

# **FREEMASONRY: IT'S NOT JUST FOR MEN**

“TRUTH MAY BE TAUGHT WITHOUT RITUAL, BUT TRUTH TAUGHT BY RITUAL IS ALWAYS TAUGHT AS THE ORIGINAL TEACHERS DESIRED AND MAKES A LASTING IMPRESSION UPON THE MIND OF THE LEARNER.”

(One Hundred One Questions About Freemasonry, September 1981, pg. 38)

Good morning! Welcome to the workshop titled, 'Freemasonry: It's Not Just For Men'.

## INTRODUCTION

I'm Lora Brown, Founder and Director of Rooftop Ministries since 1989. "Rooftop" is an acronym for "Rescued Out of Freemasonry: Testimony of Prayer".

## ROOFTOP MINISTRIES IS....

Rooftop Ministries is a unique evangelical organization specially geared towards all persons associated with any Masonic affiliated order for women or children. I seek to help prevent, intervene in and recover from cult participation and assist concerned others with same by providing a web site, literature, lectures and consultations to the public.

Although I was never a Mason, I belonged to the "International Order of Rainbow For Girls", one of several Junior Masonic Orders for teenage girls.

God called me to ministry in 1986 when I read the Ephesians 5:8-11 during my morning devotions. This reads, "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (9) (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) (10) and find out what pleases the Lord. (11) Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them."

## PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for gathering us together for this conference. May this workshop be a conduit for your Light to shine on a dark subject. Help us to pray for and love our neighbors, especially those caught up in new religions. We know that "our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms," (Ephesians 6:12, *Holy Bible*). Remind us that as Christians, we are all ministers of the Gospel and should be ready in season and out of season to give a reason for the hope that is in us, to reprove, rebuke, and exhort with all

longsuffering and doctrine (2 Timothy 4:2, *Holy Bible*). In the precious name of Jesus and to His glory, Amen.

## TERMINOLOGY

When addressing the subject of apologetics, it is essential to properly define terminology. Today I will be speaking about Ancient Free and Accepted Masons or AF&AM for short, the Masons. These Freemasons are considered “speculative” Masonry, as opposed to “mechanical”, “instrumental”, “scientific” or “operative” masonry. It is the operative masons who actually work with stones.

There are many terms which may be ascribed to Adoptive Masonic Orders including Affiliated, Auxiliary, Associated, Concordant or Co-Masonic, Junior Masonic, etc. I will be using these terms interchangeably.

## OPENING

Freemasonry is widely known as an all-male secret society. There is much secrecy and plenty of misinformation about its beliefs and practices. However, the *only* remaining secret about Freemasonry is that there are *no* remaining secrets about Freemasonry.

What is Freemasonry and how does its symbolism, beliefs and practices manifest in its 50 Adoptive Orders?

## OVERVIEW

In order to understand the adoptive orders of Freemasonry, it is necessary to first give a brief overview of Freemasonry itself.

## FREEMASONRY IS....

“Masonry is, according to its own philosophers, a system of pure religion expressed in symbols, one which cannot be understood without a knowledge of the true meaning of them. This makes a proper understanding of those symbols very important. Masons believe that the correct understanding of Masonic symbols is the key to their eternal destiny” (33 – pg. 169).

## FREEMASONRY AND RELIGION

(33 pgs. 285/286) Albert Mackey (Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, pg. 619), says, “... the religion of Masonry is not sectarian. It admits men of every creed within its hospitable bosom, rejecting none and approving none for his peculiar faith.”

*According to the Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry by Albert Mackey, pg. 301, “The religion of Masonry is cosmopolitan, universal; but the required belief in God is not incompatible with this universality; for it is the belief of all peoples.*

## NATURE WORSHIP

Several famous Masonic writers such as Albert Pike, Albert Mackey, J.D. Buck and Daniel Sickles among others, teach us that Masonry is a revival of the ancient pagan mystery religions of Babylon, Egypt, Persia, Rome and Greece. These mystery religions were forms of nature-worship, more specifically and most commonly the worship of the Sun as source and giver of life to the Earth. (33 – pg. 170).

## THREE DEGREES/BLUE LODGE

Blue Lodge Freemasonry consists of the first three degrees, Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason. Every Master Mason has gone through the first three degrees of the Blue Lodge. They swear blood oaths. They are baptized into Freemasonry through the Legend of Hiram Abif. (For an explanation of this ‘waterless baptism’, please see the “Death, Burial and Resurrection” article under the “Affiliated” tab of this web site.)

The Blue Lodge teaches a “universal plan of salvation” which holds that every person is saved because of the “fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.” They ‘deity’ of Freemasonry

is the Grand Architect of the Universe (GAOTU). This cumulative term for the god of any religion of the world, a universal god in Masonry that will tolerate, accommodate and appeal to men of any religion.

Beyond Blue Lodge, Third Degree Master Masons may join either or both of the two most popular rites of the United States, that being the Scottish Rite (consisting of 30 additional degrees) and York Rite (the 'Christian' degrees, an additional 10 degrees). I've counted at least 80 other lesser known Masonic Rites that exist in the United States and overseas.

#### SCOTTISH RITE MASONRY

After attaining the third degree, a Master Mason may elect to go further into Masonry by joining the Scottish Rite, one of the two most popular rites in the USA. It has an additional thirty degrees beyond the initial three degrees of the Blue Lodge. The Scottish Rite bestows the Melchizedec priesthood upon its members.

#### YORK RITE MASONRY

"Jah-Bel-On" is the "Grand Omnific Word of the Chapter" and it stands for three names, Jehovah, Baal (the ancient Canaanite god worshiped in the Mideast) and Osiris (the Egyptian Mystery god). "Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel, and his redeemer the Lord of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God." (Isiah 44:6, Holy Bible)

#### ANCIENT ARABIC ORDER NOBLES MYSTIC SHRINE, aka: THE SHRINERS

Organized in New York in 1872, the Shrine is an offshoot of Masonry and its exoteric side maintains a high public profile. Most noticable through the Shriners are their philanthropies; the circuses and the hospitals for burned and crippled children. Shriners are the ones in parades dressed as clowns or riding miniature motorcycles or cars, wearing the peculiar red hat called a "fez".

All Shriners of the Scottish Rite and York Rite swear an oath to Allah, the god of the Moslems, as mentioned in the Koran. During an initiation into the Knights Templar Degree (12<sup>th</sup> Degree) of the York Rite, the Candidate is made to take five sips of wine from the likeness of a human skull to seal his commitment to secrecy. This is done while several Masonic Lodge Officers point swords at his throat (Jack Harris, Armageddon Within, pg. 17)

#### ISLAM IN FREEMASONRY

The Shrine is the Islamic expression of Freemasonry and everything about it is based on the Muslim faith and Arabic Symbolism. If you've ever seen a Shrine Temple, you've probably noticed its Arabic or Muslim architecture and corresponding temple names (33 – pg. 235, 238). ("Alcazar", Osiris, Emporis, Hamasa, Ararat, Zorah, Abdallah, Abou Ben Adhem, etc.)

<http://72.249.20.158/temple>

#### SECRECY

The esoteric facet of Masonry is hidden behind a veneer of allegories and shrouds of symbolism and is only revealed to the adept. Masonry claims, “We are a society with secrets, but we are not a secret society” (33 pg. 322).

Albert Mackey explains that, “The secrecy of this [Masonic] institution is another and most important landmark....If divested of its secret character, it would lose its identity, and would cease to be Freemasonry....” (Albert Mackey, Textbook of Masonic Jurisprudence, 23<sup>rd</sup> Landmark, “Secrecy”).

#### “OUTER PORTICO”

Albert Pike, preeminent Masonic authority and Supreme Pontiff of Universal Freemasonry, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree, Mother Council of the World, among other pompous titles, arrogantly states in his famous book, “Morals and Dogma, (pg. 819), “The Blue Degrees are but the court or portico [porch] of the Temple. Part of the symbols are displayed there to the initiate, but he is intentionally misled by false interpretations. It is not intended that he shall understand them; but it is intended that he shall imagine that he understands them...their true explication [explanation and understanding] is reserved for the Adepts, the Princes of Masonry [those of the 32<sup>nd</sup> and 33<sup>rd</sup> Degrees].” (33 – pg. 169)

#### DECEPTION

Albert Pike makes no excuse for secrecy in (pg. 104, 105) “Morals and Dogma” (33 pg. 337). He boldly states, “Masonry, like all the religions, all the mysteries, Hermeticism and Alchemy, conceals [emphasis his], its secrets from all except the Adepts and Sages, or the Elect, and uses false explanations and misinterpretations of its symbols to mislead those who only deserve to be misled; to conceal the Truth, which it calls Light, from them, and to draw them away from it” (33 pg. 337)

#### HIRAM ABIFF

The Legend of Hiram Abiff (or the Hiram Legend) of the Master Mason Degree is the new member’s baptism into the religion of Freemasonry. It is based upon the regeneration ceremonies of the Ancient Mystery Religions.

Each candidate for 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree of Freemasonry plays the role of a concocted character named Hiram Abiff, Grand Architect of King Solomon’s temple. Hiram has a secret word, the

ineffible name of God, and because he refuses to disclose it, he is killed, buried and later resurrected.

Because there is no water involved in this initiation ceremony, it is not easily recognized as a waterless baptism (33 – pg. 183).

#### JAH-BUL-ON

Jah-Bel-On is the 'Grand Omnific Word of the Chapter' and it is a conglomerate of three names: Jehovah (in the Syriac), Baal (the ancient Canaanite god of rain and fertility worshipped in the Chaldeic), and Osiris (the Egyptian Mystery god). Upon being resurrected by the Lion's Paw Grip of a Master Mason, the first word that is spoken, "Jah-Bul-On", becomes the substitute word for the Lost Name of God (pg. 417).

So, if the Masons resurrected Hiram, why didn't they ask him for the original name of God?

#### REDEMPTION

Freemasonry teaches that, "Redemption is a matter of self-improvement, morality, and good works, including obedience to the Mason's obligations – the death oaths" (33 – 152). "Faith in the atonement of Jesus has nothing to do with it; it is rather a matter of enlightenment, step by step, which comes with initiation into the Masonic degrees and their mysteries."

Masonry's plan of self-redemption has three parts. The Mason is redeemed (made spiritually perfect and sinless) by:

- (a) being enlightened (having both secret knowledge and the proper understanding of it)
- (b) faithfulness to his oaths of obligation (death oaths), and
- (c) his virtuous life ("being good" – good works, salvation by works) (33 pg. 289).

There is even a term for a Mason who is made free from sin by living in strict obedience to obligations and precepts of the fraternity. He is called an, "Acacian", (Lexicon of Freemasonry, pg. 16), (33 pg. 290).

#### SPIRITUAL LIGHT/DARKNESS

"Masonry is a never-ending search for *'light'*, always promised but never quite realized" (33 – pg. 165). The *'light'* is elusive. "As the Masonic candidate comes into the Lodge for the first time he is told that he will be brought into the light. In the Second Degree he receives *"additional light"*. In the third Master Mason Degree, he receives *"more light"*. He is then led

to believe that the light – real enlightenment – is to be found in the ‘higher degrees’ (33 – pg. 193).

Even in the honorary 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree, the pinnacle of Freemasonry, the candidate is told, “You have reached the mountain peak of Masonic instruction, a peak covered by a mist, which YOU in search for further light can penetrate only by your *own* efforts” (33 – pg. 194).

#### MASONRY’S SEARCH FOR LIGHT

Albert Pike states in *Morals and Dogma* pg. 741, that “Masonry is a search after light. That search leads us directly back, as you see, to (CAN YOU GUESS?) the Kabbalah” – a medieval book of magic and mysticism (33 – pg. 174).

#### MASONRY & THE BIBLE

Most Blue Lodge Masons are told from the beginning that Masonry is based upon the Holy Bible and they believe it. (33 – pg. 276). They believe it because this is what they were told by others who told them, and they tell the others, and so the lie is perpetuated.

(Chase’s *Digest of Masonic Law*, pg. 207-209). Most Masonic and Adoptive Masonic Orders have a Bible open on their altars. “Blue Lodge Masonry 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”

## SYMBOLISM

There are many, many symbols in Masonry, but I'll be discussing only the three most prominent ones that are readily recognized by the public. Since the true meaning of Masonic symbols (and, thus, the true meaning of Masonry itself) is to be known only by the Prince Adepts of Masonry, we must hear what Masonic authorities say about symbols.

All Masonic symbolism has at least two meanings, an exoteric (known or obvious) meaning and the esoteric (secret or hidden) meaning (33 pg. 341). Freemasonry, having been culled from 'the treasure house of all ages', is a revival of the mystery religions of ancient Egypt, especially the worship of Isis and Osiris (33 pg. 343). Those pagans worshipped sex and reproductive power. As such, many Masonic symbols are sexual (and phallic) in nature (33 pg. 343). A powerful example is depicted in the famous Masonic emblem, the Square and Compass.

## SQUARE AND COMPASS

The Square and Compass are probably the most distinguished symbols of Freemasonry. Decals with this depiction are often seen on lapel pins, rings, the windows and bumpers of cars and on the front of Masonic Lodges and Temples.

"Blue Lodge Masons are taught that the Square is to remind them that they must be "square" in their dealings with all men, i.e. to be honest. The Compass, they are taught, is to teach them to circumscribe their passions," i.e., to control their desires and to be temperate. However, the real meaning of these two 'great lights' is sexual. The Square represents the female (passive) generative principle, the earth. The Compass represents the male (active) generative principle, the Sun. The Compass, arranged above the Square symbolizes the (male) Sun, impregnating the passive (female) Earth with its life-producing rays (33 – pg. 171).

## THE LETTER "G"

The letter "G" is typically embedded in the center of the Square and Compass. It also appears on the east wall of the Masonic Temple Lodge Room, directly above the Worshipful Master's chair. The Blue Lodge Mason is taught that the Masonic symbol "G" represents God. Later, he is told it also represents "deity". Still later, he is told it represents "geometry". In reality, this letter represents the "generative principle," the Sun god, and, thus, the worshipped phallus, the male 'generative principle of life....'

## LAMBSKIN APRONS



The lambskin aprons that Masons wear are to remind them of “that purity of life and rectitude of conduct which are so essentially necessary to his gaining admission into the Celestial Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides (Albert Mackey, Encyclopedia of Freemasonry).

## DOCTRINES: SO WHAT DOCTRINES DOES FREEMASONRY HOLD TO?

### GOD

In the lodge, God is typically referred to as “Deity” and has a generic name, “The Great Architect of the Universe” (GAOTU), pronounced “Gaotu”.

In the Masonic Indiana “Mentor’s Manual” (pg. 49), we learn the meaning of the name “Great Architect of the Universe”.

“One fundamental of Freemasonry is its non-sectarian character. Any man may offer his devotions to the Deity he reveres, under the Masonic title, no matter what name he may use in his religious worship. Thus, Great Architect of the Universe is a symbol of Deity as named and worshiped in all religions.” Further, the Grand Lodge of Indiana States in its Monitor, “Monotheism is the sole dogma of Freemasonry. Belief in one God is required of every initiate,...”

This singular ‘one God’ they refer to, is their own symbol, GAOTU, which amounts to nothing more than a composite “umbrella” type god wherein is presumably found all gods of all mankind, whether True and Living, or manufactured. Thus, the Indiana “Mentor’s Manual” makes this statement, syncretistic in nature: “Before its altar Christian, Jew, Mohammedan, Buddhist, Gentile, Confucian, may kneel together.” (pg. 17)

### JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ was just a man, an “exemplar”, a great man of the past like Aristotle, Plato, Buddah, Confucious, Pythagoras and Mohammed. He is neither divine nor the only means of redemption for lost mankind. (33 – pg. 144). Albert Mackey stated that “The removal of the name of Jesus and references to Him in Bible verses used in the ritual are slight but *necessary* modifications” (Albert Mackey, Masonic Ritualist, pg. 272).

J.D. Buck (Mystic Masonry, pg. 45), makes the claim that, “It is far more important that men should strive to *become* Christs than that they should believe that Jesus *was* Christ.”

## SATAN

“Satan, as an enemy of God and his Kingdom, as an evil power seeking to tempt, deceive and destroy, does not exist. Mankind has merely ‘supposed’ this” (33 – pg. 155).

## PRAYERS

Prayers are to be ‘universal’ in nature as not to offend anyone and so as to apply to everyone. Prayers are to be offered to “Deity”, to “The Great Architect of the Universe”. If the Worshipful Master presiding over a Masonic Lodge allows prayers to be made ‘in Jesus’ name’, the Lodge can be closed and its charter revoked by the Grand Lodge of his state (33 – pg. 159).

Masonic prayers are typically closed with the phrase, “So mote it be” rather than ‘Amen’. It’s interesting, and disconcerting to know that Satanists, witches and sorcerers also close their prayers and declarations with the phrase, “So mote it be” (may it be so) (33 – pg. 159).

## BIBLE

Masons consider the Holy Bible to be a piece of ‘furniture’ of the Lodge, merely one of the many ‘holy books’ of man, no better than the Hindu Vedas, the Book of Mormon or the books of the Chinese and Greek philosophers. The Bible is readily interchangeable with any other Volume of Sacred Law, depending upon the preferences of the candidate or the Lodge. It is not to be taken literally (33 – pg. 146).

## EXCLUSIVITY

“The ‘light’ of Freemasonry, its ‘secrets’ and its pathway to ‘perfection’ are only for the elite, enlightened few who are initiated into its knowledge and wisdom. Freemasonry is open only to men (no women may be initiated) who are in “good standing” (“of good report”), who are “freeborn” (neither born in slavery nor bond-service, nor the son of such a person not born free), white, without physical disability (who can’t perform the recognition signs or see and hear them), without mental impairment or emotional sickness (who can’t receive the teachings or be trusted to protect them), who have the money required (not poor), who are “of full age” (twenty-one or older) but not “old”, and not an atheist (33 pg. 295)”. All who do not fit into this list of eligibility are considered profane’ (‘outside the temple’, unclean, unworthy) and can never be anything else (33 – pg. 166).

## BLOOD OATHS

'The blood oaths of obligation are administered at every Masonic initiation and are the cornerstone of Freemasonry. Considered 'unbreakable', oaths obligate the initiate to protect the 'secrets' of Freemasonry and are what makes a man a Mason (33 – pg. 163). A new initiate is asked, "What makes you a Mason?" He is made to answer, "My obligation" (33 pg. 357).

Every Third Degree Master Mason has pledged three death oaths. Every 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Mason has taken at least 32 such oaths. Mr. Evans Crary, Jr., Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida was a Thirty-Third Degree Mason, a York Rite Mason (Knight Templar) and a Shriner. He violated 44 death oaths when he left the Lodge to follow Jesus (33 pg. 354).

Myself, having been an active Rainbow Girl, I held every appointed, elected and installing office save five, and as a Past Worthy Advisor and Past Grand Representative, I personally swore 18 vows, pledges, oaths and obligations at the Rainbow Altar over my seven years of active membership. The Assembly annually rededicated themselves in a group ceremony. Since leaving, I've renounced every single vow – Glory to God!

#### YORK RITE OATH

"Christian" York Rite initiates must seal their vows by drinking five sips of wine from the likeness of a human skull to seal his commitment. He does this while several officers point swords at his throat (Jack Harris, Armageddon Within, pg. 17). He then calls down a curse of suicide if he ever reveals the secrets of the Rite.

#### SHRINERS OATH OF OBLIGATION

The Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine" oath invokes a curse, "In willful violation whereof may I incur the fearful penalty of having my eye balls pierced to the center with a three-edged blade, my feet flayed and I be forced to walk the hot sands upon the sterile shores of the Red Sea until the flaming Sun shall strike me with a livid plague, and may Allah, the god of Arab, Moslem, and Mohammedan, the god of our fathers, support me to the entire fulfillment of the same. Amen, Amen, Amen". As part of the Shriner's recognition test, the member is asked, "At what shrine do you worship?" His answer, "At the Shrine of Islam" (33 pg. 238).

## ADOPTIVE MASONRY

Membership in the Masonic Lodge is only for men. However, over the years, Masons have created auxiliary Masonic Orders for their wives and children. There are at least 40 adoptive Masonic orders for women and 14 for children (33 – pg. 245). No meeting may be conducted without at least one Mason present.

Junior orders serve as “feeder groups” to Masonry and its associated adult female orders. At a young age children are ‘desensitized” to the secret nature of their orders, and the ritual work, preparing them for membership in adult orders. These children and teens may experience tremendous parental, familial or peer pressure to join Junior Orders and subsequently, adult Orders.

## WOMEN’S ADOPTIVE MASONIC ORDERS

\*I possess a Ritual for this Order.

1. Adoptive Rite of France\* (12 Degrees)
2. American Adoptive Rite
3. American Federation of Human Rights
4. Ancient & Primitive Rite of Memphis-Misraim
5. Ancient Toltec Rite
6. Ancient Egyptian Order of Princesses of Sharemkhu
7. Compass & Square\*
8. Crusaders\*
9. Daughters of the Glove
10. Daughters of Isis\* (began in 1910)
11. Daughters of Isis (Prince Hall)\*
12. Daughters of Mokanna (began in 1919)
13. Daughters of the Nile (began in 1913)
14. Daughters of Osiris
15. Daughters of the Sphinx\*
16. Daughters of Knights Kadosh
17. Egyptian Adoptive Masonry
18. Grand Orient de Luxemborg (Germany)
19. Heroines of the Anchor
20. Heroines of Jericho\* (3 Degrees and Past Matron Degree)
21. International Co-Masonry
22. Knights and Ladies of the Anchor
23. Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America
24. Lady-Knights of Templars\*
25. LeDroit Humain-The Order of International Co-Masonry
26. Masonic Ladies of the USA
27. Masons Wife and Daughter
28. Order of Amaranth\* (Administrative Degree, began in 1873)
29. Order of Minerva
30. Order of the Golden Chain

31. Order of the Golden Circle (began in 1929)
32. Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem\* (USA only, began in 1884)
33. Order of the Eastern Star\* (5 Degrees, began in 1850)
34. Order of Women Freemasons\* (they use the common Masonic ritual)
35. Original Rose of the Seven Seals\*
36. Prince Hall Eastern Star\*
37. Rite of Adoption
38. Social Order of the Beauceant of the World (began in 1890)
39. Supreme Conclave of True Kindred
40. Women's Grand Lodge in France
41. Scottish Rite Mason's Sisters

#### ADOPTIVE MASONIC ORDERS FOR CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS

1. Constellation of Junior Stars (Juvenile Fraternity of OES for girls)
  2. Daughters of the Eastern Star (Juvenile Fraternity of OES, USA only, 3 degrees, ages 14-21, began in 1925)
  3. The Field of Moral\* (Juvenile Fraternity of OES, co-ed, discontinued, age 7 and up)
  4. Girls of the Golden Court (Juvenile Fraternity of Order of the Golden Chain)
  5. Job's Daughters\* (Degree of Royal Purple, girls age 11-20, began in 1920)
  6. Knights of Pythagoras (Boys ages 9-20)
  7. Order of the Builders (Boys age 11-21)
  8. Order of DeMolay\* (Boys, Initiatory Degree, DeMolay Degree, ages 14-21, began in 1919)
  9. Order of Les Jeune'\* (Boys, discontinued)
  10. Order of the Rainbow for Girls\* (Initiatory Degree\*, Majority Service\*, Grand Cross of Color\*, ages 11-20, can pledge membership at age 8, began in 1922)
  11. Order of Sunbeams (Co-Ed, discontinued)
  12. Phyllis S. Byrd Youth Fraternity (Juvenile Fraternity of OES)
  13. Princess of Ruth Gleaner Girls
  14. Organization of Triangles (Juvenile Fraternity of OES, Girls 10-21 in New York)
- Masonic Baptism\* Three versions are mentioned in Henry Wilson Coil's "Coil's Encyclopedia [of Freemasonry], pg. 7. "Baptism" is not an Order, but a ceremony for children of Masons, by Charles T. McClenachan – a 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Mason, E.J. Marconis (deNegre) (found in "The Sanctuary of Memphis or Hermes), and Albert Pike, 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Mason in "Office of Masonic Baptism, Reception of a Loveteau of Adoption".)

Most of Adoptive Rite rituals were written by Masons and therefore have strong Masonic origins, influence and resemblance. These orders have all the same symbolism, beliefs and

practices as Freemasonry but in a watered-down, candy-coated form to make them less offensive and more appealing.

These groups have varying requirements for membership, considering locale, gender, age and relationship to a Mason. Orders and degrees may be initiatory, earned, honorary or invitational. They may differ from one another greatly but still hold many things in common.

Let's look at some obvious and not-so-obvious ways that Freemasonry compares with Adoptive Masonry.

### COMPARING CO-MASONIC ORDERS TO FREEMASONRY

Co-Masonic Orders are *like* Freemasonry in that:

1. They are secret societies and are therefore esoteric (hidden/secret) in nature.
2. The exoteric (revealed/known) side of these orders is their philanthropy; they perform community service and/or charity work.
3. They are universal in nature. Freemasonry believes, "Fatherhood of God, brotherhood of man."
4. They have a requirement of belief in a 'Supreme Being', whether that is Allah, Baal, Jesus, Vishnu, Lucifer or other entity.
5. The orders hold false beliefs about salvation.
6. While most of the rituals may have vague references to Jesus Christ, He is seldom mentioned by name within the meeting room. Portions of Scripture referring to Jesus Christ in these rituals are simply left out.
7. It is forbidden to talk of religion or politics in the meeting room.
8. Rituals for the women's and children's orders contain 'watered-down' and 'sugar-coated' versions of the beliefs, doctrines, practices, symbolism and allegories of Freemasonry.
9. They have a Volume of Sacred Law (typically the Holy Bible) open on the Altar in the center of the room.
10. Meetings open and close with prayer.
11. Most ceremonies are not open to the public except certain Open Installations, funeral services, the laying of a cornerstone, DeMolay's Flower Talk, and the like.
12. Non-members are 'purged' from the meeting room before any ritual work takes place.

13. They have elaborate initiation rituals that are full of symbolism and allegory.
14. They claim to bring the initiate out of 'spiritual darkness' and into 'spiritual light'.
15. Each order's initiation has a story line or plot that is exemplified (dramatized, acted out) in a fashion similar to a play with the candidate playing an important role.
16. At least one Mason must be present at every meeting in order for it to be conducted.
17. Orders may not recruit members.
18. Members must join of their own free will and accord.
19. Potential members must have the recommendation of at least two Masons in good standing.
20. Before initiation, potential members are questioned by an Investigating Committee and must be approved by them before their petition goes to ballot.
21. Members ballot on petitions of potential candidates and being elite, are very selective in choosing their members. When voting, the saying goes, "White balls elect; black balls reject."
22. Initiates stay in the "Preparation Room" before participating in religious rites such as:
  - a) Induction aka: initiation.
  - b) Destitution (being divested of all things of value, including coins, watches, jewelry and wedding bands).
  - c) Circumambulation consists of walking in a circle around a central object in the room, i.e.: the altar. This is an element of sun worship when the candidate is led around the room from "East to West by way of the South, in humble imitation of the Sun". During my 2 ½ hour Rainbow initiation, I was led completely around the room a total of 14 times.
  - d) The rite of investiture involves receiving something (ie: Apron or Miniature Lambskin Apron).
  - e) Divestiture consists of removing something. In Freemasonry this includes certain items of clothing.
  - f) The rite of entrusting is exemplified when the candidate receives the secret words, handshakes, signs and symbols of the order.

- g) Illumination is when the candidate is brought in to 'spiritual light'. In Freemasonry and DeMolay. This takes place when the candidates have their blindfolds, called 'hoodwinks', removed.
23. Members are sworn to secrecy and made to swear many oaths, vows, pledges and obligations.
24. The initiatory oath is administered and taken on a phrase-by-phrase basis, never revealing the oath in its entirety before being sworn to, and it is rededicated annually as a group.
25. There are many rote prayers and lectures that are memorized and recited by the members and officers and presented to the candidate as 'life lessons'.
26. Initiations are lengthy and contribute to information overload, whereby overwhelming the candidate.
27. Sometimes at the end of the new member's initiation, hazing is involved.
28. In order to advance, new members must pass proficiency tests, involving memorization work.
29. There is a distinct hierarchy within the Order, having appointed members and elected officers. Some officers move up 'through the chairs' to a presiding position.
30. Officers and members have extravagant names such as Worthy Advisor, Worthy Matron, Master Councilor, Honored Queen, Senior Princess, etc.
31. They wear garments, emblems, regalia and jewels that signify their office.
32. Members can work to earn merit bars, awards and may have honors bestowed upon them. In some Junior Orders these include titles such as, "Fidelity Girl", Grand Officer, Grand Representative, Degree of Royal Purple, Chevalier's Degree, etc.
33. Most Orders have more than one degree which may include higher, earned, honorary or invitational degrees.
34. In Junior Orders, upon reaching the age of majority (adulthood, no longer a minor) or upon marriage, members in good standing may go through an elaborate 'coming of age' ceremony and be given honorary life-time membership in the Order. Such honorary membership has all the same rights and privileges except for holding office and voting. DeMolay members may no longer attend meetings unless they join Freemasonry.
35. They have additional ceremonies for memorial services, funerals, baby dedications, tributes and special occasions such as holidays.



36. There are local, state and national levels of most adoptive orders that meet periodically for “reunions”. Grand Assembly, Grand Conclave, etc.

37. They charge dues.

Co-Masonic Orders are *unlike* Freemasonry in that most orders do not take blood oaths.

#### A CLOSER LOOK:

Now we’ll take a closer look at four of the more popular Adoptive Masonic Orders, including Eastern Star, Rainbow Girls, Job’s Daughters and DeMolay.

#### EASTERN STAR

Perhaps the most prominent women’s order is the Order of the Eastern Star. It was created in 1850 and its ritual written by the poet, philosopher and teacher Rob Morris, a prominent Mason from Kentucky (33 – pg. 247).

The OES ritual uses lots of Scripture and is relatively benign; its oaths are not bloody. They make implied or indirect references to Christ but never use the name of Jesus. Because they pray, make use of a Bible, Bible stories and Bible characters they, like many Masons, believe Eastern Star is a Christian organization, but many members are deceived (33 – pg. 246, 248).

#### OES CHARACTERS

Originally, the five female characters of the Eastern Star were named after goddesses. Later they were renamed after biblical women. Adah, the daughter is Blue and is represented by the sword and veil. Ruth, the widow is “Yellow” and is represented by the Sheaf of Wheat. Esther, the wife is White and is represented by the crown and scepter. Martha, the sister is green and is represented by the broken column. Electa, the Elect Lady, the mother, is red and is represented by the cup. (OES ritual, pg. 28). In Rainbow, these five Eastern Star characters are referred to as “the crown on the head of womanhood’ (Rainbow Ritual, pg. 43).

OES Ritual pg. 122, “We meet in private that we may arrange our plans for the good work in which we are engaged without interruption from those who cannot understand or sympathize with us.” “A large portion of our work lies in acquiring knowledge of how best...to find the true path that leads to everlasting life.” Prayer (OES Ritual, pg. 123)

#### CABALA

The Eastern Star ritual makes references to the Cabala. The cabala is a medieval and modern system of Jewish theosophy, mysticism and the performance of miracles/magic. This is marked by a belief in creation through emanation and a cipher method of interpreting Scripture; a traditional esoteric, occult or secret matter.

#### “FATAL”

The Eastern Star motto is, “Fairest Among Thousands, Altogether Lovely”. The acronym for this motto is, “F-A-T-A-L” or “FATAL”, which is to remind the members the consequences of breaking the oath they swear to ever conceal Star’s secrets.

#### PENTAGRAM

The emblem of the order is a pentagram, an inverted five-pointed star with various colored points representing five female Bible characters. The pentagram is the most significant symbol of Satanism, found in the Satanic Bible and also stamped upon the Eastern Star ritual cover. It is a symbol of Lucifer and of the Goat of Mendes, the pagan god of lust.

Master Masons in good standing may hold membership in Eastern Star. Every Star chapter has a female as Worthy Matron and a Mason as Worthy Patron to lead the Chapter (33 – pg. 249). No Star meeting may be conducted without the supervision of Masons.

## JUNIOR ORDERS

And what do these teenagers and children have to look forward to if they join an Adoptive Order? Masons state that one of the benefits and goals of belonging to such orders is that, “The Order is a viable member of the Masonic family, teaching Masonic values to young girls and boys, introducing them to the merits of future membership in adult Masonic bodies and influencing fathers, brothers, and friends to become associated with Freemasonry.” (The New Age - Scottish Rite - Southern Jurisdiction, October 1985).

## DIVIDED LOYALTIES

Masons are sworn to keep Masonic secrets from their wives and children (33 – pg. 373)

The children and wives of Masons may have difficulty believing the errors of Freemasonry and Adoptive Orders because their relative is a “good person”, a Christian, and certainly wouldn’t join any group labeled “bad”. Imagine their pride if their mother, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and even older siblings participate in Masonry and Co-Masonic Orders and the child comes of age to join. He or she wouldn’t want to be left out, and would more than likely join, especially if they were specifically asked by their parents to do so. So, if the parents participate themselves, and encourage the child’s participation by sending them to meetings, why would the child think there could be anything wrong?

From the sidelines during ritual work, Masons and ladies’ orders assess the performance of each child. Some children who conform and perform well are ‘groomed’, selected for additional training and proficiencies by the adults to further enhance the child’s work.

## RAINBOW

According to the founder of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, Rev. William Mark Sexson explains Rainbow as, “*an international secret fraternal organization for girls of teenage. Rainbow is not just a club or lodge.*” Girls ages 12-21.

## MY TESTIMONY

When I was 11 years old, my friend Pam talked to me about a group she belonged to. She spoke highly of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls and went on and on about how fun it was, the sleep overs they had, dancing with DeMolay boys at the Valentine’s Day dance, wearing pretty formal dresses and lots of parties. But when I pushed her for more details, she’d say she couldn’t tell me or she’d change the topic.

Back in “my days”, a girl had to be at least twelve to join Rainbow. Now eleven year-olds can be initiated and girls as young as five can pledge membership. It was on my 12<sup>th</sup> birthday that Pam came rushing to me at recess and handed me a petition to join Rainbow. I had no Masonic connection on either side of my family.

I rushed home after school, filled out the petition and gave it to my mother for her signature. She had never heard of Rainbow but had a friend whose two daughters were members. Satisfied by her friends answer that Rainbow was “harmless”, mom signed the petition and put it in the mail. Soon after, the Investigating Committee consisting of the Mother Advisor, the Worthy Advisor and another Rainbow Girl, visited my mother and me in our home, asking questions about my character, hobbies, extracurricular activities, church attendance and so forth. They explained that Rainbow was like Girl Scouts, but religious.

A couple of weeks had passed when I received a letter in the mail stating that I was accepted as a candidate for Rainbow membership. At the appointed day and time, I went to Rainbow’s meeting place, the local Masonic Temple and was initiated. It was a beautiful, but overwhelming 2 ½ hour initiation ceremony.

I was an ardent member. I excelled in the marching to choreographed floor work, the word-perfect memorization and recitals of lectures and all the nuisances of the ritual work like making and maintaining eye contact, body posture, hand gestures, enunciation, voice inflection, articulation and leadership skills. I was one who was selected to be groomed by the Mother Advisor of the Assembly.

At age 13, I was elected to the station of Faith, the first in five chairs ‘going up the line’ to become the presiding officer of the local assembly. At age 15, I was installed as Worthy Advisor and the following year I was installed as a Grand Representative on the state level of Rainbow.

I earned the merit bars. My assembly bestowed an honor and several awards upon me. I was a “Big Sister” to many new initiates. I held all but five regular and installing offices. I was supposedly to be initiated into the second degree of Rainbow, the Grand Cross of Color, but I resigned before that happened.

At age 18, I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior after which I felt a strong prompting from the Lord to leave Rainbow after six years of membership. By this time, I had spent a third of my life as a Rainbow Girl. I stopped attending meetings, petitioned for a withdrawal and quit paying dues.

I (and my mother), invested large amounts of money, time, money, effort and money into the Order. I began to research Masonry and eventually came across anti-Masonic literature but nothing was said specifically about Rainbow. I couldn’t see the connection between the atrocities that Masons participated in and the beautiful ritual work of Rainbow. The 18 vows, oaths, pledges and obligations I swore at the Rainbow altar had desensitized me, numbed me and bound me. I focused more on the word perfect delivery of the ‘life lessons’ than on their content merely spewing them back undigested.

Twenty-two months after I had petitioned for a withdrawal, ten months past the age of Majority and just two months before my 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday, I received a letter from the Assembly with a Majority card inside. A Majority Card is the equivalent of an honorary, lifetime membership with all the same privileges of a member, save voting and holding office.

Through all this, I clung to God's promises in Numbers 30:3-5 (NIV):

(3) "When a young lady still living in her father's household makes a vow to the Lord or obligates herself by a pledge and her father hears about her vow or pledge but says nothing to her, than all of her vows and every pledge by which she obligated herself will stand. (5) But if her father forbids her when he hears about it, none of her vows or the pledges by which she obligated herself will stand; the Lord will release her because her father has forbidden her."

I eventually repented of my participation, renounced my support of the order, rebuked its effects upon me and received God's forgiveness. I traded in my 'religion' for a growing, intimate relationship with a living, loving and forgiving God.

## RAINBOW OATHS

To give you an idea of what these girls are sworn to, here are portions of three of the 18 vows I swore as a Rainbow Girl.

1. Worthy Advisor to Candidate: "As a daughter of a Master Mason, will you, with God's help, always be true to the obligations of this Assembly, and under no circumstances violate the vows you make here or reveal any of its secrets?"
2. Station of Immortality: "Do you begin now to prepare for Life Eternal?"
3. Installing Officer to Worthy Advisor Elect: "Do you believe that we should be careful in the selection of our members?"

## RAINBOW EXOTERIC AND ESOTERIC SYMBOLISM

Each symbol has its own meaning, sometimes more than one meaning, (pg. 25 and *Secret Work*).

Apron: Miniature Lambskin Apron: "*a sacred symbol that binds,*" (pg. 59); sacred to Masons, priceless, (pg. 59). According to the *Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry*, Albert Mackey, pgs. 72 & 73, "*...it should be pure unspotted white, which color has been esteemed an emblem of innocence [of conduct] and purity [of heart]*".

Bible: '*symbol of white light*'; the "*great source of the White Light [enlightenment]*". The Rainbow Bible is always "*white, the virgin color.*" *The symbol of True Womanhood.*"

Freemasonry refers to the Bible as a *greater light of Masonry,*" a symbol of the will of God and "*a piece of furniture.*"

"Great Supreme Assembly": How Rainbow refers to heaven, (pg. 85), funeral service. Freemasonry calls it the "*Celestial Lodge*". Job's Daughters calls it the "*Great Bethel on High*".

Light and Darkness: *"...my sister, in this life we are constantly groping in darkness and without the firm guiding hand of Faith, many would fall by the wayside."* *"Extend your hand, Sister of Faith, to guide your sisters toward the Source of All Light."* (pg. 72), Installing Worthy Advisor to Faith Elect.

According to *Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry*, Albert Mackey, pg. 196, *"'darkness' is a symbol of ignorance, a state of preparation, the state of nonentity before birth and a symbol of death. Receiving light is called the act of regeneration, and he is said to be born again, or to be raised from the dead and renewal of light refers to that other and subsequent lesson of eternal life."* Here's Hiram again.

Outer World: Sister of Faith addresses the candidate as, *"Sister of the Outer World"*, (pg. 38). Masons use the term, "profane".

Pot of Gold: *Represents the 'heart of an American girl deeply impressed with the sublime teachings of Rainbow...and deeply impressed in early life with its responsibilities,"* (pg. 57) Charity to Candidate. *"It is filled with the treasures of life and we have accepted you into our Assembly with the hope that you will always regard them as truly sacred to you personally in your future life. The Pot of Gold has been hidden from the eyes of many, who have searched for it in the past. It is yours today if you will accept it,"* (pg. 57) Charity to Candidate.

Secrecy: The initiate is brought into the assembly room for initiation under the Sign of Secrecy and Caution. She is told, *"Ever be reminded that our deliberations must be hidden from the profane,"* (pg. 39).

Service: *"Be reminded that it is the service you perform that will turn into pure gold, and for it and it alone, you will receive just recompense of reward,"* "Service" is the second secret word of Rainbow. "Love" is the first secret word.

Treasures of Life: *The Hidden Contents of the Pot of Gold are symbolized by the initials, B-F-C-L, which stands for "Boy Friends Come Last". Honestly though, the contents include the Bible, Flag, Constitution, Miniature Lambskin Apron and a List of Masonic Presidents* (pgs. 57 & 58) Charity to Candidate. *"There are other treasures in the Pot of Gold that you find in a life of Service. The ones we have discovered are only a few of the many contained in it. Keep in mind that the great Fraternity which has sponsored this Assembly has preserved them for you."* (pg. 59) Charity to Candidate.

Victory & Promise: (station of Religion) *"You cannot fight the battle and win the Victory and have the Promise unless you heed well this lesson."*

Seven Vows of the Bow Stations: *"the seven milestones in your journey to the end of the rainbow,"* (pg. 54), Worthy Advisor to Candidate.

## JOB'S DAUGHTERS

Job's Daughters was founded in Omaha, Nebraska in 1921 by Mrs. Ethel T. Wead Mick, who was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and author of the original Ritual. The current Ritual, Constitution and By-Laws of the Order were written by a Mason named LeRoy T. Wilcox.

Job's Daughters is the only international organization for girls that requires all of its members to have a close relationship (natural, legal or marital) to a Master Mason. While Job's Daughters is not part of the Masonic Fraternity, this pre-requisite ties it closely to the Masonic Order. Girls ages 11-20 with a Masonic relative are eligible for membership. Jobies-to-Bee are girls ages 5-10 who pledge membership. A Candidate must believe in a supreme being, the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer and must possess good moral character.

The Order is based upon the life of Job, as told in the Holy Bible. It talks of how God rewards Job for remaining faithful to Him throughout all of his trials. The key verse to this Order is Job 42:15 which states, "And in all the land were no women found so fair as the daughters of Job, and their father gave them an inheritance among their brethren."

Girls join a local Bethel, which translates, "Holy Place". Members are affectionately referred to as "Jobies". Candidates are called "Pilgrims". The executive officer is a woman whose title is "Bethel Guardian."

Job's Daughters has two degrees. The Initiatory Degree is oriented around the Book of Job. The honorary degree is the "Degree of Royal Purple", and it is given only to those members and adult sponsors who have shown outstanding dedication and service to the Order.

The Opening Ceremony includes a "Purging of the Bethel" in which all unqualified visitors are dismissed from the room and qualified visitors are sworn to secrecy. Job's Daughters dress in white Grecian robes with either white or purple cinctures. These garments were supposedly the type worn by women in the days of Job. Elected Officers wear tiaras.

#### JOB'S DAUGHTERS OBLIGATION

Having been written down from memory, the Obligation that a Pilgrim takes is very close to this,

"In the presence of God and these witnesses and on bended knees before the Altar upon which rests the open Holy Bible, I sincerely promise that I will always keep the secrets of Job's Daughters and will impart them only to those whom I know to be entitled to them. That I will love the Lord my God with all my heart. That I will do all in my power to uphold the laws of my Country and its Flag. That I will honor my parents and guardians in thought, word and act. That I will faithfully observe the laws and rules of Job's Daughters. That I will endeavor to be a true and loyal friend to all members of the Order. That I will try to do at least one useful act each day. To this pledge I promise faithful obedience under the penalty of losing my membership in Job's Daughters." (1975 Job's Daughter's Proficiency Work). The Pilgrim also pledges to promote "love and respect for all WORTHY persons, especially our elders." (Job's Daughters Ritual, page 26 - emphasis added).

“The Lily of the Valley is the emblematic flower of the Order. Special emphasis is given to the thought that “To be fair is to do good” and that “Virtue is a quality which highly adorns a woman”.

### THREE EPOCHS

The Initiation consists of three divisions, called “epochs”, in the life of Job. The First Epoch relates the story of Job’s life as is written in the first two chapters of the book of Job (from the Holy Bible), and is summarized, “We learn from this Epoch always to remain faithful to God in our every thought, word and act, no matter what earthly trials we may be called upon to endure. Be steadfast, practice love, dispense light, shun falsehood, and believe only in truth.” (Job’s Daughters Ritual, page 32).

“The sign of the First Epoch is given by placing the open right hand over the mouth. It alludes to the thought and care exercised by Job before he answered. The response is “PATIENCE,” alluding to the patience of Job.” (1975 Job’s Daughters Proficiency Work). The emblem of the First Epoch is the White Dove which symbolizes purity and truth. It is also symbolic of the name of Job’s first daughter whom he called Jemima, which means dove. The mystic number of this Epoch is 7. It alludes to the number of Job’s sons and the measure of his flocks. (Job’s Daughters Ritual, pg. 106\*)

The Second Epoch relates the temptations of Job and the poor advice that three of his friends gave him. In the end, Job’s health and wealth are restored. The Third Epoch finishes the story of Job, telling how he was rewarded with twice as much wealth as before, more sons and daughters, and the commendation of God.

Each of these Epochs have their own sign, response, emblems, mystic number and daughters’ name.

Near the end of her initiation, the Pilgrim is given the secret grip, which is made by joining hands in the usual manner and slightly pressing the other’s hand twice.

### EVALUATION OF THE RITUAL

From the theological perspective of Rev. Eldon Winkler representing the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in the Commission on Organizations “Order of Job’s Daughters’, pg. 3), Rev. Winkler states, “Religion without reference to the unique Person and Word of Jesus Christ commends itself well to the Orders allied to Freemasonry. Masonry’s universal religion can be appealing and at the same time deadening. At one point during the Ritual, the Fourth Messenger advises that the “significance of her duty is that righteous service will lead to life eternal” (Job’s Daughter’s Ritual, page 14, emphasis added).



## THE ORDER OF DEMOLAY

Frank S. Land, a Mason and Christian Scientist, founded the Order of DeMolay in 1919 in Kansas City, Missouri where its headquarters are located. Land developed DeMolay “in hopes of increasing Masonic membership in latter years by recruiting these boys.” “In April of 1919, 31 young men, all over 16 and all under 21, met in the first charter meeting of the Order of DeMolay” (*Jacques DeMolay*, by H.L. Haywood, pg. vi). The DeMolay ritual was written by Frank A. Marshall who was a 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree Mason and newspaperman.

The name DeMolay was selected in honor of Jacques deMolay, a fourteenth-century leader of the Knights Templars, who was arrested in Paris October 13, 1307 along with 60 other Templars. DeMolay was burned at the stake in 1314 by King Philip IV of France after being held in prison for seven years under charges against the Knights Templars for blasphemy, heresy, “witchcraft and devil worship”, (*Jacques DeMolay*, by H.L. Haywood, pg. 51).

Local bodies are called Chapters and are presided over by a young man called the Master Councilor. DeMolay’s objective is the encouragement and development of good citizenship and sound character among youth. The Senior Deacon explains during an initiation ceremony that, “the purpose of the Order is to teach and practice the virtues of clean, upright, patriotic, and reverent living as the best preparation for the manhood we are approaching. We are earnestly striving to be better sons, better brothers and better friends that when we reach the years of manhood we may be better men” (DeMolay Ritual, page 14).

The Order’s emblem is a reminder of the DeMolay motto, “No DeMolay shall fail as a citizen, as a leader, or as a man.” It also serves as a reminder of their oath to never reveal the secrets or betray the confidence of a friend (fellow DeMolay). To DeMolay members, it is a reminder of their obligations.

The Order of DeMolay consists of three degrees: Initiatory, DeMolay and the honorary Legion of Honor Degree. It also has an Institution Service, Memorial Service, Funeral Service, and Majority Service. Upon reaching age 21, a DeMolay member becomes a Senior DeMolay and may no longer attend DeMolay meetings unless he becomes a Master Mason.

## (DEMOLAY STATISTICS)

An older survey lists interesting statistics about DeMolay members. For instance,

1. Approximately one out of every 1,000 young men in the USA will join DeMolay.
2. There have been approximately four million boys initiated into DeMolay since its inception.
3. At the time of their initiation, 55% of the boys had fathers who were not Masons.
4. Of any 100 members, thirty will drop out in their first year.
5. One out of 100 members will be awarded the rank and honor of Chevalier, the highest honor granted to an active DeMolay.
6. Eventually 65% of all DeMolay seek admission to Freemasonry.
7. Approximately 40,000 DeMolay members have become Protestant ministers.
8. One eastern state reported that 82% of all men joining the Masonic Lodge during a five-year period had been members of DeMolay.
9. More than 17,000 former DeMolays have become Worshipful Masters of Blue Lodges in the USA.

In the DeMolay Preparation Room, the candidate is hoodwinked, (blindfolded), just as candidates for Blue Lodge Masonry before coming to the altar. He is asked a series of questions and swears an oath of allegiance and secrecy. He seals his vows by kissing the Holy Bible. The hoodwink is then removed.

The candidate is escorted to the seven Preceptors, and each place a jewel in the Crown of Youth. These jewels are: filial love, reverence for sacred things, courtesy, comradeship, fidelity, cleanliness and patriotism. Each is explained in terms of its meaning. As the second jewel is placed into the crown, the Preceptor explains, "As we are all sons of earthly parents, so WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE UNIVERSAL FATHER. My comrades, in our chapter we teach no religious creed. Your religious opinions are your own. But we do earnestly enjoin upon you the sacredness of faith, the beauty of an humble reliance on the goodness of God. Let us strive to be true to this UNIVERSAL SONSHIP" (emphasis added).

The DeMolay degree dramatizes the trial and execution of Jacques DeMolay. The opening ceremony has no religious features. This ceremony is to teach the candidate, fidelity which is loyalty unto death. Near the end of this ceremony, candidates are told, "Before....we will receive you into the fellowship of lasting fraternity, you must kneel at the Altar and bind yourselves to

us by a final vow, taken in the light of experiences unknown to you when you first entered our Chapter Room.”

#### FUNERAL SERVICES

The ritual for the memorial and funeral services assures the mourners that “the dead who have lived according to the precepts of the Order of DeMolay are enjoying the joys of eternal life.” Just as in Freemasonry, the Senior Deacon places a sprig of evergreen upon the altar of memory.

#### CLOSING

2 Timothy 2:24-26, “And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. (25) Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, (\*26) and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.”

Thank you.

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