

Freemasonry and the Danger of One World Religion: Part 1

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Exposing Satan's Evil Machinations And Deceptions, Don't Let The Devil Sift And Devour You, Young Friend's Involvement In Freemasonry, God's Will Is For All Men To Be Saved, Members Of God's Family And Household Through Faith In Jesus Christ, God Desires Repentance And Wants To Heal And Save The Lost, God's Children By Adoption, Unbelievers Are Both Strangers And Foreigners To God, Bahá'í Beliefs, Catholics And World Council Of Churches Promote Ecumenism, One World Religion In Which Jesus Is Demoted From His Unique Status, Globalists' Agenda Of Global Governance, Christian Compromisers And The "Many Paths" Deception, Warnings Regarding Damnable Heresies And The Doctrines Of Devils, Washed In The Blood Of The Lamb

One important lesson I have learned over the years since I have been a Christian writer, is that when the Lord brings a particular issue to my attention, quite often it is because He wants me to write about it. This is particularly true when it concerns Satan's evil machinations and deceptions. As my longtime readers will know, quite a few of my articles are in fact exposés of the tactics which that serpent often uses against the Lord's children. If there is one thing that the Scriptures make perfectly clear, it is that the Devil is a scheming liar and deceiver who is constantly endeavoring to trip up God's servants. He is a roaring lion who "walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." As Jesus told Peter, the Devil tries to sift us like wheat. He looks for chinks in our spiritual armor so that he can weaken and destroy us. This truth becomes quite evident in verses such as the following:

"Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."
Genesis 3:1-5, KJV

"And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren."
Luke 22:31-32, KJV

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and

abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."
John 8:44, KJV

"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."
2 Corinthians 2:11, KJV

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."
2 Corinthians 4:4, KJV

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ . . . And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."
2 Corinthians 11:3, 14, KJV

"Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:"
Ephesians 2:2, KJV

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."
Ephesians 6:10-13, KJV

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"
1 Peter 5:8, KJV

It was just such an attack which motivated me to write this current series. You see, I recently discovered that one of my young online friends has been involved in Freemasonry. I was both surprised and saddened to learn of his involvement in that so-called fraternity, because over the months he has been a help to me by serving as my second pair of eyes, and bringing to my attention typographical errors which he has discovered in my articles and series. When I first came upon his mention of the Freemasons, I was somewhat confused; and so I erroneously assumed that he was exposing them for the dangerous cult that they are. However, a closer examination of his words seemed to reveal that he was really supporting and promoting Freemasonry.

Being as I have considered him an online friend for some time now, and also because of the fact that I was troubled by what I was reading, I felt compelled to communicate with him, in the hope that I might better understand what his position was regarding the Freemasons. Because this person is a Bible-believing Christian -- and also rather young -- it was difficult for me to believe that he would actually

become involved with the Freemasons.

As it turned out, my friend informed me that he is a member of a Lodge in his area. He also told me that he has reached the level of Master Mason -- or "third degree" -- which is necessary in order to participate in most of the aspects of Craft Freemasonry. As we continued our exchange, my friend also revealed to me that he views the Lodge members as his family, and that he refers to them as his brothers; although he did clarify that he does not view them as his Christian brothers. In particular, he claimed that "Freemasonry takes people of all religions and makes them fraternal brothers." I found his statement to be rather contradictory, because in the Gospels Jesus clearly states the following regarding the true nature of God's family:

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."
Matthew 7:21, KJV

"But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother."
Matthew 12:48-50, KJV

"For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother."
Mark 3:35, KJV

". . . This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent."
John 6:29b, KJV

"And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."
John 6:40, KJV

As I also point out in articles such as "So You Really Think You Are So Humble?", "Welcome to Greater Israel, USA!" and "Accusations of Antisemitism: My Personal Response", please notice carefully that in the previous verses Jesus tells us that those people who do the will of His Father are His and our brothers, sisters and mother. So the question is this: Exactly what is God the Father's highest will? Those verses clearly tell us that it is to believe in the Son of God, in order that we may obtain Everlasting Life. In other words, as the following verses also reveal, God's desire is to heal us, and not to destroy us. His desire is not to condemn us, but to save us. His desire is that we repent of our sins, so that we can be restored to full spiritual fellowship with Him:

"Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"
Ezekiel 33:11, KJV

"For the Lord will not cast off for ever: But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies. For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men."
Lamentations 3:31-33, KJV

"Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven. For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish."
Matthew 18:10-14, KJV

"And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him. And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem. And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village."
Luke 9:51-56, KJV

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."
Luke 19:10, KJV

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."
John 3:16-17, KJV

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."
2 Peter 3:9, KJV

"And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after

their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed."
Hebrews 12:5-13, KJV

To reiterate, the previous verses clearly inform us that as Bible-believing Christians, our only real brothers are those people who recognize Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and the only Savior of the world. All others are simply unbelieving and disobedient children of the world who are in rebellion against God; at least after they come to the full knowledge of the truth and consciously choose to reject it.

Why is this point so important to our discussion? Because my friend mentioned to me that one aspect of his fraternity that he really likes is the fact that whether they are Catholics, Christians, Hindus, Jews, Mormons, Muslims, Pentecostals or any other religion, they "all get along" and "can all eat at the same table with peace, joy, and laughter." No doubt some of you who are reading this will immediately recognize the serious flaw in my friend's perspective. As I explained to my friend, while he may consider such people to be his fraternal brothers, all that God recognizes is whether or not we are His adopted children through faith in the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ. If so, then we are likewise members of His household. This truth becomes apparent by verses such as the following:

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:"
John 1:12, KJV

"For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together."
Romans 8:15-17, KJV

"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus."
Galatians 3:26, KJV

"Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,"
Ephesians 1:5, KJV

"Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;"
Ephesians 2:19, KJV

In contrast, as I explain in articles such as "Not Everyone is a Child of God", if the members of my friend's fraternity reject Jesus' unique status as the only begotten Son of God

and Savior of the world, then the Scriptures clearly inform us that they are "none of his". They are still strangers and foreigners in God's sight, because they have not been washed in the Blood of the Lamb. In other words, they are not the children of God, as we can determine by the following verse:

"But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."
Romans 8:9, KJV

Based on the limited information that my friend shared with me in our private exchanges, I am given the impression that similar to the Bahá'ís who promote the oneness of all of the world's religions, and the Catholics, the World Council of Churches, and a growing number of other denominations who promote ecumenism, the Freemasons appear to likewise promote a sort of One World Religion. The Wikipedia website notes the following regarding Bahá'í teachings:

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"The Bahá'í teachings state that there is but one religion which is progressively revealed by God, through prophets/messengers, to mankind as humanity matures and its capacity to understand also grows. The outward differences in the religions, the Bahá'í writings state, are due to the exigencies of the time and place the religion was revealed. Bahá'u'lláh claimed to be the most recent, but not the last, in a series of divine educators which include Jesus, Buddha, Muhammad, and others."

----- End Quote -----

Please take note of the deceptive poison that is woven into Bahá'í beliefs. Jesus is reduced from being the Son of God and only Savior of the world, to being just another "divine educator" on par with Buddha, Muhammad and other so-called "holy men" of the past.

As I explain in articles such as "Admiral Richard E. Byrd and the Hollow Earth Theory", "When Sin is no Longer a Sin", "Roman Catholicism, Water Baptism and the Trinity", "What is Wrong With Modern America?" and "Modern False Prophets and Worldly Ecumenism", the main goal of ecumenism appears to be to create a One World Religion. Initially, the aim of the ecumenical movement was to unite the world body of Christian churches. However, their objective appears to have expanded over the decades so that now it is to teach everyone to respect the religious beliefs of others, and to eventually take the best of each religion, and to unite them into one "Super Religion" which will be embraced by all the world. Thus, they will create a One World Family which worships a One World Religion under a One World Government which will control everything through a One World Economy.

The globalists who promote this plan refer to their world vision as "global governance", and it has been on their lips for quite a few years now. These globalists -- who include many politicians, business leaders and prominent religious leaders -- are relying upon religious tolerance, political correctness and compromise in order to realize their dream

of a so-called "utopian society". To our dismay, in recent years there have been a number of events where Christian and non-Christian leaders have gathered together in a display of supposed spiritual unity. What these foolish, compromising Christian leaders fail to realize is that through their sad actions, they are in fact weakening the very foundation of our Christian heritage.

Just as the Bahá'ís reduce Jesus to being just another one of their so-called "divine educators", and just as certain New Age advocates promote Jesus as one of many "Ascended Masters" -- who they refer to as "Sananda" -- these false Christian shepherds are likewise slowly stripping Jesus of His divinity and unique status as the only begotten Son of God, the only Mediator between God and man, and the only Savior of the world. From the Roman Catholic Church, to the Reverend Billy Graham, to television celebrity and media mogul Oprah Winfrey, and no doubt others, they have each claimed that Jesus is not the only way to obtain Salvation and Eternal Life.

In their misguided quest to create spiritual unity between the various religions of the world, they have fallen for the so-called "many paths" deception, which I more amply discuss in other articles which you will find listed at the end of this series. This is a terrible tragedy, and a spiritual crisis which should not be ignored by true Bible-believing Christians. Our faith is being infiltrated by many of these false shepherds who willingly promote damnable heresies and doctrines of devils. Consider the following verses and take heed to their warnings:

"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:"
Ephesians 4:14-15, KJV

"Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein."
Hebrews 13:9, KJV

"As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do."
1 Timothy 1:3-4, KJV

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;"
1 Timothy 4:1, KJV

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;"
2 Timothy 4:3, KJV

"But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction."
2 Peter 2:1, KJV

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."
1 John 4:1, KJV

As I mentioned earlier, anyone who refuses to recognize Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the only Savior of the world -- as most of the aforementioned religions do -- is viewed as being unclean in God's sight, because he has not been washed in the precious Blood of the Lamb. As a result, the stain of sin has not been removed from his life, his record is still dirty, and the Divine Judge will not grant him clemency. As we learned a few minutes ago, such people are strangers and foreigners to the Lord and He does not recognize them as His own. Minus the Blood of Christ, they remain lost. Please consider the following verses:

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."
Isaiah 1:18, KJV

"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."
Matthew 26:26-28, KJV

"And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body. And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it. And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many."
Mark 14:22-24, KJV

"And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him. And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you."
Luke 22:14-20, KJV

"Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission

of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;"
Romans 3:25, KJV

"But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ."
Ephesians 2:13, KJV

"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;"
Hebrews 10:19-20, KJV

"Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate . . . Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."
Hebrews 13:12, 20-21, KJV

"Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied."
1 Peter 1:2, KJV

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."
1 John 1:7, KJV

"And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."
1 John 2:2, KJV

"Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."
1 John 4:10, KJV

"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,"
Revelation 1:5, KJV

"And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."
Revelation 7:14, KJV

In light of the previous information, perhaps you are better able to understand why I have become alarmed by my friend's comments. While he views it as a wonderful thing to be able to sit down at the same table with persons of other faiths and eat together "with peace, joy, and laughter", he fails to recognize that not only are his actions contrary to the Word of God, but they are dangerous to his faith as well, because they have led him to compromise to some degree. As I clearly

explained to him, all of the religions and denominations that he mentioned walk in spiritual darkness to some degree. They either outright reject the Sonship and Messiahship of Jesus Christ -- as in the case of Judaism, Islam and Hinduism -- or else they embrace a number of false doctrines -- as in the case of Roman Catholicism.

Please go to part two for the continuation of this series.

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Freemasonry and the Danger of One World Religion: Part 2

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Rebellious Children Of Darkness, No Fellowship With The Works Of Darkness, Choose Whom You Will Serve, Beware Of Dangerous Brews Which Mix Light And Darkness And Good With The Evil, Peace With False Religions Can't Be Obtained By Compromising Our Christian Beliefs, Strive To Live Peaceably With All Men, Become One In Order To Save Some, Friend Of Publicans Harlots And Sinners, Futility Of Interfaith Gatherings And Dinners, Freemason Supreme Being And Great Architect of the Universe, Forbidden To Discuss Jesus In Lodges, Volume Of Sacred Law, Examine Yourselves, Beware Of Compromise, Jesus Came To Send A Sword On The Earth, Divisive Sword Of God's Word, Militant First Century Church, Boldly Preach The Gospel Of Salvation

Continuing our discussion from part one, according to God's Word, the people who follow these other religions are in fact the children of darkness. They are not the Children of Light, because they do not possess the Light of Jesus Christ. As we have already discussed, some of them knowingly rebel against the Light of the Gospel even when it is revealed to them, as we see by the following verses:

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God."

John 3:19-21, KJV

"If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin."

John 15:22, KJV

As the following verses clearly reveal to us, we Christians

are not supposed to fellowship with the works of darkness, or be "unequally yoked together with unbelievers"; yet that is precisely what my friend has chosen to do, in the name of maintaining peace with these other false religions:

"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"
Amos 3:3, KJV

"He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad."
Matthew 12:30, KJV

"The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light."
Romans 13:12, KJV

"Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils."
1 Corinthians 10:21, KJV

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? . . . Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."
2 Corinthians 6:14, 17-18, KJV

"For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light . . . And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."
Ephesians 5:8, 11, KJV

"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:"
Colossians 1:13, KJV

"But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness."
1 Thessalonians 5:4-5, KJV

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:"
1 Peter 2:9, KJV

"If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:"
1 John 1:6, KJV

"Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that

biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds."
2 John 1:9-11, KJV

"A double minded man is unstable in all his ways."
James 1:8, KJV

"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."
Joshua 24:15, KJV

"And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word."
1 Kings 18:21, KJV

Whether we are talking about the Bahá'í faith, or the Roman Catholics and other members of the ecumenical movement, or the World Council of Churches, or the New Age movement, or the Freemasons, or any other kind of church, denomination, group or organization that promotes a one world religion, they are all doing the same thing, and they are all guilty of the same thing. They are trying to mix the Light with the darkness. They're creating a dangerously deceptive brew that is spiritual poison for men's souls. Consider the following warning that is found in the Book of the Prophet Isaiah and take heed:

"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"
Isaiah 5:20, KJV

Let me remind you again of what the Apostle Paul wrote in his first Epistle to the brethren at Corinth. The truth cannot be stated any more clearly than this:

"Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils."
1 Corinthians 10:21, KJV

In light of the previous set of verses, in my view, there is no way that my friend can possibly justify his decision to become a member of the Freemasons, rise to the position of Master Mason, and fellowship with those workers of darkness. Sadly, such is the degree of his deception, that at one point he rhetorically asked me if peace was better than continual war. By even making such a statement, he revealed the depth of his own compromise. He does not seem to understand that compromising our Christian beliefs cannot be the price that we pay in order to establish peace with the various false religions of the world. As you will see rather clearly in a moment, that certainly is not what Jesus or the Apostles did during the First Century.

It is obvious to me that my friend does not even realize how much his words contradict the Scriptures. For the record, I will agree that the Bible does encourage us to try to live in

peace with all men. Consider what the Apostle Paul writes in his Epistle to the Roman brethren:

"If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."
Romans 12:18, KJV

Furthermore, the Apostle Paul also informs us that he was willing to become all things to all men in order that he might save some of them by bringing them to Jesus Christ, as we see by these verses:

"For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you."
1 Corinthians 9:19-23, KJV

Thus, it should not surprise us that Jesus ate and drank with publicans, harlots and sinners, or that the Apostle Paul and some of the other Apostles did the very same thing. Consider the following verses:

"And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners? But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."
Matthew 9:10-13, KJV

"For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He hath a devil. The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children."
Matthew 11:18-19, KJV

"But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard. He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not. Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him."
Matthew 21:28-32, KJV

"And when the scribes and Pharisees saw him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto his disciples, How is it that he eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners? When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."
Mark 2:16-17, KJV

"And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him, Follow me. And he left all, rose up, and followed him. And Levi made him a great feast in his own house: and there was a great company of publicans and of others that sat down with them. But their scribes and Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners? And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."
Luke 5:27-32, KJV

"For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil. The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners! But wisdom is justified of all her children."
Luke 7:33-35, KJV

"Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him. And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them. And he spake this parable unto them, saying, What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance. Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost. Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."
Luke 15:1-10, KJV

What we need to understand here is why the Lord and the Apostles did these things. The previous verses make it very clear that it was not just to "eat at the same table with peace, joy, and laughter" as "fraternal brothers" as my friend mentioned to me in his remarks. Rather, it was for the sole purpose of preaching the message of repentance to them, and bringing the Gospel to their listeners. It was to tell them, "Look; you are all sinners. You are all in danger of experiencing the Wrath of God, unless you repent of your sins, and accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior." It was all about motivating spiritual change in the lives of

their listeners.

In stark contrast, some of the aforementioned individuals, movements, denominations and organizations -- such as the Freemasons -- seem to be interested in nothing more than celebrating their religious diversity, as if it is a good thing. It is as if they are saying "See; even though we all belong to different religions, we can still come together in peace. We are fraternal brothers. Isn't this great?" Well, I do not think so. From a Christian perspective, it is rather pointless; because they hold their interfaith gatherings and dinners, and then everyone goes back home with the very same erroneous beliefs that they embraced beforehand. There is no change, no repentance, and no Salvation; so what good is it really?

In fact, you may be interested to know that while candidates for regular Freemasonry are required to declare their belief in a Supreme Being, that is as far as it goes. It is actually a very ambiguous declaration, because the candidate is never asked to more amply explain his interpretation of who or what the Supreme Being is. In other words, each person interprets the phrase "Supreme Being" in their own context. A Christian will do it in one way; a Jew will do it in another; a Muslim will do it in yet another way; and a Hindu will do it in his own way as well. Furthermore, some Freemasons may interpret the phrase in a totally unreligious or philosophical way. In their ritual, Freemasons simply refer to the Supreme Being as the Great Architect of the Universe, and leave it at that.

What about discussing the fact that Jesus is the Son of God and the Savior of the world? Based on my online research, the discussion of politics and religion is forbidden and totally off-topic inside a Masonic Lodge. In short, there is no room for Jesus, and they totally quench the Spirit of God, which contradicts the following verse:

"Quench not the Spirit."
1 Thessalonians 5:19, KJV

On a related note, during Masonic Lodge meetings, religious or philosophical texts are on display. These texts are known as the Volume of Sacred Law. Given the interfaith aspect of Freemasonry, a variety of texts may be displayed. In places where English is spoken, this text will usually be the KJV Bible, or another translation of the Bible. If the Lodge has non-Christian members, other texts may be used. If there are members from different religions in a Lodge, more than one sacred text will be displayed. Each candidate is given his choice of religious text for his Obligation according to his personal beliefs. The so-called Obligation is the part of the ritual where a candidate swears to abide by the rules of the fraternity, to keep its secrets, and to act towards others according to Masonic tradition and law. In my view, it is not difficult to see how these practices promote the spirit of a One World Religion where all religions are melded as one.

If you happen to be a Christian who attends these interfaith gatherings and functions, I encourage you to take some time to stop and ask yourself whether you are being pulled over to their particular way of thinking, or if your presence there is drawing some of the attendees closer to Jesus Christ. If

you are not even allowed to share your faith in a Lodge, how can you possibly even do this? As the Apostle Paul notes in the following verse, we each need to examine ourselves in order to make certain that we are still in the faith, and that we have not compromised our beliefs in any way:

"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?"
2 Corinthians 13:5, KJV

If you have begun to swallow all of that nonsense, and have begun to think like the rest of the globalists and one world religionists, you have in fact compromised your faith, you are in serious trouble, and you need to repent. I hope that you will do it soon, before the Lord has to do something drastic in your life in order to shake you up and wake you up.

Not only do the Scriptures clearly teach us that we should not compromise our faith for the sake of maintaining peace with the unbelievers and the workers of darkness, but even Jesus repeatedly warned His followers that He did not come to the Earth to bring peace, but rather a divisive sword, as we see by the following verses. That sword, of course, is the sharp Truth of His Word. It is the Gospel of Salvation, and the Good News that Eternal Life is obtained through faith in Christ's loving Sacrifice alone:

"Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me."
Matthew 10:34-38, KJV

"Now the brother shall betray the brother to death, and the father the son; and children shall rise up against their parents, and shall cause them to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."
Mark 13:12-13, KJV

"Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division: For from henceforth there shall be five in one house divided, three against two, and two against three. The father shall be divided against the son, and the son against the father; the mother against the daughter, and the daughter against the mother; the mother in law against her daughter in law, and the daughter in law against her mother in law."
Luke 12:51-53, KJV

"And there was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceiveth the people . . . Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet. Others said, This is the Christ. But some said,

Shall Christ come out of Galilee? Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was? So there was a division among the people because of him."

John 7:12, 40-43, KJV

"Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them."

John 9:16, KJV

"There was a division therefore again among the Jews for these sayings. And many of them said, He hath a devil, and is mad; why hear ye him? Others said, These are not the words of him that hath a devil. Can a devil open the eyes of the blind?"

John 10:19-21, KJV

"And it came to pass in Iconium, that they went both together into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed. But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles, and made their minds evil affected against the brethren. Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands. But the multitude of the city was divided: and part held with the Jews, and part with the apostles."

Acts 14:1-4, KJV

"But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men and brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question. And when he had so said, there arose a dissension between the Pharisees and the Sadducees: and the multitude was divided. For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit: but the Pharisees confess both."

Acts 23:6-8, KJV

In fact, if we turn to the Gospel of Matthew where Jesus is talking to the Apostle Peter, we discover that the Lord is describing a very militant Church which constantly has the Devil and his demons in retreat, on the defense, and on the run, as we see here:

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Matthew 16:18, KJV

In other words, the picture that Jesus paints here is not of a weak Church that is compromising with the enemy and sitting down and having a nice, peaceful dinner with him that is full of joy and laughter. Rather, it is a very aggressive Church that is invading the Devil's territory, and boldly preaching the Gospel of Salvation. It is a soul-winning Church that is faithfully warning unbelievers to repent of their wicked way, as we see by the following verses:

"Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me. When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul."

Ezekiel 3:17-19, KJV

"And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes."

Matthew 7:28-29, KJV

"And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught. And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes."

Mark 1:21-22, KJV

"But, lo, he speaketh BOLDLY, and they say nothing unto him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is the very Christ?"

John 7:26, KJV

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Hebrews 4:12, KJV

"Now when they saw the BOLDNESS of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus . . . And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all BOLDNESS they may speak thy word, By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with BOLDNESS."

Acts 4:13, 29-31, KJV

"Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men."

Acts 5:29, KJV

"But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached BOLDLY at Damascus in the name of Jesus. And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem. And he spake BOLDLY in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him."

Acts 9:27-29, KJV

"Long time therefore abode they speaking BOLDLY in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands."

Acts 14:3, KJV

"And he began to speak BOLDLY in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly."

Acts 18:26, KJV

"And he went into the synagogue, and spake BOLDLY for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of God."

Acts 19:8, KJV

"Nevertheless, brethren, I have written the more BOLDLY unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God,"

Romans 15:15, KJV

"And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth BOLDLY, to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak."

Ephesians 6:19-20, KJV

"According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all BOLDNESS, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death."

Philippians 1:20, KJV

"For his letters, say they, are weighty and powerful; but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible."

2 Corinthians 10:10, KJV

"So that we may BOLDLY say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

Hebrews 13:6, KJV

"He was a burning and a shining light: and ye were willing for a season to rejoice in his light."

John 5:35, KJV

"Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of 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, KJV

Please go to part three for the continuation of this series.

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Freemasonry and the Danger of One World Religion: Part 3

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Reprove And Rebuke Sharply With Authority, Ancient Israel Backslides And Worships False Gods, Backslidden America, God's Uncompromising Fiery Prophets And Preachers, Elijah And The Prophets Of Baal, David and Bathsheba, John The Baptist And King Herod, Jesus And The Moneychangers, The Boldness Of Peter And The Apostles, Stephen Is Martyred, Apostle Paul Preaches To Greeks On Mars Hill, We Are To Be Iconoclasts Of The Spirit, Don't Be Friends With The World, Foolish Wisdom Of The World, Our Great Commission, Contrast Between One World Religion Vision And The Great Commission, The Lord's True Church Has Always Been A Persecuted Church

You may recall that earlier I shared a verse with you where the Apostle Paul also wrote "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." Let me bring to your attention that according to Thayer's Greek English Lexicon, the word "reprove" finds its origin in the Greek word "elegcho". This word means to convict, refute, correct, chide or reprehend severely. Paul states the very same thing in the following verse as well:

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."
2 Timothy 4:2, KJV

Exactly what is it that gives God's servants this boldness and ability to reprove and rebuke the workers of darkness, and to expose their sins of unbelief and rebellion against God? Jesus Himself tells us in the following verses, and He uses the very same word -- that is, reprove -- to describe the purpose of the Holy Spirit:

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged."
John 16:7-11, KJV

Following are some additional verses that are found in the New Testament where we likewise see that we are supposed to use the Sword of God's Word to sharply reprove and rebuke sinners and unbelievers with the authority of God's Spirit. In fact, this even applies to our own Christian brethren who have backslidden from the faith:

"Them that sin REBUKE before all, that others also may fear."
1 Timothy 5:20, KJV

"This witness is true. Wherefore REBUKE them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith; Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth."
Titus 1:13-14, KJV

"These things speak, and exhort, and REBUKE with all authority. Let no man despise thee."
Titus 2:15, KJV

"As many as I love, I REBUKE and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent."
Revelation 3:19, KJV

In the Old Testament we also find the following verse which is quite applicable to these kinds of situations:

"Open rebuke is better than secret love."
Proverbs 27:5, KJV

Upon closely examining the Scriptures of both the Old and the New Testaments, we discover that there are quite a few clear examples where God's holy men -- Prophets, Preachers, and the Apostles and Jesus Himself -- did this very thing. In other words, they were not politically correct menpleasers like so many Christian leaders are today. They did not say "Let's all just have one big, wonderful lovefest so we can appreciate our religious differences. To each his own. You worship your god, and I'll worship my God, and everything will just be so fine and dandy. Let's enjoy our 'happy meal' and be a nice fraternal family." In short, the Lord's fiery Prophets did not compromise what He had given them to say.

As I state in articles such as "The Fruits of Disobedience", the Old Testament is in large part one sad story of one holy Prophet after another rebuking the Israelites for their sins and rebellion against the Lord. Time after time they backslid from the Lord, so that God found it necessary to send another Prophet to warn them to repent. When they chose not to do so, He lowered the axe. If you want to understand the dangerous consequences of compromising with the enemy, simply read the aforementioned series. Just as modern one world religionists seem to think that it is okay to have all of these different religions living side-by-side in peace, the ancient Jews did the same thing. Rather than cleanse the land of all of the pagan belief systems, they allowed some of them to remain. As a result, it wasn't before long that the Israelites also compromised their convictions and began to worship those very same false gods; and that is precisely what got them into serious trouble with the Lord. Consider the following sample verses:

"And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them."
Deuteronomy 31:16, KJV

"And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger."
Judges 2:12, KJV

"And the children of Israel did evil again in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim, and Ashtaroth, and the gods of

Syria, and the gods of Zidon, and the gods of Moab, and the gods of the children of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines, and forsook the LORD, and served not him."
Judges 10:6, KJV

"And they transgressed against the God of their fathers, and went a whoring after the gods of the people of the land, whom God destroyed before them."
1 Chronicles 5:25, KJV

"Now it came to pass, after that Amaziah was come from the slaughter of the Edomites, that he brought the gods of the children of Seir, and set them up to be his gods, and bowed down himself before them, and burned incense unto them. Wherefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against Amaziah, and he sent unto him a prophet, which said unto him, Why hast thou sought after the gods of the people, which could not deliver their own people out of thine hand?"
2 Chronicles 25:14-15, KJV

"And in the time of his distress did he trespass yet more against the LORD: this is that king Ahaz. For he sacrificed unto the gods of Damascus, which smote him: and he said, Because the gods of the kings of Syria help them, therefore will I sacrifice to them, that they may help me. But they were the ruin of him, and of all Israel. And Ahaz gathered together the vessels of the house of God, and cut in pieces the vessels of the house of God, and shut up the doors of the house of the LORD, and he made him altars in every corner of Jerusalem. And in every several city of Judah he made high places to burn incense unto other gods, and provoked to anger the LORD God of his fathers."
2 Chronicles 28:22-25, KJV

"But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as was the heart of David his father. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as did David his father. Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon. And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods. And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the LORD commanded."
1 Kings 11:1-10, KJV

As I explain in a number of articles, such as "What is Wrong

With Modern America?", this is precisely what has happened in the United States as well. Many Americans have now abandoned their Christian heritage and have foolishly embraced Islam, Buddhism, African religions, Native American beliefs, New Age psychobabble and other nonsense which offends the Lord.

Returning to the Lord's faithful messengers, when the Prophet Elijah encountered the four hundred and fifty false prophets of Baal, he didn't say "So you worship the god Baal? That's cool. I worship the God of Israel, but we can live in peace as fraternal brothers." Quite to the contrary, Elijah was quick to challenge them to a sacrificial duel in order to determine whose god was the real God. Not only that, but when Baal failed to perform, Elijah mocked his false prophets, and then he slew them as well. You will find the complete story in 1 Kings chapter eighteen.

When the Prophet Nathan learned that King David had committed an act of adultery with beautiful Bathsheba, who was the wife of one of David's own soldiers -- that is, Uriah the Hittite -- and then basically murdered Uriah in order to conceal his own sin, Nathan didn't resign himself and say "Oh well; David is the king. He can do whatever he pleases." Rather, Nathan sharply rebuked the king and exposed his sin by saying "Thou art that man." Not only that, but Nathan told David that as a result of his sin, war would never depart from his house, his wives would be violated by strangers, and an enemy would rise up within his own household. That, of course, was David's own son, Absalom. Last of all, Nathan told King David that the son which would be born to him and Bathsheba would die; which he did after seven days. You will find this story in 2 Samuel 11 and 12.

When John the Baptist heard that King Herod had married the wife of his brother Philip -- that is, Herodias -- while his brother Philip was still alive, John didn't say "Oh, that is okay. After all, we all know that love is the most important thing in this world, so we can bend the rules a little. God won't mind." Instead, John boldly exposed King Herod for his sin of adultery. Consequently, some time after that, John was imprisoned by Herod, and later beheaded. Of course, this was all done at the insistence of scheming, wicked Herodias. You will find this particular story in all three of the Synoptic Gospels; that is, Matthew, Mark and Luke.

When Jesus entered the Temple grounds in Jerusalem during the final week of His life, and saw the corrupt merchants and the greedy moneychangers, He didn't say "Howdy boys! It looks like business is brisk today. So, how is your profit margin?" Rather, three of the Gospel writers inform us that Jesus made a whip of small cords, overturned their tables, and drove them all out. So much for political correctness and compromise with the system.

When the Jewish high priest in Jerusalem and other leaders of the Sanhedrin ordered Peter and the Apostles to stop preaching in the name of Jesus Christ, rather than meekly back down and do as they were told, the Apostles boldly told those vicious snakes "We ought to obey God rather than men." As a result, the Apostles were beaten. You will find this story in the Book of Acts chapter five.

When the deacon Stephen found himself engaged in a dispute with certain members of one of the synagogues, which led to his being brought before the high priest and the council -- that is, the Sanhedrin -- he did not attempt to water down his message or compromise his Christian beliefs. Quite to the contrary, Stephen engaged in a very powerful witness with those hypocritical religionists, which culminated with him informing them that God did not dwell in their beautiful Temple in Jerusalem. Unable to bear such a powerful truth, those grievous wolves went crazy and stoned Stephen to death a short while later. You will find this story in the seventh chapter of the Book of Acts.

When the Apostle Paul stood on Mars Hill and preached to the Greeks of Athens, he didn't play Mr. Nice Guy and praise them for their amazing architecture. Neither did Paul marvel at their philosophical ideas, or tell them how wonderful it was that they had so many different gods. Instead, Paul boldly and very bluntly told them that they were too superstitious, that God does not dwell in temples made with hands, and that they worshipped their unknown god out of ignorance. He told them that it was time to repent. In short, Paul wasn't afraid to offend those supposedly learned Greeks. You will find the complete story in Acts chapter seventeen.

The previous paragraphs are just a few examples which clearly demonstrate that we are not supposed to water down the Gospel message, or compromise what we believe, in order to avoid any kind of personal hardships. We are supposed to be iconoclasts of the Spirit who expose, root out and tear down all of the idols of the world; that is, their misguided ideas, beliefs and practices. We are not supposed to so blend in with the children of the world -- such as by joining their fraternity organizations like the Freemasons -- to the point that no one can tell us apart from them. Sadly, that is precisely what so many Christians do today. They quench God's Spirit, they hide their light under a bushel, and the world and its enticements just gobbles them up. However, consider what the Scriptures tell us:

"No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."
Matthew 6:24, KJV

"No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."
Luke 16:13, KJV

"If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."
John 15:19, KJV

"I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil."
John 17:14-15, KJV

"Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my

kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence."

John 18:36, KJV

"While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."

2 Corinthians 4:18, KJV

"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."

Colossians 3:1-2, KJV

"No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

2 Timothy 2:4, KJV

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city."

Hebrews 11:13-16, KJV

"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

James 4:4, KJV

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."

1 John 2:15-16, KJV

Concerning the wayward mentality of the world which is very much contrary to the mind of God, and which contradicts His holy Word, I am reminded of verses such as the following:

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

Colossians 2:8, KJV

"For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness."

1 Corinthians 3:19, KJV

"And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."

1 Corinthians 2:4-5, KJV

"For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe."

1 Corinthians 1:19-21, KJV

As we saw earlier, and as I also point out in the articles entitled "Are You a Burning Ember for the Lord?" and "This Little Light, Glory of the Lord and Our Bright Future", as God's ambassadors on the Earth, we are supposed to boldly preach the Gospel of Salvation, come what may. The results are God's business, and not ours. All we need to do is obey the Great Commission which was given to us by Jesus Christ, which is clearly defined in the following verses:

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

Matthew 24:14, KJV

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:"

Matthew 28:19, KJV

"And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

Luke 24:46-47, KJV

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

Mark 16:15, KJV

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."

John 15:16, KJV

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Acts 1:8, KJV

"And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house . . . Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears."

Acts 20:20, 31, KJV

"How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?"

And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things . . . So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Romans 10:14-15, 17, KJV

"For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!"

1 Corinthians 9:16, KJV

"Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things."

Galatians 6:6, KJV

"Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints, For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel; Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the grace of God in truth:"

Colossians 1:4-6, KJV

"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

2 Timothy 2:2, KJV

When we stop and really think about it, we cannot help but realize that embracing the One World Religion vision of the Bahá'ís, the Roman Catholics, the World Council of Churches, the ecumenical movement, the Freemasons, the globalists and similar promoters of a so-called New World Order, is totally contrary to the vision of the Great Commission. As we have already seen, the mantra of these misguided people is "Let's all just get along together and be friends. Instead of just looking at our religious differences, why don't we look at our common ground and be fraternal brothers? Rather than be constantly fighting against each other, let's celebrate our religious diversity and demonstrate to the world that we can live together in peace."

This is precisely why we Christians do not fit in, and why we will really never fit in to their plans for a One World Religion. Our faith clearly teaches us that Jesus Christ is the only Way, the only Truth, and the only Life. Jesus is God's appointed Mediator between God and man. Jesus is the only Sacrificial Lamb who is recognized by the Father. He is the only manner by which any of us can receive forgiveness of sins, and thus inherit Salvation and Eternal Life. Just as the Apostle Paul did with the Greeks on Mars Hill that day, our faith instructs us to boldly tell other religions of the world that they are in fact all misguided, they are wrong, and they are false. Our faith dictates that we tell anyone who embraces any of those false religions, that they must repent of their ignorance, and embrace Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and the only true Savior of the world.

Obviously, this is not, has never been, and will never be, a very popular message with many of the deceived children of

the world who prefer to follow the traditions of their false religions, or even no religion at all. Thus, as some of the previous verses clearly reveal, if we are faithful to preach the full counsel of God, without compromise, and without any degree of political correctness, we will be persecuted, just as Christ's true Church has always been persecuted. Below are some additional verses which further support this point:

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! because ye build the tombs of the prophets, and garnish the sepulchres of the righteous, And say, If we had been in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets. Wherefore ye be witnesses unto yourselves, that ye are the children of them which killed the prophets. Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers. Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell? Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city: That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord."
Matthew 23:29-39, KJV

"Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another."
Matthew 24:9-10, KJV

"But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake. And it shall turn to you for a testimony. Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer: For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist. And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death. And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake. But there shall not an hair of your head perish. In your patience possess ye your souls."
Luke 21:12-19, KJV

"If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you

for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me."
John 15:18-21, KJV

"Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison."
Acts 5:17-18, KJV

"When they [the Jews] heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him [Stephen] with their teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep. And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison."
Acts 7:54-8:1-3, KJV

Please go to part four for the conclusion of this series.

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Freemasonry and the Danger of One World Religion: Part 4

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Persecution Of First Century Church, One World Religion Is A Ploy To Neutralize The Christian Gospel And Evangelization, Doing Good Deeds For Others And Self-Righteous Works, Beware Of The Traditions Of Men, Passover Meal And Jesus' Sacrifice, Lure Of Secrets And Hidden Knowledge, Freemasons' Deception And Indoctrination, Freely And Openly Share Christian Gospel, American History And The Washington DC-Freemason Connection, C-SPAN Recorded Event, Claim That Freemasons Worship Satan, Albert Pike And "Morals And Dogma", Abel Claren De La Rive's "The Woman and Child in Universal Freemasonry", Satanic Quote Attributed To Albert Pike, Roman Catholics' Anti-Freemasonry

Bias, Léo Taxil And Taxil Hoax, Test The Spirits, Conclusion

As I concluded in part three, if we are faithful to preach the full counsel of God, without compromise, and without any degree of political correctness, we will be persecuted, just as Christ's true Church has been persecuted since the First Century. Below are some more verses which support this point:

"Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.) And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people."
Acts 12:1-4, KJV

"And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers, And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city, And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans. And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them. And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks."
Acts 16:19-24, KJV

"For we have found this man a pestilent fellow, and a mover of sedition among all the Jews throughout the world, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes:"
Acts 24:5, KJV

"I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them. And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities."
Acts 26:9-11, KJV

"For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honourable, but we are despised. Even unto this present hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no certain dwellingplace; And labour, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer it: Being defamed, we intreat: we are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring of all things unto this day."
1 Corinthians 4:9-13, KJV

"But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings;"
2 Corinthians 6:4-5, KJV

"Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness."
2 Corinthians 11:23-27, KJV

"If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:"
2 Timothy 2:12, KJV

"Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."
2 Timothy 3:12, KJV

"I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth."
Revelation 2:13, KJV

"And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled."
Revelation 6:9-11, KJV

"And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy."
Revelation 16:5-6, KJV

"And in her [spiritual Babylon] was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth."
Revelation 18:24, KJV

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God,

and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

Revelation 20:4, KJV

To learn more about persecution against the Christian Church, please consider reading such articles as "Civil Disobedience and Christian Persecution". As we have now seen, one world religionists do not embrace the Great Commission of Christ's Gospel. Based on my friend's comments, the Freemasons -- and other spiritual unity organizations and religions -- embrace a false gospel which promotes the belief that we should come together as fraternal brothers -- in spite of our religious differences -- for the sake of maintaining friendship and peace. On the surface, it seems like a very wonderful idea. However, in reality, it is a devilish ploy which neutralizes Christians and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It de-emphasizes the importance of warning the wicked of their wicked ways, and of trying to win nonbelievers to Christ. In fact, it makes doing so unpopular. As we saw in part two, Christians are not permitted to share their faith in a Masonic Lodge.

Another aspect of Freemasonry which my friend mentioned that he likes is the fact that, as fraternal brothers, Freemasons are always willing to lend each other a helping hand. No one will deny that this is an admirable quality. Furthermore, as many of my readers will know, this very same lesson is taught by Jesus in His Parable of the Good Samaritan. However, as I told my friend, anyone can perform good deeds for others; but if they reject Christ, then anything they do to assist others really amounts to nothing more than self-righteous works. As the following verses reveal, our works certainly do not save any of us, because we are all sinners in the sight of God:

"But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."
Isaiah 64:6, KJV

"If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?"
Psalms 130:3, KJV

"But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:"
Malachi 3:2, KJV

"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one . . . For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"
Romans 3:10, 23, KJV

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;"
Titus 3:5, KJV

"For 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."
Ephesians 2:8-9, KJV

According to my friend, if an individual wishes to understand all of the secrets and rituals which are performed by the Freemasons, he should simply read the Bible, because they are supposedly contained therein. He also stated that Freemasonry is not really a religion, although he admitted that there are religious aspects to parts of their rituals and prayers. I am not exactly certain what he meant by that, being as I am not familiar with the practices of Freemasonry. Nevertheless, it is apparent that the Freemasons do engage in certain rituals and practices -- or traditions -- which were never mandated by Jesus or any of the Apostles. Furthermore, you may recall that in part three, we learned that the Apostle Paul warned the Disciples to beware of the traditions of the world which are contrary to the doctrines of Christ, as we see here:

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."
Colossians 2:8, KJV

"And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."
1 Corinthians 2:4-5, KJV

In fact, if you are familiar with the Gospels, you will know that when it came to the Scribes and the Pharisees, Jesus did the very same thing. He sternly warned His followers to beware of the doctrines and traditions of the religionists which contradicted and nullified the Word of God. Consider the following verses:

"In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy."
Luke 12:1, KJV

"Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees. And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have taken no bread. Which when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread? Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees? Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees."
Matthew 16:6-12, KJV

"Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?"

For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition."
Matthew 15:1-6, KJV

"He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition. For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death: But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free. And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother; Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye."
Mark 7:6-13, KJV

Insofar as actual rituals are concerned, in the Gospels, we discover that the Lord called particular attention to the Passover meal, or Seder, as it is known to the Jews. As you may know, the Passover meal was celebrated by the Jews as a means to remember their sudden deliverance out of the land of Egypt. It involved sacrificing a lamb, marking their door posts with the blood of the lamb, and eating the lamb along with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. As many of you will know, and as I explain in such articles as "The Lamb of God Was a Goat" and "The Blood Atonement: In Jesus' Own Words", this Jewish tradition was a foreshadow of what Jesus would one day do when He offered up His own body on the Cross, as the Lamb of God, and the only worthy and valid Sacrifice for our sins. Today, this memorial dinner has been transformed into the Eucharist -- or Communion -- in the Christian churches.

I am also troubled by my friend's use of the word "secrets". As I mention in "Money-Making Bible Hucksters and Mammon" and "2012: New Age Deception and Psychobabble", claiming to know some profound truth or to possess some hidden knowledge is a gimmick which is often used by a number of deceivers. In the case of certain authors I have encountered on the Internet -- including certain Christian writers -- they will endeavor to attract gullible souls to their lairs by teasing and enticing them, and purposely piquing their curiosity, by offering them small morsels of their book which supposedly reveals things which have never been revealed to the world before. However, if one desires to read the whole book, he must first take the bait and send in some money. I find this practice on the part of Christian writers to be both dishonest, reproachable, and contrary to the Scriptures.

This same technique of relying upon enticement to attract new

recruits is used by the Kabbalists, the Freemasons, and other so-called "secret societies". Even the Roman Catholic Church resorts to surrounding some of its practices and doctrines in mystery, such as the so-called secrets of Fatima. Dangerous cults are also notorious for employing this very same method in order to attract new members to themselves. In each case, they claim to possess some secret knowledge, or some esoteric wisdom, or some mystical power which is only meant for the "chosen few". In order to be deemed worthy of the society or cult's "ultimate truths" and the powers which they supposedly possess, one must undergo certain initiation rites, as well as advance one level at a time.

As I mention in "Coming Your Way Soon: A New World Order!", it has long been said that organizations like the Freemasons will purposely mislead people, including their own lower-level initiates, so that they think that they are learning the truth regarding the esoteric doctrines and secrets of their group, when in fact, the organization is purposely leading them away from the truth concerning themselves, until such time when the organization's leaders feel that the initiate has sufficiently progressed, and is truly ready for, and in some perverted way, worthy of their closely-guarded secrets. Please beware of this subtle tactic!

In stark contrast to the attempts by these so-called "secret societies" to closely guard their beliefs and practices, the Bible teaches us to freely and openly share the truth of the Scriptures, as is plainly evident by the following verses:

"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness."
Isaiah 55:1-2, KJV

". . . freely ye have received, freely give . . . Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known. What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops."
Matthew 10:8, 26-27, KJV

"And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick? For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was any thing kept secret, but that it should come abroad."
Mark 4:21-22, KJV

"For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops."
Luke 12:2-3, KJV

"Jesus answered him, I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews

always resort; and in secret have I said nothing."
John 18:20, KJV

"For he [Apollos] mightily convinced the Jews, and that publicly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ."
Acts 18:28, KJV

"And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house,"
Acts 20:20, KJV

"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"
Romans 8:32, KJV

"And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely."
Revelation 21:6, KJV

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."
Revelation 22:17, KJV

As I mention in "2012: New Age Deception and Psychobabble", I am not particularly informed when it comes to Freemasonry. However, from my limited research in this area, I have come to learn that there exists a strong relationship between the history of the American government, Washington, D.C. and the Freemasons. It is an established fact that some of the most famous individuals who have been associated with the United States government -- beginning with its very first president, George Washington -- were known members of the Freemasons. In fact, I first mentioned the Washington-Freemason connection to the members of the now-defunct EDGE Mailing List back in 2004.

As most of my American readers will know, there is a cable television network called C-SPAN; or the Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network. This network is mainly dedicated to political news and developments which occur in the nation's capital. It also offers other public affairs programs.

While some people may find the station boring, at least one person was smart enough to record a particular event which occurred some time prior to 2004. I seem to recall that the event may have occurred during the 225th anniversary of the founding of the United States. What was unique about this recorded event -- which I downloaded from the Internet -- is that it involved a ceremony which was being performed by the Freemasons in Washington, DC. Not being a Freemason myself, I did not understand it all. However, I do clearly recall that the ceremony was very symbolic in nature, and that it employed certain objects which are a central part of Freemasonry, such as the square and compass. At the time, it seemed strange to me that C-SPAN would broadcast the event. However, I arrived at the conclusion that this ritual was probably only meant to be understood by Freemasons who may have been watching it on their television sets.

My interest in the Freemasons was further piqued when some time later, a member of the EDGE Mailing List informed me that his father was deeply involved with Freemasonry. This person -- who was a Christian -- was very concerned about it, because, according to him, he was familiar with some of the inner workings and beliefs of the Freemasons. One thing which he told me at that time -- which is something I have heard before -- is that similar to other occult organizations, as initiates graduate to the higher levels of Freemasonry, they are taught that Lucifer is the real god, while Jesus Christ is supposedly the usurper.

Seven years ago while conducting research for "Gargoyles: Satan Loves Church Buildings!", I discovered some additional information regarding the Freemasons which, at first glance, would seem to confirm the above point. The name Albert Pike is well known to Freemasons. Mr. Pike was elected Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite's Southern Jurisdiction in 1859; a post which he held for thirty-two years until his death in 1891. He is particularly known for his widely-read book "Morals and Dogma of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry". Following is a quote which has been attributed to Albert Pike. It was included in an 1894 French publication by Abel Claren de la Rive called "The Woman and Child in Universal Freemasonry". This quote is supposedly instructions by Pike to the twenty-three Supreme Councils of the World, and is dated July 14, 1889:

----- Begin Quote -----

"That which we must say to the world is that we worship a god, but it is the god that one adores without superstition. To you, Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, we say this, that you may repeat it to the brethren of the 32nd, 31st and 30th degrees: The masonic Religion should be, by all of us initiates of the higher degrees, maintained in the Purity of the Luciferian doctrine. If Lucifer were not God, would Adonay and his priests calumniate him?

Yes, Lucifer is God, and unfortunately Adonay is also god. For the eternal law is that there is no light without shade, no beauty without ugliness, no white without black, for the absolute can only exist as two gods; darkness being necessary for light to serve as its foil as the pedestal is necessary to the statue, and the brake to the locomotive . . .

Thus, the doctrine of Satanism is a heresy, and the true and pure philosophical religion is the belief in Lucifer, the equal of Adonay; but Lucifer, God of Light and God of Good, is struggling for humanity against Adonay, the God of Darkness and Evil."

----- End Quote -----

As I said, at first glance, the above quote would seem to confirm that Luciferian worship is actually at the center of Freemasonry. However, as I continued my research, I likewise discovered that a lot of questions surround the character of Abel Claren de la Rive. You see, de la Rive had strong ties to the Roman Catholic Church, which itself was very strongly opposed to Freemasonry. Furthermore, the above quote has also

been associated with another person of questionable character by the name of Léo Taxil, which was the pen name of French writer Marie Joseph Gabriel Antoine Jogand-Pagès. In contrast to Abel Claren de la Rive, Léo Taxil was very much against Roman Catholicism. Thus, he wrote a series of anti-Catholic books which -- depending on who you want to believe -- were filled with many libelous and fictitious statements regarding the Roman Catholic Church leadership.

Known as a hoaxer, Léo Taxil's crowning hoax was his feigned conversion to the Roman Catholic faith, which he really used as a vehicle to expose the anti-Masonic fanaticism of that religion. After his supposed conversion, Taxil wrote a number of books in which he attacked Freemasonry. He also introduced a fictitious character by the name of Diana Vaughan, who was -- according to the hoax -- deeply entrenched in Freemasonry. In 1897, Taxil confessed that Vaughan was not real, that his conversion to Roman Catholicism was bogus, and that his wild revelations regarding Freemasonry were also fictitious. This became known as the Taxil Hoax. As a result, Taxil was forced to move out of Paris.

So the question remains: Is Freemasonry really steeped in the worship of Lucifer and the forces of darkness? Quite frankly, being as I don't belong to the organization, it is impossible for me to conclusively prove or disprove this point. If they are, it is a deeply-held secret. If they are not, then a lot of people are promoting a misconception regarding the group. As I have mentioned before, the Internet is a huge rumor mill which is full of deception and misinformation. For all I know, the Taxil Hoax may be true. On the other hand, it may also be disinformation which is purposely meant to confuse us so that we don't know what Freemasons really believe. The best advice that I can give to anyone is the following:

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."
1 John 4:1, KJV

This issue aside, given the other points which I have talked about in this series -- namely their incompatibility with the vision and goal of the Great Commission, and the danger of compromise -- I still do not believe that it is wise for any Christian to join the organization. Their philosophy seems too aligned to a One World Religion to me. What do you think?

With these thoughts, I will bring this series to a close. It is my hope that you have found it inspiring, informative and enlightening, and I pray that it has been a blessing in your life. If you happen to have an account with Facebook, Twitter or Google+, I would really appreciate if you would take the time to click on the corresponding link that is found on this page. Thanks so much, and may God bless you abundantly!

For additional information, you may want to refer to the list of reading resources below which were also mentioned in this series, or which are related to this series, and which are likewise located on the Endtime Prophecy Net web server.

2012: New Age Deception and Psychobabble
All Are Given a Chance, But . . .

Accusations of Antisemitism: My Personal Response
Apostasy of Oprah Winfrey: America's False Prophetess?
Are You a Burning Ember for the Lord?
Are You Clean Every Whit?
Child of the Lamb, or Child of the Goat?
Civil Disobedience and Christian Persecution
Coming Your Way Soon: A New World Order!
Endtime Witnessing: Winning the Sheep and Waging the Warfare!
Gargoyles: Satan Loves Church Buildings!
Is Jesus the Only Begotten Son of God?
Is the Message of Salvation Meant for All Men?
Many Are Called, But Few Are Chosen
Modern False Prophets and Worldly Ecumenism
Money-Making Bible Hucksters and Mammon
Not Everyone is a Child of God
Roman Catholicism, Water Baptism and the Trinity
So You Really Think You Are So Humble?
The Blood Atonement: In Jesus' Own Words
The Children of Light: Are You One of Us?
The Fruits of Disobedience
The Lamb of God Was a Goat!
This Little Light, Glory of the Lord and Our Bright Future
Welcome to Greater Israel, USA!
What is Wrong With Modern America?
When Sin is no Longer a Sin

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