice.

Would the Bible Have Been Lost if it Had Not Been For Masonry?

The third false claim that we shall notice is that the Bible would have been lost if it had not been for Masonry. It is not uncommon to hear of this presumptuous, but empty, boast. This claim is based, no doubt, on the lying ritual of the Royal Arch Degree. In this degree it is pretended that in digging in the ruins of Solomon's temple the vertex of an arch is found; and that upon exploring this arch, among other things, is found a box supposed to be an exact likeness of the ark of the covenant, placed there by Solomon to be preserved for future ages. In this bogus ark is supposed to be a pot of manna; Aaron's rod, and the "book of the law." The supposed finding of this bogus ark is without the slightest foundation in scripture, secular history, or tradition. IT IS JUST ANOTHER EMPTY MYTH INVENTED BY THE DEVIL FOR THE PURPOSE OF DECEPTION. I could say a good deal more upon this subject, but I have said enough to convince any intelligent person that this third claim is false like the other two.

These false claims justify the statement of Edmond Ronayne that: "FREEMASONRY AND FALSEHOOD MIGHT WITHOUT IMPROPRIETY BE USED AS SYNONYMOUS TERMS." Through these false claims Masonry would pose as a sublime and wonderful institution, and thus ensnare many into its fold.

II. THE OATHS OF MASONRY

The Oaths Are Anti-Scriptural

We will take up the oaths of Masonry as the second source of evil. I have two counts to bring against these oaths. **The first count** against these oaths is that they are anti-scriptural in several different ways. Jesus said: "Swear not at all." Whatever else this may or may not forbid, it certainly forbids all rash and extrajudicial swearing. MASONIC SWEARING IS BOTH RASH AND EXTRAJUDICIAL. It is rash because the candidate is made to take an oath he is supposed never to have heard before, and is made to take it under conditions which, to say the least, are not calculated to make him properly considerate of what he is doing. It is a case of the blind leading the blind. Masonic oaths are extrajudicial because lodges have no authority either from God or the state to administer oaths. And the state does not recognize their validity. Now the state either has divine authority for administering oaths, or it does not have. If the state does have that authority, then it is the only institution that has it. For God would not endow two institutions with authority that would inevitably lead them into conflict. God is not the author of confusion. If the state does not have that authority, then surely every thoughtful, candid person will have to admit that no institution has it. Here is a dilemma for lodges, and it matters not which horn they choose. ALL EXTRAJUDICIAL SWEARING OUGHT TO BE PROHIBITED BY THE STATE.

Read These Horrid Penalties

Again these oaths are anti-scriptural because in the three

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INTRODUCING "THE EVILS OF SECRETISM"

The treatise appearing in this issue under the above head is a revision of a tract written by the editor and published by the West Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference. We are now republishing it because we feel that its message is needed by many to whom it has not yet gone. Also we have had several requests for its publication.

When this tract was published by the West Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference it carried the written endorsement of three members of that body who were formerly Masons. The editor also delivered the contents of it before the Pastors' Conference and on three Bible institute programs in west Kentucky. On one of these occasions a large number of Masons were present and on another there were several present. And each time the hearers were challenged to refute the charges. At Marion, Ky., Pastor J. C. Lilly asked if former Masons present could testify to the truthfulness of the charges, and two Baptist pastors together with four Baptist laymen stood in response. Three thousand copies of the tract have gone forth into twenty-five states or more. So far as the editor knows, only two attempts have been made to reply to the tract, and we can justly say that both of them failed ignominiously to refute a single charge. Near Paducah, Ky., a Baptist layman, who was a "bright Mason," boasted that nobody could take the Masonic pin off his coat. He was given a copy of "The Evils of Secretism" late one night. The scales were off of his eyes and the shackles of Masonry were broken before morning. He was a "bright Mason," but he learned more about Masonry that night than he had learned in all his time as a Mason. He is now an enthusiastic reader of The Baptist Examiner. These and other incidents and private testimonies have vindicated the truthfulness of "The Evils of Secretism."

We expect to get out another edition of this tract, the former one being exhausted. When published, the tract will be mailed postpaid at the following prices: Single copy, five cents; 10 copies, forty cents; 20 copies, seventy-five cents; 30 copies, one dollar; 50 copies, one dollar and a half; one hundred copies or more, two dollars and a half per hundred. We will publish this edition as soon as we have the money to do it with. If you want one copy or more, please let us have your order and remittance now. If we should fail to publish it, we will credit your remittance on your subscription, or we will return it if you prefer. Please send your remittance in coin, bills, check, or money order. We have enough stamps for a while. Help us circulate this tract and thus help to break the bonds of secret orders that restrict and hinder many members of Bap-

tist churches. If we realize any profit on the tract, it will be used to supply much needed funds for the Baptist Examiner. Both destructive and constructive criticism is invited.

(The bulk prices given above are for copies which are all sent to one individual. If you want us to mail copies out to individuals, please mail an extra cent per copy for postage.)

EVILS OF SECRETISM

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degrees of the Blue Lodge and in many of the higher degrees, the candidate must put up his life as a forfeit. It is necessary here that I quote the penalties attached to the three oaths of the Blue Lodge. Blindfolded, half dressed, and in a kneeling posture before the altar upon which rest the Bible, square and compass, the candidate takes the oaths and agrees to the penalties. The Entered Apprentice says: "Binding myself under no less penalty than having my throat cut from ear to ear, my tongue torn out by the roots and buried in the sands of the sea, at low water mark, where the tide ebbs and flows twice in twenty-four hours, should I in the least, knowingly, or wittingly, violate or transgress this my Entered Apprentice obligation. So help me God and keep me steadfast." The Fellowcraft says: "Binding myself under no less penalty than that of having my left breast torn open, my heart plucked from thence and given to the beasts of the field and the birds of the air as a prey, should I in the least, knowingly or wittingly, violate or transgress this my Fellowcraft obligation. So help me God and keep me steadfast." The Master Mason says: "Binding myself under no less penalty than that of having my body severed in twain, my bowels taken from thence and burned to ashes, and this scattered by the four winds of heaven, that no more remembrance may be had among men or Masons of so vile a wretch as I should be, should I in the least, knowingly or wittingly violate or transgress this my Master Masons obligation, so help me God and keep me steadfast."

NO CHRISTIAN HAS A RIGHT TO PUT UP HIS LIFE AS A PLEDGE. We read in the scripture: "Ye are not your own." I might as well steal money and put it up as a pledge as to pledge my life, which does not belong to me.

Oaths Are Profane and Blasphemous, Even If Not Enforced

But I am reminded that these penalties are just a matter of ancient form, and are never enforced. We will look into this matter a little later on, so for the present we will let it suffice to consider the words of R. A. Torrey, the noted evangelist: "Either these frightful oaths are meant to be taken seriously and literally, or else they are not. If they are taken earnestly and seriously and literally, words can scarcely describe my horror that any Christian man should take such an oath upon himself. If they are not taken seriously and literally, and in a large proportion of cases they are not, then THEY ARE PROFANE AND BLASPHEMOUS IN THE EXTREME." This presents another nice dilemma. Selah!

Oaths Require Keeping of Unknown Secrets and Concealment of Crime

Furthermore, the Entered Apprentice must swear as follows: "I will always hail, forever conceal and never reveal, any of the secret arts, parts or points of the hidden [?] mysteries of Masonry which may have been heretofore or shall be at this time, OR AT ANY FUTURE PERIOD committed to me as such . . ." And the Master Masons' oath says: "I furthermore promise and swear that I will keep the secrets of a brother Master Mason when committed to me as such, murder and treason excepted and these left to my own choice." Now the point I wish to make here, is that in these oaths a man promises and swears that he will keep secrets which he may not be able to keep conscientiously, inasmuch as he does not know, at the time he takes the oaths, what he is going to be

called upon to conceal. For that reason such swearing was prohibited even under the Old Testament dispensation. Lev. 5:4, 5—"If a soul swear, pronouncing with his lips **TO DO EVIL OR TO DO GOOD**, whatever it shall be that a man shall pronounce with an oath, **AND IT BE HID FROM HIM**; when he knoweth it, then he shall be guilty in one of these [guilty of a sin of the kind under discussion in this chapter]. **And it shall be, when he shall be guilty in one of these, that HE SHALL CONFESS THAT HE HATH SINNED IN THAT THING.**" Even if he has promised to do good, when a man finds that he has taken an oath without knowing all that was required in the fulfillment of that oath, he is to acknowledge that he has sinned. **EVERY CHRISTIAN LODGE MAN SHOULD DO THIS.**

Oaths Are Morally Invalid

In a moment we shall pass to the second count which I wish to bring against these oaths. But before we do that, I want to show fully that these oaths are morally invalid. Of course, it is well known that they are legally invalid, but I want to show that they are also morally invalid. It has been shown already that these oaths are anti-scriptural, rash, and extrajudicial. I have shown that it is impossible that a Masonic lodge have authority from God to administer oaths. Any sound, reasoning, therefore, must lead to the conclusion that lodge oaths are not binding on the Christian who, after taking them, comes to realize their true nature.

If more proof of the invalidity of these oaths to the Christian is desired, it can be easily produced. In each of the three degrees of the Blue Lodge, before the candidate takes the oath, the Master pledges to the candidate that there is nothing in the oath which **can conflict with his duty to God, his country, his neighbor, or himself.** Therefore, if the candidate at any time finds that his oath binds him to do anything that is contrary to his duty to God, his country, his neighbor, or himself, **THE OATH AT THAT MOMENT BECOMES INVALID.** If he comes to see that he was hoodwinked into taking an oath that is hateful in the sight of God, as he should see if he is an intelligent Christian, then the oath has conflicted with his duty to God; therefore he is privileged to, **AND SHOULD PROMPTLY DISAVOW THE OATH, FROM EVERY STANDPOINT MASONIC OATHS ARE INVALID TO THE INTELLIGENT CHRISTIAN.**

**"It is a sin to swear into a sin
And a greater sin to keep a sinful oath."**

These Oaths Are Anarchistic

Coming now to the second count that I bring against these oaths, I wish to say that **THEY ARE ANARCHISTIC.** By this I mean that they are at variance with good government and that they are opposed to law and order. And since the Bible teaches that civil government is ordained of God, this brings them again into conflict with the Bible. The concealment of crime is anarchistic and lawless. **YET MASONS HAVE REFUSED TO TESTIFY IN COURT ON THE GROUND THAT TO DO SO WOULD BE IN VIOLATION OF THEIR OATH.** And, moreover, a Royal Arch Mason must swear to **"assist a companion Royal Arch Mason, when engaged in any difficulty,"** and to **"espouse his cause so far as to extricate him from the same, WHETHER HE BE RIGHT OR WRONG."** If some one wants to find out why our laws are not better enforced, let him follow the above scent and it will probably lead him to where he can find at least a good portion of the proverbial **"something rotten in the state of Denmark."** But there is yet some more to come. The penalties attached to these oaths foster murder. **AND MURDER IS ANARCHISTIC.** I have already shown that, in the three degrees of the Blue Lodge, the candidate must put up his life as a forfeit. **THEN IN SOME OF THE HIGHER DEGREES MURDER AND REVENGE UPON THOSE WHO BREAK THEIR OATHS, ARE INCULCATED.**

The Blood of Martyrs Testifies

But we are again called to notice the claim that these penalties are a mere matter of ancient custom, and are never enforced. **BUT THE BLOOD OF MORE THAN A DOZEN MARTYRS BRANDS THIS A FALSEHOOD.** If these penalties are a mere matter of ancient custom, then why the murder of Samuel Pritchard, of London, in 1730; that of Noah Smith, of Manchester, Vermont, in 1798; that of Ariel Muddock, of Rensselaer, N. Y., in 1803; that of William Michner, of Jenkinstown, Pa., in 1809; that of Loring Simons, of Albany, N. Y., in 1809; that of William Miller, at Belfast, Ireland, in 1813; that of an unknown man in Bristol, Pa., in 1820; that of Oliver Gavit, of Ohio, in 1824; that of William Morgan, at Fort Niagara, N. Y., in 1826; that of Job Hunt, of Boston, in 1827; that of Artemus Kenedy, in 1830; that of David Brounlee, Little York, Ill., in 1840; that of the carpenter by the name of Forgie, in Canada, in 1854; and that of a stranger by the name of Brock, in Howard City, Mich., in 1881? All of these were murdered for breaking their Masonic Oaths. How many more have been murdered and the evidence covered up, we have no way of knowing. So far as I know we have no case like the above on record since 1881. Perhaps Masonry had to put a stop to this in order to save its life. Whatever may be the cause of there being no modern cases of Masonic murder on record, it is true that the blood-curdling oaths are still imposed in nearly every city, town and village in our land. Whether these oaths are enforced or not today, they are potentially murderous. And Jesus taught that potential murder is as evil as actual murder. (Matt. 5:22).

Some Official Utterances

Now as pertinent to the matter in hand, I shall give you some official Masonic utterances. An official of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, in his report of 1867, said: **"We know no government save our own. To every government, save that of Masonry, and to each and all alike, we are foreigners."** And from the **Report on Foreign Correspondence to the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire** for 1876 we read: **"The municipal law of the land is, as such, of no binding force in the government of the Masonic institutions."** Then Robert Morris, in Webb's **Monitor**, on page 240, in speaking of the Masonic covenant, says that it is the covenant (or oath) that makes the Mason, and then adds: **"No law of the land can affect it."**

The "Good Man" Argument—It Proves Too Much

But I fancy some one saying: **"Surely this cannot be Masonry, or so many 'good men' would not affiliate with it."** I answer that similar reasoning would justify slavery, Roman Catholicism, and many other things. **WHY NOT CONSIDER THE THOUSANDS OF "GOOD MEN" WHO HAVE RENOUNCED MASONRY.** And know that there are many other "good men" who, though listed as Masons, are not at all enthusiastic about Masonry. Many would renounce Masonry if they did not fear its vindictive, revengeful spirit. The blood-curdling oaths they have taken are ever and anon ringing in their ears. And many dislike to lose the favoritism which is theirs through Masonry. Many who are still in the lodge are blinded and deceived by the devil as already stated. I wish I could take you through the four thousand pages I have read on the subject of lodges. I believe you would see the truth of my words when I said that **"Masonry is one of the most amazing pieces of deception the devil has ever invented."** It hypnotizes, blinds, and enslaves. Some one said to Elder J. R. Baird, after hearing him in an address in Pittsburgh: **"If the thing is so horrible, why did you take degree after degree, when you knew what they were?"** He said: **"I'll tell you, we go into the lodge one degree after another, as a charmed frog goes into a snake's mouth."** The god of this world has marvelous power. He has many wiles with which to deceive.

**"Thus he supports his cruel throne,
By mischief and deceit;
And drags the sons of Adam down
To darkness and the pit."**

III. MASONRY AN ANTI-CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION

The third and final evil which I shall charge against Masonry is that it is an anti-christian religious institution. I will first show that **Masonry is a religious institution**, and then I will show that **its religion is anti-christian**.

Masonry Proved to Be a Religious Institution

To become a Mason one must believe in the existence of a supreme being, and must profess a trust in that supreme being. Then Masonry undertakes to teach its devotees concerning their relation to that supreme being both in time and eternity. Furthermore, Masonry has its "Worshipful Master," its "High Priest," its set forms of prayer, its moral and religious symbols and teachings, its belief in immortality and reward in the world to come, its scripture readings, and its altar. **WHAT ELSE WOULD NEED TO BE ADDED IN ORDER TO MAKE MASONRY A RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION?** But let us go on further and note the testimony of leading Masonic writers. Robert Morris says, in *Webb's Monitor*, (page 231): **"A meeting of a Masonic lodge is a religious ceremony."** In his *Manual of the Lodge*, page 46, A. G. Mackey says: **"As Masons we are taught never to begin any great or important undertaking without first invoking the blessings and protection of deity, AND THIS IS BECAUSE MASONRY IS A RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION."** On page 57 he says again: **"Speculative Masonry, now known as Freemasonry, is, therefore, the scientific application and the religious consecration of the rules and principles, the technical language, and the implements and materials of operative Masons to the worship of God as the Grand Architect of the Universe, and to the purification of the heart, AND THE INCULCATION OF THE DOGMAS OF A RELIGIOUS PHILOSOPHY."** From Sickles' *General Ahiman Rezon* (page 57) we read: **"Our rites embrace all possible circumstances of man—moral, spiritual, and social—and have a meaning as high as the heavens, broad as the universe, and profound as eternity."** Then in *Traditions of Freemasonry*, on page 15, A. T. C. Pierson says of Masonry: **"Without any reference to forms and modes of faith, it furnishes a series of indirect evidences, which SILENTLY operate to ESTABLISH GREAT AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF RELIGION."** It will suffice to call your attention in the last place to the words of J. D. Buck, as already quoted, and as found on page 46 of his *Symbolism or Mystic Masonry*: **"Masonry is not only a universal science, but a WORLD-WIDE RELIGION."**

Masonry's Religion Proved To Be Anti-Christian.

I will now show that Masonry's religion is anti-christian. In proof of this, I shall call your attention to five things:

1. The religion of Masonry is such as to be acceptable to those who reject Christ as the Messiah and Savior. Blue Lodge Masonry is supposed to be substantially the same the world over. I have twice quoted from J. D. Buck to the effect that Masonry is **"a world-wide religion."** And I have also quoted from Buck to the effect that it teaches only **"universal truths, which it recognizes in all other religions."** And now listen to Robert Morris in *Webb's Monitor of Freemasonry*, page 280: **"So broad is the religion of Masonry, and so CAREFULLY ARE ALL SECTARIAN TENENTS 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 the moral and intellectual work with the Buddhist, the Parsee, the Confucian, and the worshipper of Deity under every form."** Then from Mackey's *Manual of the Lodge*, page 215, comes the following: **"Though in ancient times Masons were charged in every country to be of the religion of that country or nation, whatever it was, it is now thought more expedient only to OBLIGE THEM TO THAT RELIGION IN WHICH ALL MEN AGREE."** Now it is plain that **"that religion in which all men agree,"** and that

which is acceptable to the Jew, Buddhist, Mohammedan, Parsee, Confucian, **"and the worshipper of Deity under every form,"** is essentially and necessarily anti-christian.

2. The anti-christian nature of Masonic religion is further shown by the fact that the name of Christ is excluded from pure Masonry. THE NAME OF CHRIST DOES NOT APPEAR IN THE FORMS OF PRAYER FOR USE IN THE MORE THAN FORTY DEGREES OF MASONRY WHICH I HAVE EXAMINED. In Sickles' *General Ahiman Rezon and Freemasons Guide*, in addition to the prayers to be used in the conferring of degrees, there are a number of prayers for use on special occasions, such as funerals, installations, dedications, laying of corner stones, etc.; but the name of Christ does not appear in any of them. BUT WHAT IS WORSE, IF POSSIBLE, IS THE EXPUNGING OF CHRIST'S NAME FROM THE SCRIPTURES. This is done in the Mark Master's Degree, which is the first degree of the York Rite above the Blue Lodge, where 1 Pet. 2:5 is used with the reference to Christ omitted. It is also done in the Royal Arch, or seventh degree of the York Rite and fourth degree of Chapter Masonry, where 2 Thess. 3:6-16 is used; and the name of Christ is twice omitted. As against this Jesus said: **"No man cometh unto the Father, but by me."**—John 16:32. Also: **"Whosoever, therefore, shall be ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."**—Mark 8:38. And again: **"He that honoreth not the Son, honoreth not the Father that sent him."**—John 5:23.

Not only is the name of Christ thus excluded from the ritual, but it has been declared time and time again to be un-masonic to use the name of Christ even in extemporaneous prayer. I have on file a letter in which Elder L. M. Winstead, of Madisonville, Ky., testifies that he withdrew from Masonry because on one occasion he was told that he owed the lodge an apology for having mentioned the name of Christ in an extemporaneous prayer in the lodge. The author also has a written statement from Elder T. G. Shelton, pastor of West End Baptist Church, Paducah, Ky., in which he testifies that his father withdrew from Masonry for the same reason. Many other such testimonies are on record.

3. In the third place we will notice that Masonry teaches the anti-christian doctrine of the universal fatherhood of God. This is nearly too well known to need any proof, but lest it should be doubted by some, I pause to vindicate it. On page 41 of his *History of Masonry*, George Thornburg says: **"The Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, the underlying principles of Freemasonry, are as old as the human race."** In *Masonic Facts for Masons*, on page 48, W. H. Russell says: **"The symbolisms of Masonry are used in its peculiar mode of instruction, inculcating the duties we owe to God and man; and these ethics are founded on the two great ideas of the Universal Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man."** The *Masonic Advocate* of August, 1873, said: **"The theology of Masonry was established long before the advent of Christ on the earth, and is based solely upon the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man."** In Haywood's *Great Teachings of Freemasonry*, on page 120, we read: **"ALL MEN, whatever be their faith or fortune, from Plato down to the African dwarf, HAVE THIS RELATION WITH God. What God is to any one, he is to every other one; and all that God can be to or do for any man, he is to and does for all men equally and everlastingly. This eternal and universal Fatherhood in him does not come into existence when we begin to believe it; it is already a fact before we believe it, and remains a fact whether we believe it or not."** All who will take time to study Masonry, or any other of the outstanding lodges, will see what these men have said is true. The fact that Masonry teaches men to approach God other than through Christ, and the fact that in its religious exercises and teach-

ings it makes no distinction between believers and unbelievers in the scriptural sense, is proof enough that it is founded on the doctrine here charged against it.

Now let us see how this compares with the teachings of Christ and the scriptures. To some Pharisees, who claimed God as their Father, Christ said: "Ye are of your father the devil."—John 8:44. Also note the following passages from the Word of God: "As many as received him, to them gave he power TO BECOME SONS OF GOD."—John 1:12. "Ye are all children of God BY FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS."—Gal. 3:25. "In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother."—1 John 3:10.

4. The fourth proof, which I shall offer, of the anti-christian nature of Masonic religion is that it teaches salvation by works and character. In regard to the lambskin or white apron which the Entered Apprentice receives, the Master of the lodge says: "You were presented with a lambskin, or white leather apron, because the lamb has in all ages been deemed an emblem of innocence. He, therefore, who wears the lambskin or white leather apron as the badge of a Mason, is thereby continually reminded of that purity of life and conduct which is essentially necessary to his gaining admission into the celestial Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides." Then in explanation of the covering of the lodge the following is said: "The covering of a Lodge is the clouded canopy, or the starry decked heaven, where all good Masons hope at last, to arrive by the aid of a ladder called Jacob's Ladder having three principal rounds denominated faith, hope, and charity, teaching faith in God [but not faith in God through Christ], hope in immortality, and charity to all mankind." Also from the ritual of the same degree we read: "By the rough ashler, we are reminded of our rude and imperfect state by nature; by the perfect ashler, of that state of PERFECTION at which we hope to arrive by a virtuous education, our own endeavors and the blessing of God." Then from the ritual of the third degree comes the following: "And now, my brethren, let us see to it, and so regulate our lives by the plumb-line of Justice, ever squaring our actions by the rule of Virtue that when the Grand Warden of Heaven shall call for us, you may be found ready."

From the degree of Royal Master, which is the eighth degree of the York Rite, we read: "The Supreme Master of the universe before whom we bow in adoration, and whose all-seeing Eye has marked our labors in this lodge below, promises to spread before us in the stupenduous Lodge above the joys and glories of his eternal Sabbath. After the strong hand of death has leveled all in the humiliation of the grave, the almighty hand of the Supreme Master shall prevail and exalt EVERY BROTHER to the glorious companionship of the undissolving Lodge above." In the proceedings of the Minnesota Grand Lodge, January, 1895, on page 66, we read: "He who approaches our altar in good faith, and by the light which we bring him, receives our teachings into a heart already prepared, and lives a life in conformity with the principles which he here imbues, has come into an invaluable possession and need have no fear when the word shall come calling him 'into the hereafter, but will be received as a living stone fit for that temple not made with hands.'" I need not continue these quotations. These are sufficient to show that Masonry teaches Satan's gospel of salvation by works and character. If I had space I should like to quote from the burial ceremony and show how this false teaching is brought there, and how this ceremony teaches that unbelievers will be saved. But I must give you the words of Mr. E. A. Coil, a lodge man and an Unitarian. In *The Relation of The Liberal Churches and the Fraternal Orders* he says on page 10: "The more I learn of the fundamental principles of the great fraternities, the more interested do I become in the fact that many people who denounce the churches called liberal [such churches as those

of Unitarians and Universalist] ENTHUSIASTICALLY ENDORSE, AS FRATERNITY MEN, THE VERY PRINCIPLES FOR WHICH THOSE CHURCHES STAND. I have often thought, in recent years, that I should like to organize a Sunday school class, and use as a text book the monitors of our leading fraternal orders, and show the members of those organizations THE LOGIC OF THE PRINCIPLES TO WHICH THEY, IN THEIR LODGES, ARE PLEDGED. Nearly all of those monitors 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 who has been properly taught the fundamentals of our faith."

Let us contrast the words of Jesus, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."—John 3:5. As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life."—John 3:14, 15. "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me."—John 14:6. Let us also note the words of Paul: "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."—Eph. 2:8, 9.

5. My fifth, and last, proof that Masonry fosters an anti-christian religion, is that it is patterned after, and founded upon ancient sun-worship. On page 27 of his introduction to *Symbollism or Mystic Masonry*, J. D. Buck says: "FREE-MASONRY IS MODELED ON THE PLAN OF THE ANCIENT MYSTERIES [ancient secret sun-worship] WITH THEIR GLYPHICS AND ALLEGORIES, AND THIS IS NO MERE COINCIDENCE; THE PARALLELS ARE TOO CLOSELY DRAWN." In Pierson's *Traditions of Freemasonry*, on page 13, we read: "The identity of the Masonic institution with the Ancient Mysteries is obvious from the striking coincidences found to exist between them. And in the same volume, on page 240, we read: "We readily recognize in Hiram Abiff [whom the Masonic candidate for the third degree is made to represent] one of the Grand Masters of Freemasons; the Osirus of the Egyptians, the Mithras of the Persians, the Bacchus of the Greeks, the Dionysias of the fraternity of the artificers, and the Attys of the Phrygians [all sun-gods] whose passion, death and resurrection were celebrated by those peoples respectively." Then Sickles says on page 196 of his *General Ahiman Rezon*: "Osirus and the Tyrian Architect (Hiram Abiff) are one and the same." Lastly, in speaking of the legend of Hiram Abiff, which is enacted in the third degree of Masonry, Mackey says on page 112 of his *Ritualist*: "The idea of the legend was undoubtedly borrowed from the Ancient Mysteries." And in his *Lexican* Mackey speaks of the Ancient Mysteries as "truly Masonic Institutions."

A study of the matter will show that the entire ceremony of Blue Lodge Masonry is an imitation of the rites performed in ancient secret idolatrous sun-worship.

Now we shall ask what attitude the Bible takes toward sun-worship.

(1). The first testimony I shall give is from Job. "If I beheld the sun when it shined, or the moon walking in brightness: and my heart hath been secretly enticed, or my mouth hath kissed my hand: this also were an iniquity to be punished by the judge; for I should have denied the God that is above."—Job. 31:26-28. God said of Job: "There is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God and escheweth evil."—Job 1:8. And to this holy man of God, any deference paid to the sun, or any rite engaged in in honor of the sun, was a denial of God. SUCH IS EVERY MASONIC RITE AND CEREMONY. FROM THE TIME THE CANDIDATE FOR THE ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREE SOUNDS THE ALARM AT THE OUTER DOOR UNTIL HE IS RAISED TO THE SUBLIME DEGREE OF A MASTER MASON, EVERY RITE AND CEREMONY

HE GOES THROUGH IS IN HONOR OF THE SUN; AND IS, THEREFORE, A DENIAL OF "THE GOD THAT IS ABOVE."

(2). In the second place I will call your attention to the fact (of which every casual Bible reader is aware) that the Old Testament severely condemns the worship of Baal; and Baal was a sun-god. **The New Students Reference Work** says of Baal: "He was the god of the sun, as ruling and giving life to nature." Any other standard authority will substantiate this. This, therefore, makes Baal and Osirus the same. And severe judgments were sent upon the children of Israel for engaging in the rites of Baal worship. IS GOD ANY BETTER PLEASED WITH BAAL WORSHIP TODAY THAN HE WAS SOME THREE THOUSAND YEARS AGO? All Masonic worship is Baal worship.

The point within a circle, which is so significant as a Masonic symbol, was borrowed from this heathen sun-worship; and was an immoral glyphic, whose meaning should not be hard to divine. Mackey, in his **Lexicon** on page 353, says that the worship to which this symbol belonged "was adopted by the idolatrous Israelites, who took it from the Moabites in the Wilderness of Sin, under the name of Baal-Peor." Reference to the twenty-fifth chapter of Numbers will show that God killed twenty-four thousand of the Israelites for this. Yet Masonry today dares to exalt the same symbol and inculcate the same worship.

(3). It is quite certain that it was with reference to one form of the Ancient Mysteries (the Eleusinian, celebrated near Athens) that Paul spoke when he said: "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things that are done of them in secret."—Eph. 5:11, 12. And also when he said: "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? or what agreement hath the temple of God with idols?"—2 Cor. 6:14-16.

(4). Finally, we will refer to Ezekiel 8:5-18. In the fourteenth verse it will be seen that the idol Tammuz is mentioned. In Mackey's **Lexicon of Freemasonry**, page 19, we read: "The idol Tammuz, mentioned in the eighth chapter of Ezekiel, was considered by Jerome, and after him by Parkhurst, as identical with Adonis." John Gill and Matthew Henry testify to the same opinion. Then on the same page of Mackey's **Lexicon**, and on pages 3 and 4 of **Symbolism of Freemasonry** we are told that Adonis was the same as Osirus. THEREFORE, TAMMUZ AND OSIRUS, WHOM HIRAM ABIFF REPRESENTS, ARE ONE AND THE SAME. AND IN THE EIGHTH CHAPTER OF EZEKIEL WE HAVE A PICTURE OF THE ANCIENT WORSHIP AFTER WHICH MASONRY IS PATTERNED AND UPON WHICH IT IS FOUNDED. The scene in the fourteenth verse of women weeping for Tammuz is commemorated in every well-ordered Masonic lodge by a glyphic consisting in part of a virgin weeping over a broken column. This virgin represents Isis, the wife of Osirus, the Egyptian sun-god. The broken column represents the untimely death of Osirus. This was the drama that the women in this fourteenth verse were enacting. This is more realistically represented in the third degree of Masonry, when all the brethren catch hands and march in single file around the candidate, who, representing Hiram Abiff (alias Osirus), is supposed to be dead, having been slain by Jubelum. As the brethren file around, they sing a doleful ditty. It is a funeral march; a mourning scene. And it comes from the same thing as the drama represented in Ezekiel 8:14.

Furthermore, the scene in the sixteenth verse is represented in each degree of the Blue Lodge when the candidate is con-

ducted to the west and taught how to approach the east in a very august and impressive way. In the east sits the **Worshipful Master**, who represents the sun.

Every person who takes part in a Masonic ceremony, especially in the Blue Lodge, is committing just such an offense against God as were the people mentioned in the eighth chapter of Ezekiel. And now listen what God has to say about it: "Hast thou seen this O son of Man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations which they commit here? for they have filled the land with violence: and, also, they put the branch [prototype of Masonic evergreen] to their nose. Therefore will I also deal in fury: mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity: and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them."

Now what shall I say in closing to the Christian who is in the lodge? Surely I do not need to say much more. I will merely say, you ought to heed the injunction of the Apostle and: "Come out from among them, and be ye separate." Will you, as one who has been saved by the precious blood of Christ, stay in an institution that eschews his name, and that dishonors his blood by teaching salvation through man's merit? Will you walk on in the modern form of the false religion that brought about the downfall of God's own people (the Jews) of former times? Will you, by staying in the lodge, assist the devil in blinding and deceiving men and dragging them down to the pit? Or will you take your stand before the world for Christ and his truth? I pray that you may do the latter. Do not put the matter off! E'er the devil has snatched the seed from your mind, drop upon your knees and ask God for grace to come out of the lodge and take your stand for the truth as it is in Christ Jesus. Selah!

What shall I say to you, my brethren of the ministry? I will ask, What shall we do about this great evil? I will answer by asking another question: What did the faithful prophets do in regard to this same idolatry? Answer that, and then, "go thou and do likewise." Nothing less is our duty.

MASONRY IS SATAN'S RELIGION. IF THERE IS AN ANTI-CHRIST IN THE WORLD TODAY, MASONRY IS ONE. IT RIVALS ROMAN CATHOLICISM AS AN OPPONENT OF TRUE CHRISTIANITY. IT IS ONE OF THE DEVIL'S MASTERPIECES.

"Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee LIGHT."—Eph. 5:14.

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