

Masonic Apologetics
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I am a seventh generation Scottish-American, and as was my Grandfathers, my Father, and my Uncle, a Freemason. I am also scholar, as my past studies include Political Science, in which I hold a Bachelors degree with emphasis on History, as well as a Masters in Rabbinic Theology.

I grew up Southern Baptist and studied at the feet of many fine Christian teachers, both men and women. I was educated in Southern Baptist Colleges in the mid to late 70's, and have considered the questions of scripture even before my teenage years. I have a pondering mind and as the Father sometimes trouble the waters of the great abyss, so He also troubles the movement of my thoughts. I petitioned the Master of the Universe many years ago, for one simple gift, a portion of the wisdom He gave to Solomon. I have received that, and even in my most trying of times, it has abided with me. But with such wisdom, there also comes sorrow, the two seem to be kindred spirits, where there is one, there abides the other. This Faith of mine, I do not seek to define it, for that is impossible. In all honesty, I sometimes feel I'm the only one alive which occupies this peculiar somewhat lonely position that is, having embraced an unnamed faith not because I have refrained from religion, but rather, because religion has refrained from me. It has become more productive and expedient for me, to embrace the Name of God, by hearing his Words (His Torah), and seeking to be as obedient as I can to His teachings, which gives definition to my faith, rather to entrust my heart and mind within a "Denominational" category where it would be incumbent upon me to permit others (without question or appeal) to thrust their definition of Faith upon me. At least this way, I am not tethered to institutional dogma, or to long held traditional positions which have little chance of future review or inspection. Perhaps it is because my past scriptural training has been influenced by both Jewish and Christian sources that I find myself in this space somewhere between the two, like a referee in a boxing match. I do not consider my Personal Faith as a combination of the two, per se, but rather the logical progression of scriptural reason, when given an environment free from institutional, traditional, doctrinal restraints. I have found it much more beneficial to question God, than man. I concur that the personage which walked this earth 2,000 years ago was, and is the Messiah. However, I don't think either Christianity or Judaism has an accurate understanding of what was at the core of his ministry. In fact, I would go on record as contending that when the Messiah returns, it will be a Messiah which Christianity and Judaism will not be familiar, or expecting. How often have I hoped, if only they could get together on getting together.

But there is one place that such friendships can be developed and maintained. Where, you may ask? In a Masonic Lodge. In a Masonic Lodge, there is no quarrel over the faith of others, and outside of the Lodge, we are free to associate without fear or inquisition. Did not even Rabbi Sha'ul / Paul stand among the men of Athens (in a fraternal setting) and gave witness to them of the unknown God. In a Masonic Lodge, such toleration for opinion is one of its founding ideas. True, while Politics and Religion cannot be discussed while the Lodge is in session, anything can be discussed outside of the Lodge, and things often are. Sometimes one has to be a friend before he can be a teacher. It is quite disturbing that some seek to "Obstruct" access to our Father's Word by not permitting Freemasons to be a part of congregational settings. In my own experience, I have known the heartbreak of fabrications, of suspicion, of outright behind the back subtle attacks, and even outright prohibitions against the ordination and acceptance of a man into faith because of his Masonic affiliation. I personally will not financially support any institution which has a history/track record of anti-Masonic activity. Why should I fund any organization which is going to take my contribution and use it to indoctrinate others to obstruct access to HaShem, and 5 million other men who happen to be Masons?

The Masonic Fraternity, rich in Scotland, would become one of the most tolerant organizations in America, with respect to Jewish membership. Considering all the fraternal endeavors of men, in 1948, there was one Freemason, which fought for, and used his political cunning to insure the establishment of a new nation-state among the nations of the world; hence the nation of Israel was reborn. That Freemason was President Harry Truman. What greater honor could HaShem bestow on Freemasonry, than to select one of their own, to be an active participant in the birth of the Israeli nation? This of course added to the suspicion from a host of anti-Semitic voices who sought to gain public support by proclaiming that the Masons and Jews was conspiring to take over the world. Interesting that Hitler considered this association as well when he proclaimed that Freemasons were the stepchildren of the Jews. It was in such an atmosphere of hate and suspicion in which the Church Fathers of 325 AD (without Scriptural Support), “Institutionalized” the demonic virus of anti-Semitism, upon which the direct and indirect influence of that most singular endeavor, has since contributed to the deaths of millions. Now even some of the Messianic leadership has jumped aboard the charismatic bandwagon, and stands poised at a position in time in which they will make determinations, set precedents, which will direct the future of their doctrine and emphasis, and like the church, established teachings will become dogmatically crystallized, locked into a philosophy, which will make it very difficult to redress or grant review to the inherent evils institutionalized within it at any future time. Doing so would be an admission of guilt, as history has proved this true to this very day. But it will be their children which will bear the curse of their father’s actions and inactions, which will leave them sinking deeper into the quagmire of their own fears, without appeal or liberty of mind.

The Faith I embrace is gentle, guarding the Commandments of Elohim, and the testimony of Yeshua of Nazareth. Conspiracies may exist, but it is not at the core of my belief system. Perception is often the god which drives men to folly, for man is an estranged creature. The answers men have acquired, regardless of endeavor, have been fueled by a problematic and troubled existence, for man does not tender thought out of the quest for leisure, he thinks because he had to, problems necessitate it. Yet, we are given, one institution, one authority, one name, vested in words that emanate from a mind so vast, so inconceivable, yet so profoundly simple, we often overlook its significance in this age of modernity and the civilization.. For that Great Singularity is G_d. ***In my opinion, no mortal authority on earth, secular or Ecclesiastical, should have the right to impede or restrict any man from Hearing the Word of G_d, and acting upon it.*** However, what if the proclaimer is a Freemason? So what? If you choose to curtail the proclaimer, you quell the message, and if you silence the message, you prohibit the Ruach HaKodesh (Holy Spirit) from moving in the hearts of those the proclaimer was sent to spiritually quicken. Who is man to decide for HaShem, who he can and cannot use? Remember Oskar Schindler? The only thing which should matter to each of us, is that people hear the word of G_d, and are given the opportunity to act upon it, permit them to mature in time as their understanding increases, without wilting upon the vine of condescending attitudes, self-righteous hypocrisy, and ignorance. Restoration will bring repentance, and repentance will bring forth Reformation. In other words, the word of G_d when restored in the lives of people will bring about a sincere repentance which will lead to the reforming of the minds and hearts of men, which will most assuredly be reflected in their institutions as well, all of them including the Church.

One must understand, there is much more to the “NAME” of G_d, then just the mere pronunciation. With respect to taking in the name of G_d in vain, when this Commandment was given at Sinai, it was understood that our Father fully expected the children of Israel to take (hence carry with you) his “Name”, which suggest his teaching and authority by which they were to become a priestly nation and sow the seed (word) they had been given into the fertile soil of human enterprise. When the Word is not taken with you, you take the Name (Institution) of G_d in vain. Even today, the name of the human institutions in which we have sought learning, needs only to be mentioned to those in need of our respective services for our credibility to be established in their eyes. When we apply the knowledge we have gained from a particular institution, then in essence we have provided credibility to that institution. Do you see the connection? You might actually know, and can correctly pronounce, the holiest name on earth, but what good will it do to anyone if you do not practice your discipline, but rather hid it in the ground where no one including yourself, can prosper from it? When our Father chooses a place to establish his “Name”, he is choosing a place to erect an institution whereby teaching of Word can be maintained, and the lives of men restored to their original intent. A close reading of Matthew 7, verses 23 will lend much support to what I am trying to say:

²² "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your **name**, and in Your **name** cast out demons, and in Your **name** perform many miracles?'

²³ "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS/TORAHLESSNESS.

Who are these ones who claimed that because they did much in the “NAME” of G_d, they did not take it in vain? Perhaps they were more interested in the charismatic, sensational aspects of a faith which had nothing to do with the simple teaching of the Word of G_d. Notice, according to this passage, they were from all indications, without the Torah/Law of G_d. So then my brothers, how can we claim to fully embrace the Messiah of Israel, Yeshua of Nazareth, when we fail to embrace the substance (Word/Torah) from which that flesh was made? No man on earth should be left out in the cold, harassed, persecuted, feared, belittled, ostracized, polarized, or condemned for any issue that is common to man. Who then is at fault, one who prays to the Father, “hallowed be thy name/teachings/doctrine/authority” and concludes with “For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever..Amen” or he whose prayers end with invoking the name of Jesus, with little intention of Hearing the Word of G_d and acting upon it?

Baruch HaShem / Bless the Name!

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