

# TRUTH SERIES

## VOLUME 8



**NOT IN MY HOUSE!**

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# NOT IN MY HOUSE!



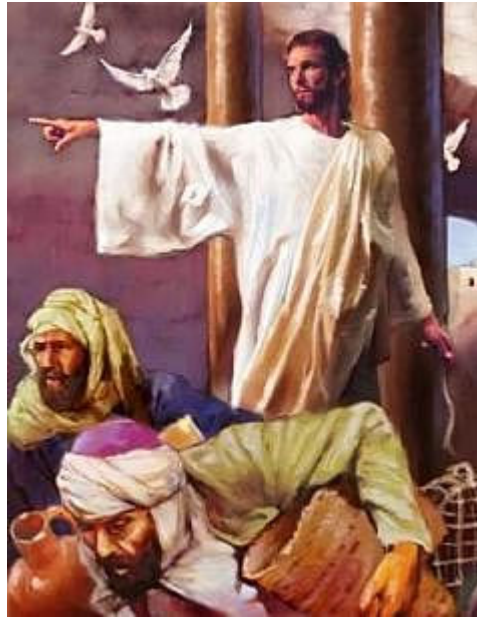
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Thanks to God, the Holy One.



Dedicated to all those who wish to be saints.



“Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, ‘It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer’; but you are making it a den of robbers.” (Matt. 21: 12-13)



Notes:

- Words or phrases enclosed in brackets [ ] or parenthesis ( ), in *italics*, were placed by me, in most cases, to explain the biblical text, although some verses already contain them [not in italics].
- The version used here is the New Revised Standard Version, NRSV – 1989 (1995)
- NIV = New International Version (it will be used in brackets in some verses to facilitate the readers' understanding).

Today, let's talk about something that has been an abomination to the Lord for being practiced within His own House. It is about the presence of Freemasonry in some churches of Christ by members and pastors. If you look for its meaning in the dictionary you will find: "Partially secret society whose main objective is to develop the principle of fraternity and philanthropy; association to promote humanitarianism and cosmopolitan spirit." The places of meetings are called lodges (Masonic Lodges). Its name, *Freemasonry*, is derived from the French, "*maçon*", which means: *bricklayer, builder*. Its name, symbols and ceremonies are similar to ancient medieval guilds of stonemasons. The first lodge was opened in London in 1717. From there, the association spread among Anglo-Saxon and Germanic countries. There are three corporative grades: Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason. In Latin countries, *Freemasonry* turned to atheism and introduced a secret ceremony to its meetings. Freemasonry introduced in France in 1725 instilled a clear anti-Catholic tendency to Spanish (1726), Portuguese (1727) and Italian (1742) lodges, so it was condemned by the church in 1738. In Brazil, it came bringing a contribution to the movement of Independence. A month after the cry of Ipiranga, Dom Pedro I was elected grand master of the Great West. Gonçalves Ledo and José Bonifácio de Andrada e Silva struggled for the supremacy in this lodge. Defeated, José Bonifácio founded the Secret Society (Masonic) of the Noble Order of the Knights of the Holy Cross.

Freemasonry is linked to all acts of witchcraft, occultism and sorcery, and the Greek philosophical doctrines of the past of mankind and the new evil sects of the present days.

Its fundamental symbols were borrowed from the art of building and give support to a psychic and spiritual fulfillment. According to some scholars, Freemasonry is eclectic in the sense of brotherly unity and mutual help, for it unites all men who are affiliated to it as 'brothers', without concern for race or faith. Everything indicates that there was an initial link between the Roman Apostolic Catholic Church and Freemasonry, even between it and Judaism, more specifically to the Kabbalah (the mystical stream of Judaism). We can say that some Catholic priests were interested in the symbolism and mysticism inherent to it. Here I will first describe the symbols, as they are described and known by the Masons, and then the revelation that the Spirit of God gave me concerning this. It is a so subtle and disguised knowledge, often absorbed by the Church of Christ itself, where we can see that Satan still didn't conform to the loss of his position as cherub that he had in Eden.

The symbols are:

**1) The mallet (or gavel) and chisel** (it chops the rough stone). The mallet is the tool for chipping off the stone or educating the crude and imperfect human personality to take it to purification. The mallet (gavel) symbolizes will, energy, decision and the active aspect of consciousness necessary to succeed and overcome obstacles. Likewise, the chisel represents the intellect and suggests intelligent work. It is the tool of the Apprentice (the 1<sup>st</sup> degree of an Initiate). Actually, what they try to make by the use of intellect, God makes with us through His Spirit.

•• *Isa. 29: 16*: "You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay? Shall the thing made say of its maker, 'He did not make me'; or the thing formed say of the one who formed it, 'He has no understanding?'"

•• *Jer. 18: 6*: "'Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done?' says the Lord. 'Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.'"

•• *Lk. 20: 17-18*: “But he looked at them and said, ‘What then does this text mean: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone’ Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls?” He was referring to Himself.

**2) The compass and the square.** The compass enlaced with the square symbolizes for them the macrocosm (the universe). The Masons also use the bible to signify the wisdom that enlightens and directs both the universe and man (In this case, the initiated). As a symbolic instrument for them, the compass and square are emblems of measurement and justice. The compass became the symbol of the creative activities of a builder and it is linked to time and spirit; the square, to space and the matter. The degrees of the compass opening symbolize the possibilities and degrees of knowledge (45°, 60° and 90°). By limiting the overture of the compass to a maximum of 90 degree, man is spiritually limited, concerning to God’s revelation (knowledge). Hence, when they are present somewhere, the Holy Spirit immediately reveals to us because we feel the limitation of the activities pertinent to the move of the very Spirit of God and to the revealed knowledge of the Word. Also, this doctrine ends up to tie the very person, making that the time he has to do things does not yield, besides limiting his physical and material movement on earth. When they think they are winning, in fact they are becoming increasingly entwined in the lies of Satan, preventing them from seeing God’s plan for them.

**3) Black and white checkered floor; the sun and moon:** for them it means the contrast between positive and negative, between light and darkness. It is necessary that a faithful believer knows how to make the contrast between light and darkness by himself. He needs not to behave like a pagan with all these symbols to get this. It is the intimacy with the Holy Spirit that gives us discernment.

**4) Level:** For them, it represents equality. In fact, what the devil makes to the person is to distort the real meaning of equality between him and his fellow men and his true inner balance, as well as his and God’s. The *Word of God* is what levels and balances us. Equality between men is given by God, so Jesus said:

•• *Matt. 23: 8-12*: “But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father – the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

It is also written:

•• *Deut. 10: 17-18*: “For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing.”

•• *Acts 10: 34-35*: “Then Peter began to speak to them: ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality (*1 Pet. 1: 17*), but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.’”

•• *Rom. 2: 11*: “For God shows no partiality.”

**5) Plumb line:** symbol of justice and rectitude. Actually, what they profess is the distortion of justice and rectitude of God:

•• *Lev. 19: 36*: “You shall have honest balances, honest weights, an honest ephah, and an honest hin: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.”

•• *Am. 5: 24*: “But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

•• *Mic. 6: 8*: “He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

The justice of God is the righteous way of God to justify the unrighteous. In the Old Testament, the word justice was commonly used to refer to rectitude, the rectitude which God required of His people in following His law, that is, the straight and faithful obedience to His word. When we are under the love and justice of God in the person of Jesus we are spared and protected from evil. *Justice*, as understood in the NT, *is the union of men with God again, made through the cross, bringing us Salvation (Phil. 3: 9-11)*. Justice is linked to the trial or judgment that, at principle, is prerogative of God (*Isa. 33: 22*). Hence, He guides us with respect not to judge our brothers in the faith without really knowing what goes on in their heart or their life (*Matt. 7: 1-5; Lk. 6: 37-38; Rom. 2: 1; Rom. 14: 4; 1 Cor. 4: 3-5; Jam. 4: 11*).

Despite everything we read above, however, the Word shows us many examples, where Jesus teaches us how to judge, not by flesh but by the Spirit, that is, not according to appearance, but by the straight righteousness (*John 7: 24; Lk. 12: 57*). He also says us to judge all things and only to hold fast to what is good (*1 The. 5: 21*).

In *Matt. 12: 18* it's written, “Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles [NVI, ‘he will proclaim justice to the nations’].”

The word above ‘justice’, in Greek is *krisin* – κρίσιν (Strong #g2920 – *krisis*: a decision, judgment, judging, Divine judgment. *Krisis* is a feminine noun derived from a cognate, *krinō* (Strong #g2919), with the same root, meaning: to separate, distinguish, judge, judgment, emphasizing its qualitative aspect that can apply either to a positive verdict (for righteousness) – or more commonly, a negative verdict which condemns the nature of sin that brings it on. *Krinō* (κρίνω) or *krinó* (transliteration) means: to judge, to decide, I judge, I decide, I think (it) good.

This makes us think that *to judge* means *to discriminate*, that is, *to separate right from wrong*. Thus, we understand that He has given us the ability to judge the evil, the situations that surround us, the false prophecies and false teaching, what we choose for our life, etc., as Paul says in *1 Cor. 14: 20*: “Brothers and sisters, do not be children in your thinking; rather, be infants in evil, but in thinking be adults.” However, He didn't give us permission to judge people by what we imagine of them. Therefore the Lord tells us to leave the judgment to Him because only He knows the whole truth. This brings us back to God's justice, which is linked to Salvation and the Last Day when it will be completed. In the first coming, Jesus came to save (justice); in the second coming, He'll come to judge (judgment on who rejected His justice): *Jn. 5: 22-30; Jn. 8: 15-18; Jn. 8: 26; Jn. 12: 31-32; Jn. 12: 47-50*).

Despite everything we have said before (justice is linked to judgment that, at principle, is prerogative of God), this doesn't mean to say that both are restricted only to the *Last Day*, for God still cares for His own words written in OT, which say that He judges between the righteous and the wicked (*Mal. 3: 18*). At present, His justice and judgment are still made for His precepts to be fulfilled. God doesn't omit to enforce human justice (from the judicial point of view, for example), since He Himself placed the human authorities on earth to be respected. If God's justice was made through Jesus,



reconciling man and God, what justice does Freemasonry say it does, since one of the first statements of the initiates is to deny Jesus?

**6) The rule:** for them it is also a symbol of rightness. It represents the good management of time, which should be divided among self-knowledge, meditation, study and rest. When we are the Lord's, He is who helps us to manage all this, without the control of our ego:

- *Phil. 2: 13*: “for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.”

Moreover, it's His straight words keep us on the path of rectitude:

- *Prov. 8: 6-9*: “Hear, for I will speak noble things, and from my lips will come what is right; for my mouth will utter truth; wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are righteous; there is nothing twisted or crooked in them. They are all straight to one who understands and right to those who find knowledge.”

For us, the rule can also be a symbol of the limit to spiritual space given by God to man and to his physical and emotional movement on earth. This means that, through mystical and worldly knowledge, the enemy caused in the minds of the unsuspecting, a distortion of what limit is, preventing the word of God from being released and their minds from being free of mediocrity.

**7) The luminous delta:** delta ( $\Delta$ ) is the fourth letter of the Greek alphabet. In fact, when written in capital letters is a triangle. For Masons, it is the emblem of the Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit, but with another esoteric interpretation on it). Both in the Jewish-Christian Churches and the Masonic temples, the triangle is usually surrounded by brightness and centered by the letter **G**, and means the ‘triple divine force’ that manifests itself as will, love and cosmic intelligence. It is sometimes depicted by three dots placed in a triangle, •••. Actually, what they call ‘will’ corresponds to the will and authority of God the Father; Jesus represents love in its full manifestation, and the transcendental intelligence, in fact, is the Holy Spirit with all His anointing poured on us and empowering us to any work.

- *Isa. 11: 2*: “The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might [*NIV, power*], the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.”

- *Isa. 61: 1-3*: “The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion – to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.”

- *Lk. 4: 18-19*: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

For some, the letter **G** comes from *gnosis*, in Greek, *knowledge*. For others, it refers to the seventh letter of the Masonic alphabet called *gimel* (in Hebrew, the 3<sup>rd</sup> letter, which means ‘camel’) and *gamma* in Greek. It usually means: Geometry, Generation, Glory, Great and Grand.

gimel

λ

lowercase letter gamma

γ

capital gamma

Γ

It is not the false knowledge, science, grandeur and brilliance that Satan wants for himself that brings light to our spirit, but the truth of Christ in us. Whoever clings to idolatry can see that the promises and revelation of God stay fastened to the lies of the occultism and mysticism of the darkness.

**8) Apron:** is the most important part in Freemasonry, which is essential to work. It is the only badge that gives Mason the right to enter temples and attend meetings. Its shape and color vary according to the rites and grades, but its mystical meaning is the same. The white apron, unadorned, of the 1<sup>st</sup> grade, indicates the purity of the soul, which is supposed to have been attained in this grade. The celestial blue is associated with spiritual dedication, devotion, balance, loyalty and wisdom. Corresponds to the Sapphire stone. This does not remind us the white linen garments of the priests?

•• *Ezek. 44: 15-19:* “But the levitical priests, the descendants of Zadok, who kept the charge of my sanctuary when the people of Israel went astray from me, shall come near to me to minister to me; and they shall attend me to offer me the fat and the blood, says the Lord God. It is they who shall enter my sanctuary, it is they who shall approach my table, to minister to me, and they shall keep my charge. When they enter the gates of the inner court, they shall wear linen vestments; they shall have nothing of wool on them, while they minister at the gates of the inner court, and within. They shall have linen turbans on their heads, and linen undergarments on their loins; they shall not bind themselves with anything that causes sweat. When they go out into the outer court to the people, they shall remove the vestments in which they have been ministering, and lay them in the holy chambers; and they shall put on other garments, so that they may not communicate holiness to the people with their vestments.”

For us, it doesn't matter the external garment or the grade of spiritual growth which we think to have, because the white color of our garments is achieved in the surrender to Jesus and in the purification of our sins by His blood:

•• *Ecc. 9: 8:* “Let your garments always be white; do not let oil be lacking on your head.”

•• *Rev. 7: 9-17:* “After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!’ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, ‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen’. Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘Who are these, *robed in white*, and where have they come from?’ I said to him, ‘Sir, you are the one that knows.’ Then he said to me, ‘These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed *their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb*. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”

•• *Rev. 19: 7-10*: “Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready; to her it has been granted to be clothed with *fine linen, bright and pure – for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints*. And the angel said to me, ‘Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb’. And he said to me, ‘These are true words of God’. Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, ‘You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.’”

•• *Rev. 22: 13-14*: “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Blessed are those *who wash their robes*, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.”

What defiles our clothes is sin; in this case in particular, the irreverence of the devil before the Most High, wanting to take His place on the throne and claiming for himself the praise and worship that belong only to Jesus. A comment about the blue color. This color was much used in the bible concerning the tabernacle, the priests and the throne of God. Why the blue was chosen from among all the colors? Because blue resembles the color of the sea and the sea looks like the color of the sky and the sky resembles the color of the throne of God, according to the interpretation of Ancient times. Therefore, Ezekiel had the vision of God’s throne as a sapphire, whose color is blue (*Ezek. 1: 26-28*), as well as Moses (*Ex. 24: 9-10*).

**9) Gloves:** for them is a mark of distinction and purity. After his admission, the Apprentice receives two pairs of white gloves, of which one is for him and the other, the woman he loves. The white glove received on the day of his initiation aims to recall the commitments made by the Mason. We have received from Jesus the wedding ring when we surrender to Him at the time of our conversion and it is this commitment of fidelity to His call that makes our hands clean and prosperous.

**10) Spiral Staircase:** shows the difficult trajectory of the Fellow Craft (2<sup>nd</sup> grade). With its spiral steps it represents the difficulty in climbing, learning and improving oneself, showing that evolution is not developed in a steady and straight way. It has its ups and downs. His persistence in search of light will be the reward, because he will reach the top of the stairs. Jesus always said that the door would be narrow and there are few who adapt to it, for wide is the path to destruction:

•• *Matt. 7: 13-14*: “Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

•• *Lk. 13: 22-30*: “Jesus went through one town and village after another, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, ‘Lord, will only a few be saved?’ He said to them, ‘Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able. When once the owner of the house has got up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then in reply he will say to you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.’ But he will say, ‘I do not know where you come from; go away from me, all you evildoers!’ There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrown out. Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God. Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.’”

•• *Phil. 2: 13*: “for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.”

•• *1 Pet. 5: 10*: “And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.”

It's not we that have to perform our sanctification, nor our salvation, even because our concept of perfection and rightness is completely distorted and flawed. It is the Holy Spirit who performs everything in us, provided that we have the seal of the Lamb's blood on our foreheads and be willing to surrender completely to His will. Hence, all religions are seeking salvation in the wrong way, i.e., the way the devil wants, in the self effort so that the glory is the person's (and, logically, his too), not of Jesus Christ. Our salvation comes not by works but by faith:

•• *Rom. 10: 8-13*: “But what does it say? ‘The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, ‘No one who believes in him will be put to shame.’ For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

### **11) Jacob's ladder:**

•• *Gen. 28: 12-13*: “And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, ‘I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring.’”

The mystic ladder which they say is the ladder seen by Jacob symbolizes the cycle of evolution and involution of life in its perpetual flux and reflux, through births and deaths, to unfold in a hierarchy of beings, powers, worlds, kingdoms, lives and races. All of this is the result of a big lie, always present in Eastern mysticism, particularly in relation to other lives. We have only one life, the bible says, therefore, only one chance of salvation. We won't transform ourselves in more evolved beings in the next incarnation, because there will be no other. Besides, the man continues to be a hypocrite being over the ages. He speaks of love, but is still egocentric and unable to take even a step like that of Jesus. Without the love of God there is no spiritual evolution:

•• *Heb. 9: 22-28*: “Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. Thus it was necessary for the sketches of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves need better sacrifices than these. For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, *he has appeared once for all at the end of the age* to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed *for mortals to die once*, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.”

•• *John 15: 13*: “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.”

•• *1 Cor. 13: 1-3*: “If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal [*by some, considered an ancient stringed instrument; by others, an ancient instrument consisting of two half globes (like music plates) that strike each other*]. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.”

•• *2 Cor. 6: 12-18*: “There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. In return – I speak as to children – open wide your hearts also. Do not be mismatched [*NIV: yoked together*] with unbelievers. For what partnership is there between righteousness and lawlessness? Or what fellowship is there between light and darkness? What agreement does Christ have with Belial? Or what does a believer share with an unbeliever? What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, ‘I will live in them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be your father, and you shall be my sons and daughters’, says the Lord Almighty.”

### **Can you mix the sanctity and purity of Jesus with all this confusion you've seen so far?**

According to Masonic traditions, the ladder with that meaning (Jacob's) consists of fourteen steps. Actually, its steps are as many as are the virtues necessary for the improvement of each person. The three most important are: faith, hope and love, symbolized by the Cross, the Anchor and the Goblet (the bible says ‘cup’).



This was already written before Freemasonry existed:

•• *1 Cor. 13: 13*: “And now *faith, hope, and love* abide, these three; and the greatest of these is *love*.”

•• *Rom. 10: 8-11*: “But what does it say? ‘The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart’ (that is, the word of *faith* that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, ‘No one who believes in him will be put to shame.’”

Of which faith is Paul talking about? Of eternal life and salvation won on the cross of Calvary by Jesus, not by any founder of any sect, nor the devil.

Hope is *the anchor of the soul*, meaning that it binds us in the ways of the Lord, making us persevere until our abode in heaven:

•• *Heb. 6: 17-20*: “In the same way, when God desired to show even more clearly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it by an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God would prove false, we who have taken refuge might be strongly encouraged to seize the hope set before us. We have this *hope*, a sure and steadfast *anchor of the soul*, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf,

has entered, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” (cf. *Gen. 14: 18-20*).

Cup of salvation, the New Covenant (love):

•• *Matt. 26: 27-28*: “Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.’” There would be greater love than to give his own life for his friends? (*Jn. 15: 13*).

•• *1 The. 5: 8-10*: “But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a *helmet the hope of salvation*. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.”

**12) Sword:** used in Masonic ceremonies, generally symbolizing the power and authority, and as an emblem to dissipate the darkness of ignorance. At meetings of ritual banquets, is the name given to the knife. Here, for us believers, we can see another contradiction in relation to the Word of God, for it is written:

•• *Eph. 6: 17*: “Take the helmet of salvation, and *the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God*.”

•• *Heb. 4: 12-13*: “Indeed, *the word of God* is living and active, sharper than *any two-edged sword*, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.”

If a sect like this, actually speaks of Jesus, but has not Him as only one God (**They worship other gods and renounce the Son of God in the prayers made in their initiation rites**), how can it have the sword of His Word through the Holy Spirit? Besides, the pact made by what they declare when they commit to everything of that is a curse cast on their own lives, drawing death upon themselves. The bible says the Word is true and that everything is manifested in its presence. If the sword they used was the truth of Jesus, they would know how much lies and confusion of darkness there is in the midst of everything they profess. The simple fact of many religions, sects and doctrines are involved with Freemasonry is already a point in favor of saying that nothing is pure there, is a true Babylon. Therefore, its sword is a false power, for there is not God’s anointing on it. The apostle Paul talks about the armor of God in some passages and tells us that the Lord gave us both the offensive and defensive weapons against all sophistry and deceit of the devil and His word is one of them. But it is only given to those who are wholly His.

•• *2 Cor. 6: 7*: “truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand [*offensives*] and for the left [*defensives*].”

•• *2 Cor. 10: 3-6*: “Indeed, we live as human beings, but we do not wage war according to human standards; for the weapons of our warfare are not merely human, but they have divine power *to destroy strongholds*. We destroy *arguments and every proud obstacle* raised up against the knowledge of God, and we take every thought *captive to obey Christ*. We are ready to *punish every disobedience* when your obedience is complete.”

•• *1 Cor. 2: 4-5*: “My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.” The power used by the apostle was the pure word of God, the sword, not human speech with an air of wisdom and

knowledge, neither the strength of mental power (carnal) which is developed by the followers of many sects.

It is also written:

•• *Ps. 149: 6-9*: “Let the high praises of God be in their throats [*referring to the saints of the Lord*] and *two-edged swords* in their hands, to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, to bind their kings with fetters and their nobles with chains of iron, to execute on them the judgment decreed. This is glory for all his faithful ones. Praise the Lord!”

**13) Flaming sword (fiery)**: the one with the wavy blade, like tongue of fire. It is used by the Grand Master (Master Mason) as *a symbol of creative power* and is also used by the *guard* (protection) of the temple, like cherubim guarding the way to the tree of life.

Let's compare this with the Word:

•• *Gen. 3: 24* : “He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and *a sword flaming* and turning to guard the way to the tree of life.”

•• *Rev. 2: 12-17*: “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of him who has *the sharp two-edged sword*: ‘I know where you are living, where Satan’s throne is. Yet you are holding fast to my name, and you did not deny your faith in me even in the days of Antipas my witness [*a martyr*], my faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan lives. But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold to the teaching of Balaam [*Assyrian fortune teller sent for by the king of Moab to curse Israel*], who taught Balak [*the king of Moab*] to put a stumbling block before the people of Israel, so that they would eat food sacrificed to idols and practice fornication. So you also have some who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. Repent then. If not, I will come to you soon and make war against them *with the sword of my mouth*. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give a white stone, and on the white stone is written a new name that no one knows except the one who receives it.’”

The term ‘*Nicolaitans*’ has controversial origin. It is assumed that Nicholas of Antioch (*Acts 6: 5* – chosen in the beginning of the Church as a deacon), supposedly, would have given his name to a group inside it that tried to get commitment to paganism, in order to allow Christians to participate without embarrassment in some social and religious activities of the pagan society in which they found themselves. The orientation of the sect would be similar to that of Balaam (to eat things sacrificed to idols and commit prostitution or sexual laxity in the Church), the corrupter of Israel in the Old Testament (*Num. 22*).

•• *Rev. 4: 1-11*: “After this [*the letters to the Seven Churches*] I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, ‘Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this’. At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and carnelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. *Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God*; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures

[*cherubim, Ezek. 1: 1-14*], full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, ‘Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come’. And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives forever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, ‘You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, *and by your will they existed and were created.*’”

•• *Rev. 19: 15*: “From his mouth comes a *sharp sword* with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron; he will tread the wine press of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.”

Since the dawn of Creation, God appeared to man with great power, brightness and glory. The bible always describes thunder, lightning, fire, as symbols of judgment and authority of the Most High. It is also written that God created the world for the manifestation of the glory of His power, wisdom and eternal goodness through His will:

•• *John 1: 1-3*: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being.”

•• *John 1: 10*: “He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him.”

•• *Col. 1: 16*: “for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him (The Son).”

•• *Rev. 4: 11*: “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

•• *Ps. 33: 6; 9*: “By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of his mouth... For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.”

•• In *Gen. 1: 3*, for example, it is written: “Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light”.

The word *said* here can be translated literally as: ‘*God spoke to the core of the situation, God spoke to heart.*’ Therefore, the essential divine activity originates from the word of God (“*God said*”), which is a product of His will. For us, the practical learning is that the word of God can be a factor in *the creation of good* or in *the destruction of evil*, in order to *protect* what He decided to love and preserve. *This is the flaming sword* the devil insists to use. He knows *he can not create anything*, but persists in trying to deceive those who follow him. He doesn’t protect or defend anything; rather, he steals and kills and destroys:

•• *Jn. 10: 10*: “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

What comes out of the enemy’s mouth does not create anything good, nor praises the Creator, only blasphemes against the Holy One. The seventh chapter of Daniel the prophet brings a divine revelation like the dream of Nebuchadnezzar in relation to nations that would come after the fall of Babylon. In this chapter, the prophet has a vision of four animals. The first is similar to *the lion and had eagle’s wings* (*Dan. 7: 4*), which were torn; it was lifted from the ground and became the image of man and was



given it the mind of man. This animal symbolized Babylon. The second animal was like a *bear* and in its mouth it had three ribs; everybody said to it, 'Arise, devour much flesh.' This animal symbolized the kingdoms of Media and Persia. The three ribs refer to Egypt, Babylon and Lydia conquered by Mede-Persian Empire. They were called 'ribs' because they strengthened it; and 'between its teeth' because they were as if been ground or crushed by Medes and Persians. The third was like a *leopard* and *the back had four wings of a bird, and four heads*. It symbolizes Greece. The fourth animal to be seen by Daniel had *awesome and terrible appearance*, with large iron teeth (*Dan. 7: 7*), devouring everything around and carrying on its head ten horns (*Dan. 7: 7; 19*). It symbolizes Rome. In verse 8, Daniel says that among the horns came a small horn that not only destroyed three of them, as it had eyes and *a mouth speaking arrogantly*. Here, we can see a reference to *the Antichrist* and from this verse we can see some references to apocalyptic content (see vv. 20 and 24) where the ten contemporary kings are again described, and that will be destroyed in the second coming of Jesus. It is written:

•• *Dan. 7: 8*: "I was considering the horns, when another horn appeared, a little one coming up among them; to make room for it, three of the earlier horns were plucked up by the roots. There were eyes like human eyes in this horn, *and a mouth speaking arrogantly*."

•• *Rev. 13: 5-6*: "The beast was given *a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words*, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months [*three years and a half*]. It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven."

**14) The temple** (*like Solomon's*), with some stairs to go up to it and the two pillars (*Jachin and Boaz*), whose names may be the first words of the oracle that gave power to the Davidic dynasty: "*YHWH will establish your throne forever*" (*establish = Jachin or Jakin – Yakhin – the right side – to the south*) and "*in the strength of YHWH the king shall rejoice*" (*Boaz – be'ōz = strength – the left one – North – 1 Kin. 7: 21; 2 Chr. 3: 15-17 cf. Jer. 52: 21*), as well as the pomegranates that crowned the pillars, being replaced by balls in the most advanced grade of initiation. For Masons, pomegranates signify prosperity and solidarity of the Masonic family. The columns were loose and did not support the ceiling of the Portico, but were in front of it as part of the furniture, not the building of the temple. *Jachin or Jakin – Yakhin* – as we saw above means: "*YHWH will establish your throne forever*", and *Boaz (be'ōz – the left one)*, "*in the strength of YHWH the king shall rejoice*." This means that only the Lord can establish us, firm us, and His joy is our strength. The right side or right hand in the bible is a symbol of blessing, might, privilege, honor, power, authority (with that faith in Him, He establishes our throne). Don't let the devil take all of this from you. The pomegranates were mentioned in Song of Solomon (*Song 4: 13*), when the lover says: "Your channel [*NIV, plants; Brazilian Portuguese: sprout*] is an orchard of pomegranates with all choicest fruits, henna with nard." It means that what springs up in our lives should be like an orchard of pomegranates. The pomegranate fruit is very well known and popular in the East and it becomes syrup, juice and astringent remedy. This means that our attitudes and our words should serve as a remedy for diseased hearts. Thus, they were placed over the columns of the temple. What sustains us (columns, pillars) in our attitudes and words of healing to others is the strength – *be'ōz, Boaz* – of the Lord and the *faith* in that He will establish us – *Yakim, Jachin*. It's no use replacing them by another symbol or giving it another meaning.

**15) The five-pointed blazing star or pentagram** (for the Pythagoreans – see below about Pythagoras – is the symbol of the sacred number: five), within which is the letter **G** (*gnosis* in Greek, *knowledge*). As we saw earlier, the letter **G** is also the seventh letter of the Masonic alphabet. It's called *gimel* (*camel, in Hebrew*), the 3<sup>rd</sup> letter, and *gamma* in Greek. The Masonic meaning is: Geometry, Generation, Glory, Great and Grand.

gimel

λ

lowercase letter gamma

γ

capital gamma

Γ

Likewise the Jewish Kabbalah, Freemasonry suffered the influence of Pythagoreanism. *Pythagoras* was a Greek philosopher and mathematician who lived in the sixth century BC. The Pythagoreanism is defined by two tendencies: **1) the mystical-moralist**, connected to *Orphism* (Related to Orpheus, a singer and musician described in Greek mythology) and *shamanism* [religion of certain peoples of North Asia, based on the belief that good or evil spirits are led by shamans (magicians)]. Greek mythology said that Orpheus was the son of Eagro, king of Thrace (Greece), and the Muse Calliope (muses = Greek mythological goddesses related to arts and poetry). Others say he was the son of Apollo and Clio (it was common for the Greeks, gods marry mortals). Orpheus was a wonderful singer and the sounds of his lyre tamed the beasts, which fell at his feet. His wife, Eurydice, died bitten by a snake and he descended into hell, where he played his music, being allowed to bring his wife back on condition that he did not turn back until he had crossed the boundaries of the empire of darkness. But the order was violated and he never saw Eurydice again. He was struck by Zeus (to the Greeks, the supreme god). Although it is a mythological allegory, the bottom of it has a resemblance of moral teaching with the story of Lot. His wife, disobeying the orders of the angels of God, turned to look at Sodom and Gomorrah that were being destroyed, and was turned into a pillar of salt. **2) the philosophical-mathematical** that originated several arithmetic, geometric, astronomic and acoustic knowledge, integrated by the finding of numerical correspondences among the various realities of human existence.

As written on a few pages ago, it is not false knowledge, science, grandeur and brilliance that Satan wants for himself that brings light to our spirit, but the truth of Christ in us. Whoever clings to idolatry can see that the promises and revelation of God stay fastened to the lies of the occultism and mysticism of darkness. Everything to bring disgust, aversion, confusion, lies and affront to the holiness and majesty of the Lord!

Can God look at this kind of thing in so impassive, merciful and loving way? Have the cup of God's wrath against humanity not exhausted because of so much sin and rebellion? What about the word that was placed pages above in relation to the sword?

•• *2 Cor. 10: 3-6*: "Indeed, we live as human beings, but we do not wage war according to human standards; for the weapons of our warfare are not merely human, but they have *divine power to destroy strongholds*. We *destroy arguments and every proud obstacle raised up against the knowledge of God*, and we take every *thought captive to obey Christ*. We are ready to *punish every disobedience* when your obedience is complete."

Does human idolatry of leaders please God? Is it not a gap to the haughtiness, to the pride of the false knowledge of Satan, to the strongholds that he can lift up through a single word and to the sophisms [*lies with appearance of truth, false arguments, in bad*

*faith, in order to lead people to commit mistakes]* that come to mislead many people and prevent the entry of the little ones into the kingdom of God? You who have followed all this, do you want to continue ‘a camel’, a ‘gimel’ in the wilderness of the darkness? It’s time to clean the filthiness, to go out of the desert and reach the land promised by God to you.

**16) Rough stone:** the rough stone of Freemasons corresponds to the raw material of the hermetists, who follow Hermeticism (\*). It symbolizes the crude personality of the Apprentice, whose edges he trims, and that is up to him to discipline, educate and subordinate to his will. It is a pity that he wants to subordinate to himself, instead of submitting to the dominion of the Holy Spirit!

•• *Rom. 7: 15-25:* “I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self [*spirit*], but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members [*flesh*]. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.”

•• *Rom. 8: 1-4:* “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”

•• *1 Cor. 9: 23-27:* “I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings. Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one. So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; but I punish my body and enslave it [*to the Holy Spirit*], so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified”

•• *Gal. 5: 22-26:* “By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and *self-control*. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.”

(\*) Hermeticism, also called Hermetism, is a doctrine connected to Gnosticism and arose in Egypt in the first century, assigned to the god Thoth, called by the Greeks Hermes Trismegistus (Hermes three times Great), linking the Eastern doctrines to Neo-Platonism. It is a secret teaching that mixes philosophy and alchemy (a chemistry sought through a secret formula to turn metals into gold). Thoth was the Egyptian god of scholarship and the moon, acting at the location of Hermopolis. Mercury, to the Romans, and Hermes, to the Greeks, was the god of speech and scholarship. Gnosticism is a philosophical-religious doctrine which arose at the beginning of our era and diversified into many sects, seeking to reconcile all religions and explain to them their

deepest meaning through gnosis (Greek: *knowledge*). Gnosticism is related to Kabbalah, Neo-Platonism and Eastern religions. Gnosis teaches esoteric and perfect knowledge of deity and that is transmitted by tradition and through rites of initiation.

**17) Tip cubic stone:** since ancient times the perfect cube symbolizes angelic beings, harmonious emotional configuration. For others, it symbolizes the human portion, where a pyramid, symbol of divinity, overlaps it. For us, what they profess is a distortion of what is the real *rock (Jesus)*. This polished stone, in fact, symbolizes the hardening of the heart to the divine work and the pride of wanting to penetrate the mysteries of God. So, we feel the hard wall in the hearts of those who practice such things, as well in the place where they are present. The Holy Spirit is prevented from flowing there. The person dies in relation to the feelings of love and the purity of the soul, so he can not know the mysteries of the kingdom of God. The spiritual arrogance prevents him from seeing the truth. Jesus said, "Let the little children, do not hinder them from coming to me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven. Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child can not enter it."

**18) The fringe lace:** for them it symbolizes the chain of union that brings together all the brothers, both those who are alive today and those who have died (*Eternal East*) and those of future generations. In fact, it symbolizes the ties between the living and the dead and between those who make pacts with all this. The blood of Jesus has the power to break the evil pacts and give us the freedom of His Spirit:

•• *2 Cor. 3: 17*: "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."

Besides, what unites us as brothers is the love of God, as Jesus said:

•• *Jn. 13: 34-35*: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

•• *Jn. 15: 10*: "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love."

•• *Jn. 15: 12-13*: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

•• *Jn. 17: 20-21*: "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me [*these are those of the future generations*] through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

•• *Jn. 17: 22-23; 26*: "The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me... I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

**19) Trowel:** is adopted by Freemasonry as a symbolic instrument with which the human mortar intended to carry out the unity is applied, just as the mason cements the various stones to form a whole that is the building. Here, what they mean is that each of them is a building, at the same time a brick that is part of a larger building that is their brotherhood. This idea came first from the mind of God:

•• *1 Cor. 3: 4-9*: "For when one says, 'I belong to Paul', and another, 'I belong to Apollos', are you not merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos

watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, *God's building*."

•• *1 Cor. 3: 16-17*: "Do you not know that *you are God's temple* and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple."

•• *Eph. 2: 19-22*: "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens [*Gentiles in the flesh*], but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure [*the Church*] is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God."

•• *Eph. 4: 1-16*: "I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, 'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people' (When it says, 'He ascended,' what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things). The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love."

•• *Rom. 15: 20-21*: "Thus I make it my ambition to proclaim the good news, not where Christ has already been named, so that I do not *build on someone else's foundation*, but as it is written, 'Those who have never been told of him shall see, and those who have never heard of him shall understand.'"

**20)** There is also the **coffin of Hiram**, the architect of Solomon's temple. It is covered by a funeral cloth, adorned with fringes of silver and decorated with a *Latin cross or crux imissa* (†). Six human skulls are seen, each accompanied by two crossed tibias. The head of the coffin carrying a triangle ornate with the letter **G** is oriented toward the West. The feet of the coffin contain the presence of the compass and square and are turned to the East. In some traditions, the West is the direction of the country of the dead. The Latin cross is a symbol of sacrifice and the branch of acacia wood, placed in the middle of the coffin, recalls the legend of Hiram, considered the Master founder of Freemasonry. The tibias (in Latin, Tibiae) draw a *crux decussata or cross of Saint Andrew* (X), for the Freemasons, a symbol of life and perfection. The myth of Hiram was created in the eighteenth century. According to the legend, the work in the temple

of Jerusalem ended, but the companions of Hiram didn't know the secrets of their master's skill. So they beat him with a stroke of a rule in the throat, of an iron square in the left side of his chest and a stroke of gavel (mallet) on the forehead, and this latter killed him. They hid the master's body and buried him at night on the edge of a forest, sticking on the grave a branch of acacia. Likewise, beginners have to die physically (throat), sentimentally (left breast) and mentally (forehead), being reborn to a new level of personal integrity. Figuratively the three killers are: 1) ignorance, 2) hypocrisy or fanaticism, 3) greed or envy. The three oppose the qualities of Hiram: knowledge, tolerance and disinterest (generosity). Acacia (or cassia) is a plant dedicated in ceremonies, grades and spirit of Freemasonry as a symbol of innocence, initiation and immortality of the soul.

For us, I think the best interpretation for all this is:

- The **coffin** and **skull** symbolize death due to the covenants that are made there, preventing the physical and spiritual life; death not only of the person who is binding to that thing, but also of his future descendants. Six is man's number, as 666 is the beast's (*Rev. 13: 18*). God is not conniving with the human wickedness because they don't bring eternal life. This kind of curse is not only valid in the case of kinship (consanguinity), i.e., hereditary curses, but also in the case of close people like a godparent with a child, for example.

- **Hiram**: is the symbol of our ability, generated by the presence of the Holy Spirit in us with His gifts. His name means *dedication, consecration*. To whom are you truly devoted, to God or the devil? He is stealing your gifts and abilities given by the Holy Spirit, and demanding your consecration to him.

- **Stroke of a rule in the throat**: means the limit to the creative word of God (Jesus was silent with all the pain He suffered on the cross so that we could have the right and the freedom of expression). The rule, as we said, besides rightness, to us is the symbol of the limit to the spiritual space given by God to man and to his physical and emotional move on earth. This means that the enemy caused in the minds of the unsuspecting, a distortion of what limit is, preventing the word of God from being released. Everything was distorted in the minds of the religious man, and the gospel has become something restrictive and prohibitive, full of human doctrines and rules preventing the free work of God. But the word of God is not chained (*2 Tim. 2: 9b*).

- **Square of iron in the left chest of Hiram**: means, in fact, the limit to love and justice of God (as was the spear that wounded the body of Jesus on His side). The compass, as we have seen, is linked to time and spirit. By limiting the opening of the compass to a maximum of 90 degrees, man is spiritually limited with regard to God's revelation (knowledge). The square is linked to space and matter. By limiting the opening of the square, man is limited in his action and in material blessings. The devil is tying you, delaying your time, your spiritual, emotional and material blessings.

- **Gavel (mallet) on the forehead and that killed Hiram** (Like the crown of thorns on Jesus' head): it means to restrain our freedom of thought. However, the bible says we have the mind of Christ, so nothing can hold His way of thinking using our minds. The gavel (mallet) and chisel mean that who sculpts and shapes us is Jesus, not men or the devil.


- **The Acacia** is a tree of many species. It was the tree that supplied the wood to the Hebrew people, the sacred and fragrant wood of Shittim, and was largely employed in the construction of the Tabernacle. Shittim was also a place of idolatry and immorality in front of Jericho, on the plains of Moab, to the east of the Jordan River. There is a prophecy in *Jl. 3: 18*: "In that day the mountains shall drip sweet wine, the hills shall flow with milk, and all the stream beds of Judah shall flow with water; a

fountain shall come forth from the house of the Lord and water the Wadi Shittim ('Valley of the Acacia').” This means that after sincere repentance, the people that were depraved before will receive the life-giving water on the Lord’s Day. The word ‘acacia’ (Shittah – Strong #7848) appears 28 times in the OT, often related to the Tabernacle: Ex. 25: 5; 10; 13; 23; 28; Ex. 26: 15; 26; 32; 37; Ex. 27: 1; 6; Ex. 30: 1; 5; Ex. 35: 7; 24; Ex. 36: 20; 31; 36; Ex. 37: 1; 4; 10; 15; 25; 28; Ex 38: 1; 6; Deut. 10: 3; Isa. 41: 19.

Acacia is a small tree or shrub of the Fabaceae family, subfamily Mimosoideae, genus Acacia. It’s a tree of the genus of tropical and subtropical legumes, having composite and small leaves and bunches of small yellow or white flowers. Depending on the climate, species can be widely used as ornamental plants.

Acacia farnesiana is a species of tree of the genus Acacia, within the Fabaceae family, known as yellow acacia. It is used by the Freemasons.

Acacia means potential and nobility. Thus, the branch of acacia on the tomb of Hiram means the potential and the nobility being killed and buried. The enemy tries to limit your potential and your nobility as a child of God and wants those features for him.

**21) Eagle:** according to some scholars, Freemasonry is eclectic in the sense of brotherly unity and mutual aid, for it unites all men who are affiliated to it as brothers without concern for race or faith. Everything indicates that there was an initial link between the Roman Catholic Church (through priests who involved with occultism) and Freemasonry, even between it and Judaism, specifically the Kabbalah. The confusion became so great to the extent of confusing the Word and the biblical authors, saying that are two different writers: John, Jesus’ disciple and evangelist, and according to them, another John, the writer of Revelation, from whom the eagle is legal property, hence the use of this animal as a symbol too. This John of Revelation, or Johannes, was the patron accepted by all Greeks Gnostics and Egyptians (Who were the first builders and masons of Solomon’s temple, just as they were previously builders of the pyramids). The symbolism of the eagle to the Egyptians was the god Ra or Atum, whose daughter Ma’ete personified truth, justice, equity and cosmic order. Ra or Atum (Sun-god) was also called Amon-Ra, perhaps a little confusion with Amon of Thebes, the ‘hidden’ god, the warrior, substitute of Mentu, who Amon won. The eagle was known as the bird of Zeus (to the Greeks) or Jupiter (for the Romans), and consecrated to the sun for all ancient people. Another god connected to Ra was Osiris, who ruled the kingdom of the dead. His wife was Isis (the same spiritual entity called Queen of Heaven or ‘goddess-mother’ to the Egyptians; Mary, for Catholics; it was used the name of the carnal mother of Jesus) and her son was Horus (represented by a hawk). According to the legend, Osiris was murdered by his brother Seth and triumphed in the person of his son Horus, his avenger. Osiris was also identified as a god of vegetation, with the annual rise of the Nile and the subsequent rebirth of life. This story inspired the funerary ritual in Egypt (to drop his dead in the Nile). Still concerning to the eagle, the Initiated Kabbalists, even among Jews, adopted it as the symbol of air. Among the Druids (ancient Gauls and Britons priests), the eagle was the symbol of the supreme deity and was connected to cherubim (Angels who are in the throne of God). It was also adopted by the Gnostics pre-Christians, before being put into the grade of the Rose Cross (also called Rose Croix and Rosy Cross)  (The seventh and last grade of French Freemasonry and which has for main symbols the pelican, the cross and the rose). As we saw in some pages ago, the Gnostics are all supporters of Gnosticism, a religious-philosophical doctrine which arose at the beginning of our era and diversified into many sects, seeking to reconcile all religions and explain to them their deepest meaning by

through gnosis (Greek: *knowledge*). Gnosticism is related to Kabbalah, Neo-Platonism and Eastern religions. Gnosis teaches esoteric and perfect knowledge of deity and that is passed on by tradition and through rites of initiation. Plato was a Greek philosopher of the fifth century BC (429-347 BC) who founded a doctrine characterized mainly by the theory of ideas and by the concern about the ethical issues, where all philosophical meditation aimed at the knowledge of good, the knowledge that suppose itself enough to the implementation of justice among states and among men. For the Freemasonry, therefore, the **eagle** represents courage, intelligence, wit and victory.

In fact, the eagle symbolizes *spirituality, renewal, majesty and ability to see far and be free*. The eagle experiences a process of physical renewal after attaining the age of forty, very similar to the work of renovation of the Holy Spirit in us. It's the bird that has the most longevity, coming to live seventy years. However, around forty years old, if it wants to continue living, it has to go through a renewal process. It begins to feel that its feathers are getting older, that its beak is no longer as sharp and strong as before, that its claws are already weakening, and then it decides to take a drastic action. This process begins with the disruption of its routine activities as its flights, its hunting and adventures. So it flies high to the cliffs. There, alone and isolated, it begins by itself, the renovation work, traumatic, and that requires much courage, but finally will give it back the power and grandeur that seemed lost. The eagle begins to pluck its feathers with its beak, one by one, until it is fully plucked and disfigured. After this, realizing that its beak is weak, powerless and full of scabs, it rubs it heavily on the rock until it is raw. Finally, are the claws and it does the same process it did with the beak, flapping its nails with violence upon the rock repeatedly until that callous and aged layer is ripped out and stays also raw. However, after this process of self-flagellation, new, beautiful and bright feathers begin to emerge; a new beak grows, claws begin to sprout with all force and it is completely renewed and revitalized. It gets a new look and descends from the heights to continue its existence. The **eagle** symbolizes he who managed to discover the greatest secret of life and went through the process of interior renewal, overcoming the *self* and achieving, finally, to get rid of the carnal yokes and burdens that prevent someone from achieving true spirituality and communion with God. The eagle doesn't cease to have its normal life as any animal, for it lives on hunting, but knows 'to go up' when it's necessary to stay above the small things. We should do the same.

John, the evangelist and writer of Revelation, when he was exiled in the Island of Patmos, already old, received revelations from the throne of God, seeing the faces of cherubim as animals, like Ezekiel, one of them being the eagle. Both writers saw the same symbolic image with the angels.

Let's go the texts:

- *Rev. 4: 5-8*: "Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures [cherubim *Ezek. 1: 1-14*], full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying **eagle**. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.'"

- *Ezek. 1: 4-14*: "As I looked, a stormy wind came out of the north: a great cloud with brightness around it and fire flashing forth continually, and in the middle of the fire, something like gleaming amber. In the middle of it was something like four living



creatures. This was their appearance: they were of human form. Each had four faces, and each of them had four wings. Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the sole of a calf's foot; and they sparkled like burnished bronze. Under their wings on their four sides they had human hands. And the four had their faces and their wings thus: their wings touched one another; each of them moved straight ahead, without turning as they moved. As for the appearance of their faces: the four had the face of a human being, the face of a lion on the right side, the face of an ox on the left side, and the face of an **eagle**; such were their faces. Their wings were spread out above; each creature had two wings, each of which touched the wing of another, while two covered their bodies. Each moved straight ahead; wherever the spirit would go, they went, without turning as they went. In the middle of the living creatures there was something that looked like burning coals of fire, like torches moving to and fro among the living creatures; the fire was bright, and lightning issued from the fire. The living creatures darted to and fro, like a flash of lightning.”

**22) Goat:** the male animal, the bull and the lamb were the animals most revered in various ages of humanity, for being owners of extraordinary fertility and adorned with horns, because the horns have always represented strength, vitality, wisdom and connection of the animal with cosmic energies. In the bible, the horn is related to *power* (*Dan. 7: 7-8; Dan. 7: 17-28; Dan. 8: 1-27; Rev. 13: 1; Rev. 13: 11*), and the animals described above, to the sacrifices made since the time of Moses (*Lev. 4: 22-26; Lev. 16: 5-10; Lev. 16: 15-28*). The link between the goat and Freemasonry is certainly the ‘order of the Templars’ and the deck of cards known as the ‘tarot’, playing card number 15, depicting the ‘goat of Mendes’, also called ‘Baphomet’, a medieval pagan idol who became the scapegoat for the condemnation to the death of the Templars at the stake by the Catholic Church, under the accusation of the French king Philip IV or Philip the fair, in 1307, which related the image of this idol to the devil. According to him, the Freemason Templars worshiped him. The name Mendes is related to Herodotus’ account that the god of Mendes, the Greek name for the Egyptian city of Djedet, was depicted with the head and fleece of a goat. Its name was Banebdjedet (literally: ‘Ba of the Lord of Djedet’). ‘Ba’ means the personality, while ‘ka’ means the vital essence, that is, what makes difference between a living being and a dead one. Thus, the oldest name still for this city was Per-Banebdjedet (‘The Domain of the Ram Lord of Djedet’), because the ram god Banebdjedet was worshiped there. It is known today as Tell El-Ruba. Djedet was the god of Egyptian mythology that represented nature. Khnum was the equivalent god in Upper Egypt.

In that city of Mendes, located in the Mendesian branch at the mouth of the Nile east of the Egyptian delta, in early modern times (1500-1800), there was a common belief that the devil was worshiped in the form of a male goat or satyr and it is said that a sacrificial cult inspired by a Kabbalist Catholic priest occurred there. The current figure of the medieval idol Baphomet was created in 1855 by the French occult Eliphas Levi [Éliphas Lévi Zahed, born Alphonse Louis Constant – 1810–1875], who conflated it with the goat of Mendes and the imagery of the satyr of the early modern times. The goat head brings together the appearance of a dog, bull and donkey. All other parts of the body have a significant meaning for the occultism and high magic. Templars = military and religious order composed by nine knights and founded in Jerusalem in 1123 by the French nobleman Hugues de Payens (1070-1136), a Grand Master (Master Mason), with the aim to protect pilgrims who went to the Holy Land, and suppressed by the Pope in 1312.

As you could see, all symbols carry a high degree of mysticism and paganism mixing concepts from Eastern religions such as Taoism (*yin / yang*), Greek and Egyptian religious influences, and even of Judaism itself distorted by Kabbalah. Search the internet for the image of all these symbols, as they are designed by Freemasonry and judge for yourself whether they transmit light and innocence.

**Which is the child of God who calls himself pastor, knowing all this, agree to go on by this crooked way and still says it's harmless?**

For some people, when we're talking about Freemasonry, initially they think of something good, in order to do good to others, or just a philosophy in which nothing embarrasses or opposes the gospel. Rather, it is **something of utmost spiritual importance for the blood pacts** made by it, **the esoteric and mystical practices** and **the covenant with money** as a way to handle the power. Wasn't there wealth in the reign of Solomon? But he got it after he had pleased God, asking Him for wisdom to govern His people. Have you noticed the tremendous confusion that Satan has caused in all ages of humanity, removing from human being his simple view of God and His word? That's why Paul said,

• *2 Cor. 11: 12-15*: "And what I do I will also continue to do, in order to deny an opportunity to those who want an opportunity to be recognized as our equals in what they boast about. For such boasters are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. And no wonder! Even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is not strange if his ministers also disguise themselves as ministers of righteousness. Their end will match their deeds."

Freemasonry, Pythagoreanism, Gnosticism, Hermetism, Platonism, Kabbalah and other eastern philosophies: they were all broken by the blood of Jesus on the cross; there, He broke the curse of idolatry, witchcraft, false doctrine and false teaching, lies, fallacies and deceptions of darkness. None of this leads to salvation or to the improvement of the soul.

Spiritually speaking, the leader of Freemasonry is Satan himself (as you could notice), not any Ruler (although other demons are worshiped there). Therefore, some ministries do not progress and the most ignorant members do not understand why they leave a church service with a 'ton of weight on the head', without feeling the move of the Holy Spirit. It is because the filthiness of sin is so great and so abhorrent to God that He does not participate in something like this:

• *Isa. 45: 19*: "I did not speak in secret, *in a land of darkness*; I did not say to the offspring of Jacob, 'Seek me in chaos.' I the Lord speak the truth, I declare what is right."

There is an intruder sitting on the throne that belongs to Him.

When an intercessor or a true prophet of God denounces those things within the congregation he often suffers because of the hypocrisy of a leader who also professes the same ideology. Although the Freemasons speak too much of generosity, it is clear the spiritual barrier of avarice and retention. It's like a stone wall to be broken. We feel a bond that seems unbreakable and something extremely repugnant to God. It's also necessary to mention the hereditary curses resulting from this type of sinful attitude in the life of the ancestors of a child of God. What kind of legacy did they leave to him? Hence, the sacrifice of Jesus came to break all this. Doesn't the bible say that He became a curse for us (*Gal. 3: 13*)? What is the use of releasing forgiveness for your ancestors, but continuing the same practice? What is the use of asking forgiveness to Jesus and remain in His House dividing your soul with the darkness? And what's worse, submitting to an authority who professes such abominations? Think, repent and decide on which side you will stay, once and for all. God needs warriors and holy priests.

The excuse of some brothers in Christ that they don't need to inform themselves about these things because they are cleansed in the blood of Jesus is similar to the attitude of an ostrich, hiding its head in the ground to avoid seeing what it doesn't want to see. The lack of spiritual knowledge inside the Church for laziness to study or lack of interest in doing God's work as it should be done only brings weakness, defeat and lack of authority over the darkness. Revival has become indispensable.

## Epilogue

Let's remember what is written in *Matt. 16: 18-19*: "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

A church that sanctifies itself has strength and spiritual revival, with authority over the enemy.

If you have consciousness of this evil work of the devil in the House of God, don't be passive, but take position as a warrior, fighting against it so that it may be cut off from among your brothers.

It is written: "Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins" (*Jam. 5: 13-20*).

Be holy and free in the name of Jesus.