

THE INSTRUCTOR



“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” 2 Timothy 3:16

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IS IT REALLY TRUE?

Is it really true that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God? Yes, it **is** true that all responsible human beings have sinned because the apostle Paul emphatically declared: **“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”** (Romans 3:23). NOTE: In the context of this verse, Paul is discussing the fact that **both Jews and Gentiles** are under sin. In fact, Paul had already stated in verse 9-10: **“What then? Are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin.”**

Is it really true that when sinners are saved, they are added to the church by the Lord? Yes, it is true because Acts 2:47 says: **“... And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”** NOTE: The ASV says **“... those that were saved.”** We read in Acts 2:41 that **“... They that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.”** Luke also says: **“And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.”** (Acts 5:14). NOTE: When sinners **believe** and **obey the gospel** they are saved! (See Rom. 1:16; 2 Thess. 1:7-9). They are added to the

church! They are added to the Lord! They are **never** added to a denomination (a religious body that originated **with** men and is governed by the authority of men)!

Is it really true that **by the church** the manifold wisdom of God is known? Yes, it is true because in Ephesians 3:10 Paul said: **“To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God.”** The church as designed and built is a manifestation of God’s wisdom! It is to manifest God’s wisdom in functioning as God has ordained! It is to declare or make known God’s wisdom! NOTE: **No** denomination is a manifestation of God’s wisdom! Neither does **any** denomination make known the pure wisdom of God!

Is it really true that God is glorified **in** the church by Christ Jesus? Yes, it is true because Paul said: **“Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”** (Eph. 3:21). To glorify God by Christ Jesus one must be **in** the church. NOTE: There is **no** evidence in the Scriptures that God is to be (or even can be) glorified in a denomination! (CRS)

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Editorial . . .

MASONRY (No. 2)

In our study last month, we showed (among other things) six reasons WHY A CHRISTIAN CANNOT SCRIPTURALLY BE A MASON. As we resume our study we'd like to continue our list of reasons WHY A CHRISTIAN CANNOT BE A MASON.

VII. MASONRY GIVES TITLES TO MEN WHICH GOD FORBADE.

In the *Kentucky Monitor* on page ii there is a diagram that shows various titles given to some men. Here are some that are given in the Scottish Rite: "Secret Master", "Perfect Master", "Sublime Master Elect-ed", "Grand Master Architect", and "Master of Ninth Arch". Here are some that are given in the York Rite: "Master Ad Vitam", "Mark Master", "Past Master", "Most Excellent Master", "Royal Master", "Select Master", and "Super Excellent Master".

Each local Lodge has a "Master". Page 210 of the *Kentucky Monitor* says: "The Master is addressed, 'Worshipful Master', but he is referred to as the Master."

A careful study of Matthew 23:8-10 should convince all that such titles used in a "religious" sense is wrong! Also see Job 32:21-22.

VIII. MASONRY TEACHES A PAGANISTIC AND IDOLATROUS SYSTEM OF WORSHIP! On page 21-22 of the *Kentucky Monitor* we read: "The second great source from which Masonry derived its symbolism was the ancient Mysteries. . . . You see in all these ceremonies the beginnings of some of our Masonic customs. . ." On page xi we read: "The editor has not found sufficient grounds to differ from Brother Albert Pike, than whom there was never a more profound student of the arcana of our Order, nor from Brother Joseph Fort Newton, than whom there is no greater Masonic scholar today, in their belief that Freemasonry has come to us from the ancient religious mysteries, and particularly from the Ancient Osiris and Isis as celebrated in Egypt; that we owe much of our ritual to those old systems, and that from them and through them to even more remote sources we trace much of our doctrine." (Also see pages 30, 44 and 116).

On page 50 of the *Encyclopedia of Free Masonry* we read: "The most important article of furniture in the Lodge room is undoubtedly the altar. . . . Among the ancients, both Jews and Gentiles, altars were of two kinds — for incense and for sacrifice The Masonic altar, which, like everything else in Masonry, is symbolic, appears to combine the character and uses of both of these altars. It is an altar of sacrifice, for on it the candidate is directed to lay his passions and vices as an oblation to the Deity, while he offers up the thoughts of a pure heart as a fitting incense to the Grand Architect of the Universe. The altar is, therefore, the most holy place in a Lodge. . . . In all the religions of antiquity,

(Continued on page 3)

MASONRY

(Continued from page 2)

it was the usage of the priests and the people to pass around the altar in the course of the sun, that is to say, from the east, by the way of the south, to the west, singing paeons or hymns of praise as a part of their worship. From all this we see that the altar in Masonry is not merely a convenient article of furniture, intended, like a table, to hold a Bible. It is a sacred utensil of religion, intended, like the altars of the ancient temples, for religious uses, and thus identifying Masonry, by its necessary existence in our Lodges, as a religious institution. . .”(Also see page 736).

The teaching of John 4:24; Matt. 4:10; 6:24; 1 Cor. 8:4-6; Acts 14:8-18; 19:26; 17:22-29 and other passages should convince the truth seeker that “true worship” is based upon God’s Word as its standard!

IX. MASONRY IS SUPPOSEDLY A SECRET ORDER! On page 17-18 of **Jurisprudence of Freemasonry** by A. G. Mackey, we read: “The secrecy of the institution is another and a most important Landmark . . . If divested of its secret character, it would lose its identity, and would cease to be Freemasonry . . . Freemasonry, as a secret association, has lived unchanged for centuries — as an open society it would not last for as many years.”

On pages 104-105 of **Morals And Dogma** we read: “Masonry, like all the Religions, all the Mysteries, Hermeticism and Alchemy, conceals its secrets from all except the adepts and Sages, or the Elect, and uses false explanations and misinterpretations of its symbols to mislead those who deserve only to be mislead; to conceal the Truth,

which it calls Light, from them, and to draw them away from it. Truth is not for those who are unworthy or unable to receive it, or would pervert it. . . . So Masonry jealously conceals its secrets, and intentionally leads conceited interpreters astray.” On page 109 we read: “Secrecy is indispensable in a Mason of whatever Degree. It is the first and almost the only lesson taught to the Entered Apprentice.” On page 27 the **Kentucky Monitor** says: “Secrecy is the first great lesson of the Entered Apprentice. . . . If our teachings of beautiful truths were scattered broadcast throughout the world, they would become commonplace; so they are taught under secrecy, only to those deemed worthy to receive and practice them.”

To learn what God’s Word teaches about secrecy and things done in secret, please read and study Deut. 29:29; 27:15; Luke 11:33; John 18:20; 3:19-21; Eph. 5:11-12; 2 Cor. 6:14-17 and 1 Cor. 2:11.

X. MASONRY PRACTICES PARTIALITY! On page 23 of the **Kentucky Monitor** we read: “The candidate . . . must be a man, free born, twenty-one years of age, . . .”

Page 14 Of **Jurisprudence Of Freemasonry** says: “Certain qualifications of candidates for initiation are derived from a Landmark of the Order. These qualifications are that he shall be un mutilated, free born, and of mature age. That is to say, a woman, a cripple, or a slave, or one born in slavery, is disqualified for initiation into the rites of Masonry.”

The following passages teach that the Lord invites every responsible person to worship and serve Him. See Matthew 11:28-30; John 3:16; 6:37; Reve. 22:17 and Acts 10:34-35.

(Continued on page 4)

MASONRY

(Continued from page 3)

XI. MASONRY TEACHES THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION!

On page 105 of the **Kentucky Monitor** we read: "For countless ages a fragment clings to its sun — a world in preparation; eventually it is thrown whirling into space to begin a new existence — the birth of a world; the gases solidify, land and water appear — the

period of development; vegetable and animal life are brought forth — the period of fruitfulness; then come decline and dissolution."

A careful study of Genesis 1; John 1:1-3; Hebrews 11:3 and Exodus 20:11 will show that GOD created the heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is "in six days." (CRS)

(To be continued)

— SENTENCE SERMONS —

Sin may come upon you by surprise, but do **not** let it dwell with you as a guest.

* * * * *

One may think himself to be a "budding genius" when in reality he may be a "blooming idiot."

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To be content, to learn and follow God's wisdom as revealed in the Scriptures is a lesson not learned by many.

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When a brother falls don't rejoice, but extend mercy.

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Pride can rob you of honesty, forgiveness, friendship, happiness and eternal life.

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