

D-LIFE BOOT CAMP

Training for a lifestyle
of discipleship.



Keeping it Real

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor Dale L. Crawley Sr.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

Rev. Dr. Deborah Crawley, Teacher
Sis. Tammi Brown, Asst. Teacher

Comparing Religions and Cults

Taking a Christian Look at:

Islam	Jehovah Witness
Mormons	Masons

A Snapshot of Islam

<https://youtu.be/O9rcFduex1Q>

- ◆ Islam is a **monotheistic** religion that arose in the seventh century A.D. under the leadership of Muhammad. ("**Monotheism**" means "**belief in one God**")
- ◆ Muhammad was alleged to be the greatest of a long line of prophets that included Moses and Jesus
- ◆ "Islam" means "submission to the will of Allah"
- ◆ Allah is the God of Islam.
- ◆ **Allah is the proper pre-Islamic Arabic name for God, used even today by Arabic-speaking Christians as well as by Muslims!**
- ◆ Allah's revelation to Muhammad occurred over a 23-year period and is recorded in the Qur'an, Islam's holy book. ("**Quran**" literally means "**that which is to be read.**")
- ◆ Members of Islam are called Muslims ("those who submit").
- ◆ Islam involves both beliefs ("The Five Doctrines of Islam") and obligations ("The Five Pillars of Islam") which are summarized in this guide.

	Islam	Nation of Islam
Key Person of Founder, Date, Location	Muhammad (570-632) is the final "seal" of many prophets sent by Allah (God). The Islamic calendar began in AD 622, when Muhammad fled Mecca. Main sects: Sunni Shi'ite.	Founded by Wallace D. Fard (1891 -?) in Detroit in 1930, but led by Elijah Muhammad (1897-1975) since 1934. Current head is Louis Farrakhan (born 1933). Headquarters in Chicago, Illinois.
Key Writings	Qur'an (Koran) was revealed to Muhammad by the angel Gabriel. The	Publicly, the Holy Qur'an is authoritative and the Bible is quoted often, but

	biblical Law of Moses, Psalms of David, and Gospel of Jesus (the Injil) are accepted in the Qur'an, but Muslim scholars teach that Jews and Christians have corrupted these original revelations.	Message to the Blackman in America, Our Saviour Has Arrived, and other books by Elijah Muhammad supply its distinctive views. Current teachings are in The Final Call newspaper and speeches of Minister Farrakhan
Who is God?	God (Allah) is One. The greatest sin in Islam is <i>shirk</i> , or associating anything with God. Many Muslims think that Christians believe in three gods and are therefore guilty of <i>shirk</i> . Human attributes such as fatherhood cannot be associated with God.	Officially, there is one God, Allah, as described in the Qur'an. But Elijah Muhammad's teachings are also true: God is a black man, millions of Allahs have lived and died since creation, collectively the black race is God, and Master Fard is the Supreme Allah and Saviour.
Who is Jesus?	Jesus (<i>Isa</i> in Arabic) is one of the most respected of over 124,000 prophets sent by Allah. Jesus was sinless, born of a virgin, and a great miracle worker, but not the Son of God. His virgin birth is like Adam's creation. Jesus is not God, and God is not Jesus. He was not crucified. Jesus, not Muhammad, will return for a special role before the future judgment day, perhaps turning Christians to Islam.	Officially, Jesus is a sinless prophet of Allah. Privately, Jesus was born from adultery between Mary and Joseph, who was already married to another woman. Jesus was not crucified, but stabbed in the heart by a police officer. He is still buried in Jerusalem. Prophecies of Jesus' return refer to Master Fard, Elijah Muhammad, or to Louis Farrakhan.
Who is the Holy Spirit?	Allah has or is a spirit. Muslims reject the biblical concept of the Trinity.	The Holy Spirit is not significant to their belief, but is generally regarded as the power of God or as the angel Gabriel who spoke to the prophet Muhammad.
How to Be Saved	Humans are basically good, but fallible and need guidance. The balance between good and bad deeds determines eternal destiny in paradise or hell, Allah's mercy may tip the balances to heaven, as his will is supreme.	People sin, but are not born sinful; salvation is through submission to Allah and good works. Older beliefs still held: Fard is the saviour; salvation comes from knowledge of self and realizing that the white races are devils that displaced the black race.
What Happens After Death	Resurrection of bodies. Fear of eternal torment is a prevalent theme of the Qur'an. Paradise includes a garden populated with <i>houris</i> , maidens designed by Allah to provide sexual pleasures to righteous men.	There is no consciousness or any spiritual existence after death. Heaven and Hell are symbols. Statements about the resurrection refer to awakening "mentally dead" people by bringing them true teachings.
Other Facts, Beliefs, or Practices	Followers are called Muslims. Go to mosque for prayers, sermons, counsel. Holy efforts to spread Islam (jihad). Five pillars of Islam: Confess that Allah is the one true God and that Muhammad is his prophet. Pray five times daily facing Mecca. Give alms	Farrakhan's public messages coexist with earlier, esoteric doctrines. Elijah Muhammad's older views (such as polytheism, God as the black race, Master Fard as Allah incarnate, whites as devils bred to cause harm) are still distributed, but public preaching now

	(money). Fast during the month of Ramadan. Make pilgrimage to Mecca (once in a lifetime).	focuses on Islamic themes (one eternal God, non-racial emphasis) with frequent use of the Bible.
--	---	--

Islamic vs. Christianity cont'd

	Islam	Christianity
God	<p>1) Koran stresses that Allah is one person only.</p> <p>2) Different character: The Koran stresses that Allah only “loves” those who do good but that he does not love those who are bad. Allah himself emphasizes that he does not love the sinner. Thus, the love of Allah is not the love of the God of the Bible.</p> <p>Allah is primarily a God of power, not a God of love.</p>	<p>1) The Bible unmistakably tells us that God has revealed himself as a triune Being, as One God eternally existing in three Persons—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Mt. 28:19; Jn 1:1, 14; Acts 5:3-4. CHRISTIANS DO NOT BELIEVE IN THREE GODS!</p> <p>2) The biblical God does love the sinner—in fact, He loves all sinners. God does not love sin, but He does love the sinner: (Rom. 5:6,8,10).</p> <p>God is love (1 Jn. 4:6)</p>
Jesus	<p>1) Jesus was only one of God’s endless prophets or messengers, and not God’s only begotten Son. Muslims adamantly reject the idea that Jesus is the Son of God. (The Christian view of Jesus Christ as God’s literal Son is blasphemy to the Muslim.)</p> <p>2) Muslim deny that Christ was God incarnate. (Any Muslim who believe that Christ is God has committed “the one unforgivable sin” called shirk)</p> <p>3) Muslims do not believe that Jesus was crucified and died on the cross.</p> <p>4) Islam teaches that Muhammad was a superior prophet to Jesus because he brought God’s final revelations to man. Thus Muhammad is the last prophet and messenger of Allah.</p>	<p>1) Jesus emphatically affirmed he was the Son of God (John 3:16,18; 10:36-38)</p> <p>2) He is the Second Person of the Trinity, God incarnate—God Himself (John 1:1,14; 5:18). Jesus claimed to be both “the Lord” and “God” (John 13:13, 14:9, Jn 10:30)</p> <p>3) Jesus prophesied repeatedly that He had to go to the cross and that this was God’s direct will for Him (Matt. 16:21; Luke 18:31-33; John 12:27)</p> <p>Innumerable eyewitnesses, both Jesus’ friends and enemies, saw Jesus die on the cross, and many of His apostles and friends were eyewitnesses to His resurrection from the dead (Jn.19:23-27, 31-35)</p> <p>4) But Muslims are wrong. Jesus is far more than God’s mere messenger. Jesus Christ is God’s one and only Son (John 3:16-18).</p>

In conclusion, both the Koran and the Muslim religion are in serious error concerning their teachings on the most important man of history, Jesus Christ. Islam claims that it honors and reverences Jesus even though it rejects what the Bible teaches about Him. It **denies His divine** nature when it teaches that He **was only a servant of God**, a mere man. It **denies His mission** when it teaches that Jesus **never died**

on the cross. It denies Jesus' own teaching concerning the reason He came into the world: **"to give his life as a ransom for many"** (Matthew 20:28).

No one can deny that Muslims reject the biblical Jesus. Yet it was Jesus Himself who warned all men, "...if you do not believe that I am the one I claim to be, you will indeed die in your sins" (John 8:24).

JESUS CHRIST v. MUHAMMED

MUHAMMED (570-632 AD)

Father died before his birth
while mother died when he was six.

Sixth and final prophet sent to
defend monotheism
(Surah 48:8-9).

Married 10 women and had 2 other concubines.
In fact, his youngest wife Aisha was six when
they engaged and nine when
consummated in marriage.
(Surah 33:28)

Doubted whether the revelation he
received was divine or demonic.

Judged men and women according to
their obedience to him and Allah.
(Surah 9:5; 9:29; Persian Poet)

Won a following by military victory
and/or forced conversion.

Viewed men as superior to women.
(Surah 4:34)

Died peacefully in the arms
of his young wife Aisha.

Did not know his eternal destiny.
(Hadith 5.266)

JESUS CHRIST

Born of a virgin to Joseph and Mary

God and Savior sent to forgive the sins of
the world to anyone who will receive Him.
([John 1:29](#); [3:16](#)).

Never knew a woman.

He Himself was the divine revelation,
knowing His purpose of being born was to die.
([Luke 19:10](#))

Judged men and women according to
grace and His work on the Cross.
(Thief on the Cross)

Won followers by miracles
and unconditional love.

Viewed men and women as equal.
(Ephesians 5)

Died cruelly at the hands of
the Romans on a rugged cross.

He is the Creator and Sustainer
of the Universe, Himself Judge.
([John 1:1-18](#))

D-LIFE BOOT CAMP

Training for a lifestyle
of discipleship.



Keeping it Real

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor Dale L. Crawley Sr.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

Rev. Dr. Deborah Crawley, Teacher
Sis. Tammi Brown, Asst. Teacher

Comparing Religions and Cults

Taking a Christian Look at:

Islam	Jehovah Witness
Mormons	Masons

A Snapshot of Jehovah's Witnesses

<https://youtu.be/JmLIGeXXmLk>

† How Did Jehovah's Witnesses Begin?

- **The Watchtower Claims..** Jehovah's Witnesses claim that Christianity fell into general apostasy under Emperor Constantine in the 4th century AD. To restore pure worship in the last days, God appointed Charles Taze Russell (1852-1916), who established the Watchtower organization to provide spiritual truth for Jehovah's true worshipers through literature such as *The Watchtower and Awake!* Magazines.
- **Adventist Influence**
 - In the 1870's Russell rejected the concept of eternal torment and joined a group of "Second Adventists" who taught that the wicked do not suffer in hell, but cease to exist when they die. In 1879 Russell split from the Adventists and began publishing Zion's Watch Tower and Herald of Christ's Presence, incorporating many Adventist beliefs such as rejection of the Trinity, eternal punishment, and the immortality of the soul. Russell also declared that Christ's "invisible presence" (not physical return) began in 1874 and would end human government and restore paradise to earth by 1914. Russell shifted the date for the end of the world from 1914 to 1915 then to 1918.

Jehovah's Witnesses	
Key Person of Founder, Date, Location	Charles Taze Russell (1852-1916), later Joseph F. Rutherford (1869-1942). Began 1879 in Pennsylvania. Headquarters in Brooklyn, New York.

Key Writings	All current Watchtower publications, including the Bible (New World Translation only), Reasoning from the Scriptures, You Can Live Forever in Paradise on Earth. Watchtower and Awake! Magazines.
Who is God?	One-person God, called Jehovah. No Trinity. Jesus is the first thing Jehovah created.
Who is Jesus?	Jesus is not God. Before he lived on earth, he was Michael, the archangel. Jehovah made the universe through him. On earth he was a man who lived a perfect life. After dying on a stake (not a cross), he was resurrected as a spirit; his body was destroyed. Jesus is not coming again, he “returned” invisibly in 1914 in spirit. Very soon, he and the angels will destroy all non-Jehovah’s Witnesses.
Who is the Holy Spirit?	Impersonal “holy spirit” is not God, but rather an invisible, active force from Jehovah.
How to Be Saved	Be Baptized as Jehovah’s Witnesses. Most followers must earn everlasting life on earth by “door-to-door work.” Salvation in heaven is limited to 144,000 “anointed ones.” This number is already reached.
What Happens After Death	The 144,000 live as spirits in heaven. The rest of the righteous, “the great crowd,” live on earth, and must obey God perfectly for 1,000 years or be annihilated.
Other Facts, Beliefs, or Practices	Known as the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society. Meet in “Kingdom Halls” instead of churches. Active members encouraged to distribute literature door-to-door. Once a year, Lord’s Evening Meal (communion); only “anointed” ones may partake. Do not observe holidays or birthdays. Forbidden to vote, salute the flag, work in the military, or accept blood transfusions.

Other Claims by Jehovah’s Witnesses...

1. **God’s true name is really “Jehovah”.**
2. **The Trinity is a pagan Doctrine.**
3. **Jesus Christ is not God.**
4. **The Holy Spirit is just God’s “Active Force”.**
5. **Only 144,000 People will go to heaven.**
6. **Only Jehovah’s Witnesses will be saved.**
7. **The New World Translation is the official Bible.**
8. **The Watchtower is the Final Authority.**
9. **No Blood Transfusions.**
10. **No Holidays and Celebrations.**
11. **No Politics or War.**

D-LIFE BOOT CAMP

Training for a lifestyle of discipleship.



Keeping it Real

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor Dale L. Crawley Sr.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

Rev. Dr. Deborah Crawley, Teacher

Sis. Tammi Brown, Asst. Teacher

Comparing Religions and Cults

Taking a Christian Look at:

Islam	Jehovah Witness
Mormons	Masons

A Snapshot of Mormonism

	Mormons
Founder	Joseph Smith (1805-1844). Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) founded 1830 in New York. Headquarters in Salt Lake City, Utah.
Key Writings	<i>The Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, Pearl of Great Price</i> , the Bible (King James Version only or Smith's Inspired Version"), authoritative teachings of Mormon prophets and other LDS "general authorities."
Who is God?	God the Father was once a man, but "progressed" to godhood. He has a physical body, as does his wife (Heavenly Mother). No Trinity. Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are three separate gods. Worthy men may one day become gods themselves.
Who is Jesus?	Jesus is a separate god from the Father (Elohim). He was created as a spirit child by the Father and Mother in Heaven, and is the "elder brother" of all men and spirit beings. His body was created through sexual union between Elohim and Mary. Jesus was married. His death on the cross does not provide full atonement for all sin, but does provide everyone with resurrection.
Who is the Holy Spirit?	The "holy spirit" is different from the "Holy Ghost". The "holy spirit" is not God, but is an influence of electricity-like emanation from God (or "light of Christ").
How to Be Saved	Resurrected by grace, but saved (exalted to godhood) by works, including faithfulness to church leaders, Mormon baptism, tithing, ordination, marriage, and secret temple rituals. No eternal life without Mormon membership.
What Happens After Death	Eventually nearly everyone goes to one of three separate heavenly "kingdoms," with some achieving godhood. Apostates and murderers go to "outer darkness."
Other Facts,	No alcohol, tobacco, coffee, or tea. Baptism on behalf of the dead. Two-year missionary commitment encouraged. Door-to-door proselytizing. Secret temple

Beliefs, or Practices	rituals available only to members in good standing. Extensive social network. People of African ancestry were not granted full access to Mormon priesthood and privileges until 1978.
------------------------------	---

Witnessing to Mormons

When you have opportunity to witness to a Mormon, these tips and Scriptures should be helpful to you:

A. Some helpful hints

1. Begin with a positive witness for Christ.
2. If Mormons say they believe like you, ask them to define or explain their statements.
3. Let Mormons see your loving concern for their eternal welfare. Your attitude can often make more of an impact than your scriptural expertise.
4. Use the Bible for your study with Mormons. If challenged, consider the following response:

If Mormonism is a “restoration” of Christ’s church [as Mormonism claims], it will agree with the Bible.

B. Theological focus

1. Focus on God

- a. There is only one true God (Deut. 6:4; Isaiah 43:10; 44:5, 6, 14, 18, 21, 22; 1 Cor. 8:4-6).
- b. God was never a man (Psalm 90:2; Hosea 11:9).
- c. God is Spirit. He does not have a physical body (John 4:24; cf. Luke 24:39).
- d. God is Triune.

2. Focus on Jesus Christ

- a. Jesus is not a man who earned godhood, but God who became man (John 1:1, 14).
- b. Jesus did not come primarily to provide resurrection, but to save sinners (Mark 10:45; John 10:11, 14, 18).

3. Focus on salvation

- a. Every person is lost, alienated from God (Rom 5:12; 3:23, 26).
- b. No person can save himself (Isaiah 64:6; Gal 2:16; Eph. 2:8, 9; Titus 3:5).
- c. Salvation is a gift from God to be received by faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

4. An example of how to present the Gospel to a Mormon:

a. Ask a Mormon what he believes about God. E.g. does he accept the statement “As man is, God once was; as God is, man may become?” Or, is God a physical being? Is He married? Is there more than one God?

b. Ask “What if I could show you that the Bible does not teach what you [and the Mormon Church] believe about God?” For example, regarding the Mormon claim that there are many gods:

- (1) God Himself says that there is only one God (e.g. Isa 43:10; 44:8; 45:5).
- (2) Men may make gods out of angels, wood, stone, metal and flesh, but these are not God by nature (1 Cor. 8:4-6; Gal. 4:8), only mere counterfeits of Him Who is the Original or, as Jesus Christ put it, “the one and only God” (John 5:44).

c. If necessary, ask “What if I could show you that the Book of Mormon does not teach what you [and the Mormon Church] believe about God?” For example, regarding Mormon claims that there are many gods, that God was once a man, and that God has a physical body:

- (1) There is only one true God (Alma 11:28-29, 38-39).
- (2) God is unchanging (Mormon 9:9-11, 19; Moroni 7:22; 8:18).
- (3) God is Spirit (Alma 18:24-28, 33-34; 22:9-11).
- (4) God is Triune (2 Nephi 31:21; cf. also the last sentence of “The Testimony of Three Witnesses” in the Book of Mormon).

D-LIFE BOOT CAMP

Training for a lifestyle of discipleship.



Keeping it Real
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor Dale L. Crawley Sr.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

Rev. Dr. Deborah Crawley, Teacher

Sis. Tammi Brown, Asst. Teacher

Comparing Religions and Cults

Taking a Christian Look at:

Islam	Jehovah Witness
Mormons	Masons

17 Spiritual Errors and Dangers of Freemasonry

<https://www.apologeticsindex.org/f16.html#incompatible>

Most people who join Masonic organizations have no idea what Masonry ACTUALLY teaches. Many join for social reasons while others join for the benefits and prestige it offers. When they enter the Masonic Lodge they are faced with many symbols—all with HIDDEN meanings.

	Freemasonry Teaches	The Bible Teaches
Deity and Worship	<p>1. It's deity, the "<i>Great Architect of the Universe</i>," can be worshiped by all men, whether they be Buddhists, Christians, Muslims, or Hindus, without controversy.</p>	<p>1. Only through Jesus Christ can God be worshiped (John 14:6, 1 Timothy 2:5, 1 John 2:22, 23).</p>
	<p>2. A clue to the true identity of the Masonic Deity is given in the seventeenth degree of the Scottish Rite, or The Knights of the East and West. After the candidates have completed the initiation they are given the secret password, "Jubulum," and the Sacred Word, "Abaddon."</p>	<p>2. Revelation 9:11 teaches, "They [the demons and workers from hell] had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is <i>Abaddon</i>" (emphasis added). One must ask, "How could any true Christian dare to take that evil name as a sacred word?"</p>
	<p>3. The Freemasonry ritual, in the lower degrees, is concerned with the recovery of a lost word, presumed to be the name of God. It was supposedly lost through the murder of the architect, Hiram Abiff, during the building of Solomon's Temple. This quest is completed during</p>	<p>3. What is presented as the god of Masonry is a three-headed monster very remote from the Christian Trinity. Anyone who would dare to pronounce its name in any ritual of worship is committing great blasphemy.</p>

	the ritual of the Royal Arch Degree. It is here the secret name of the deity of Masonry is revealed. That name is Jahbulon. “Jah” is the short form of the Hebrew name of God, “Yahweh,” or “Jehovah.” “Bul” is a rendering of the name Ba’al. “On” is the term used in the Babylonian mysteries to call upon the deity “Osiris”.	
	4. They don’t acknowledge the unique Godhood of Jesus Christ, that He died for our sins, or that He rose from the dead.	4. The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ is truly God Almighty come in the flesh who died for our sins and rose again (John 1:1-14; Col. 1:15; 2:9; 1 Cor. 15:4).
	5. The name of God is associated with pagan fertility gods such as Ba’al.	5. The Bible affirms the absolute holiness, separateness, and majesty of God’s name (Exodus 20:2-7); Deuteronomy 6:4; Psalm 8:1, 29:2).
Oaths and Allegiance	6. Members must swear oaths (on a Bible, in the name of God) that involve mutilation and murder of human beings.	6. The New Testament forbids the taking of oaths (Matthew 5:34-37; James 5:12). The Bible forbids taking God’s name in vain and committing murder (Exodus 20:7, 13)
	7. Its members are linked in solemn, spiritual bondage to one another, irrespective of individual members’ creeds.	7. The Bible forbids Christians from being “unequally yoked” with unbelievers (2 Cor. 6:14-17; Rev. 18:1-4)
	8. Its “valuable” truths must be bound under the most serious of secret oaths and be available only to a very few.	8. The Bible does not allow for such secrecy (Matthew 10:26, 27; John 18:20; Acts 26:26).
	9. Members should address their leaders with titles like “Worshipful Master,” and kneel before them.	9. The Bible commands us to call no one master save Jesus (Matthew 6:24; 23:8-10) and to worship none save God (Matthew 4:10; Rev. 22:8-9)
	10. Members must be loyal and give their time, emotions, and spiritual energy to Masonry. They must contribute financially.	10. Freemasonry absorbs the loyalties, time, emotional and spiritual resources, and finances of Masons away from the God-ordained tasks of the church, such as overseas missions, evangelism, and taking care of the poor to the glory of Jesus’ name. (See Matthew 6:1-3; 28:19; Luke 6:38; 9:62; Eph. 5:15, 16; James 1:27.)
	11. Members are required to bow before the altars of strange gods. The higher order of the “Mystic Shrine,” also	11. This reveals the true nature of the Masonic god of the “Mystic Shrine.” The Bible prohibits the

	requires a blood oath of submission sworn to the Islamic deity, Allah:” ... and may Allah, the god of Arab, Moslem and Mohammedan, the God Of Our Fathers, support me to the entire fulfillment of the same, Amen, Amen, Amen.”	believer from bowing down to any other gods. It is primary among the Ten Commandments (Ex. 20:1-5).
Salvation and The Bible	12. The Holy Bible as the Word of God is no better or worse than any other holy book.	12. The Bible says it is truly the inspired Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16; Matthew 5:18; 1 Pet. 1:25; Psalm 119:89; 12:6,7; 19:7,8).
	13. Man can be saved by his own labors without faith in Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross.	13. The Bible teaches that a person can only be saved by grace, through faith in Christ (Romans 10:9, 10; Eph. 2:8,9)
	14. Members don’t need to be worried about the dangers of an everlasting hell.	14. The Bible is insistent and urgent in its warnings concerning the dangers of damnation (Matthew 13:49, 50; 25:31-46; 2 Thess. 1:7-9)
	15. A Christian Mason is forbidden to witness Jesus Christ to his fellow Lodge members who are unsaved.	15. Jesus commands His church to preach the gospel to everyone (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:15).
	16. The improvement of the natural man will, in turn, bring spiritual power.	16. The Bible teaches just the opposite (see 1 Cor. 2:14; Col 2:8). Thus Freemasonry perverts biblical truth by incorrectly guiding men by bad interpretation of vital spiritual terms (2 Pet. 3:16)
	17. Freemasonry presents a perverse form of communion that claims it is the chief [Masonic] symbol of man’s ultimate redemption and regeneration. “The fraternal supper” is of bread which nourishes, and of wine which refreshes and exhilarates symbolical of the time which is to come, when all mankind shall be one great harmonious brotherhood...And thus, in the bread we eat, and in the wine we drink tonight may enter into and form part of us the identical particles of matter that once formed parts of the material bodies called Moses, Confucius, Plato, Socrates or Jesus of Nazareth. In the truest sense, we eat and drink the bodies of the dead; and cannot say that there is a single atom of our blood or body, the ownership of which some other soul might not dispute with us.	17. The Bible clearly describes communion as a symbolic act done in remembrance of Christ’s death on Calvary for our ransom. Jesus said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves: For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them saying, “This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you’ (Luke 22:17-20). Nowhere did Jesus mention Moses, Confucius, Plato, or Socrates.

*Decker, Ed. “The Masonic Lodge, What You Need To Know”. Harvest House Publishers: Oregon. 1997

D-LIFE BOOT CAMP

Training for a lifestyle
of discipleship.



Keeping it Real

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor Dale L. Crawley Sr.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

Rev. Dr. Deborah Crawley, Teacher
Sis. Tammi Brown, Asst. Teacher

Comparing Religions and Cults

Taking a Christian Look at:

Islam	Jehovah Witness
Mormons	Masons

Dark matters in the Eastern Star

History of the Eastern Star The Order of the Eastern Star (OES) is a masonic organization that is the sister organization of the Freemasons. It boasts that it is “the largest organization upon the face of the globe to which both men and women are eligible,”¹ although the majority of its members are female. Dr. Rob Morris (1818-1888), a very well-known and very active Mason, is credited with founding the Eastern Star, but the origins of the order are also said to be “shrouded in mystery,”² just like the origins of their brothers, the Masons. Some historians for the Order state that Eastern Star’s founding pre-dates Morris, going back as far as 1730 in France, having its roots in French “Androgynous Masonry,” also known as the “Adoptive Rite.”

Morris admitted in 1852 that he borrowed the structure of the organization from the French who introduced the “Androgynous degrees” into America when they came to help out the Americans in their struggles against Great Britain during the American Revolutionary War. Morris was born Robert William Peckham and changed his name years later to Rob Morris, adopting the last name of his foster father and shortening his first name to distinguish himself from the Robert Morris who signed the Declaration of Independence.

Rob Morris had a hand in establishing the five degrees of the organization and helped it grow internationally. Eastern Star was mainly established because the wives of Masons kept complaining that the secrecy of their husbands was ruining their households since Masons could not discuss their dealings with their wives even when those husbands were putting large amounts of the money they earned to help out the Freemasons’ causes. Since the wives were essentially being robbed of funds to run their households, the men knew that the women would not put up with this indefinitely and thought it would be best to create an organization for them based on the principles of Freemasonry where they could be close partners in Mason causes. This is why females who join Eastern Star have to be related to a male Mason.

In 1868, Morris passed his mantle on to Robery Macoy, a fellow Mason, to carry on and expand the work of the Eastern Star. Macoy rearranged how the Order was run and established chapters to give more organization to the Order. He also updated the rituals. His efforts created vast growth in the membership, but the high fees he charged for all of his work for the Order made him very wealthy, much to the chagrin of some of the members.

OES's Masonic ties

There is some doublespeak that goes on with the OES. On one hand they and the Freemasons claim they are not part of the Masons,³ but on the other hand they were founded by Freemasonry with rituals written by Freemasons.⁴ The OES by their actions show that they are Masonic. A “Worthy Matron” of the OES often explains to initiates that “We are not part of the Masonic institution, yet we are connected with Masonry by intimate and tender ties.”⁵ They are also told in a ritual “Ladies, you are connected with Masonry by ties far more intimate and tender than you are aware of, or than I can even inform you of.”⁶

At OES meetings where degrees are bestowed upon a person, it is a requirement that a Master Mason or Mason of higher rank be present to be the moderator. Additionally, it is required that each Eastern Star chapter have Master Masons as their officers.

“We have seen His star in the East...”

In a false attempt to portray themselves as a Christian organization, the Eastern Star uses the motto, “We have seen His star in the East, and are come to worship Him,” which is a quote from Matthew 2:2. They claim that the name “Eastern Star” refers to the star over Bethlehem that the Magi followed to find the Christ child to worship him. However, a close look at the scripture shows this is faulty theology. First of all, we see in Matthew 2 that the Magi came from lands that were east of Bethlehem. If they were headed toward Bethlehem from their eastern Asian lands, they would be headed west, not east. This means the star of Bethlehem was to their west. When the Magi said, “We have seen his star in the East,” they meant that they were the ones in the East, speaking of what their earthly position was in reference to the star, when they saw the star to their west over Israel.

That being the case, we know that their claim of being “Christian” is unfounded and the star they embrace has nothing to do with Christ, the Lord of glory. Even Albert Mackey, a Master Mason, in his *A Manual of the Lodge* (1870, pp. 50-51) admitted that the idea of the star representing Christ was “considered as too sectarian in its character and unsuitable to the universal religion of Masonry.” So who is this star really referring to? In various Masonic publications, this star is called the hex sign, the pentalpha (i.e. pentagram), the blazing star, and the astral light. Masons such as George Oliver, Francois Ribadeau Dumas, Eliphaz Levi, Albert Pike, Henry C. Clausen, and others, in their Masonic writings say that the star symbolizes the following:

Thor: Norse god of thunder, lightning, and fertility. In Norse paganism, he carried a hammer, which was a symbol of his physical strength and phallic symbol of his romantic prowess. He was also known as the one who “presides over the air.”

The Dog Star, Sirius: An Egyptian god, also called Anubis, who was god of the Underworld and god of magic and divination.

Saturn: the Greek name for the Roman god, Chronos. He is the god of time, temptations, malediction (curses), and lord of death.

Mercury: Called Hermes by the Greeks, this Roman god was messenger of the gods and god of commerce and travel. He ushered souls of the dead to the lower world. He was also the god of incantations, astrology, magic, and necromancy.

Pan: Greek god of nature, forests, pastures, flocks. He is portrayed as a satyr, or faun, (part man, part goat) and is the god on whom Baphomet is based. Pan is also god of mischief, sexual lusts of all kind, and androgyny. It is from this god that we derive the word “panic,” which is what he caused in the mythological stories when he would scare shepherds and animals with his noises in field or forest and the feelings of fear he caused when he grabbed women, girls, and boys to sexually molest them.

These are just a few of the many deities this star represents. All of these gods are just different forms of one spiritual being—Satan himself. Yes, Satan is the god behind the OES.

...the god of this world [i.e. Satan] hath blinded the minds of them which believe not... [2 Corinthians 4:4]

References:

¹*History of the Order of the Eastern Star*, p. 37.

²*Ibid*, p. 18.

³*The Greenwood Encyclopedia of American Institutions: Fraternal Organizations* (Greenwood Press, 1980) p. 97

⁴*What? When? Where? Why? Who? in Freemasonry* (Masonic Service Association of the U.S., 1956), p. 28.

⁵F. A. Bell, *Bell's Eastern Star Ritual* (P. R. C. Publications, 1988 rev. ed.), p. 94

⁶Thomas Lowe, *Adoptive Masonry: Eastern Star Ritual* (Ezra A. Cook, 1913), pp. 20-21.

Source: Cathy Burns, *Hidden Secrets of the Eastern Star* (Mt. Carmel, PA: Sharing, 2006).

Sisters of secrecy: more facts on Eastern Star

In my previous post on the Order of the Eastern Star (OES) I briefly gave a history of the secret society, highlighted its Masonic ties, and discussed a few of the gods represented by the “Eastern Star” on which they base their name. I will now highlight the goddesses behind the Order, some of the symbols they embrace, and their Cabalistic Motto.

Embracing the goddesses

When Rob Morris was organizing the basic layout of the OES, he decided there would be five degrees, or points, and that there would be five female figures representing the Order. Originally, he chose five goddesses from ancient paganism as his five female figures, then had second thoughts about bringing pagan ideas to the forefront, possibly thinking that the majority of women would probably be turned off if the pagan ideas were the focus since most of the U.S. at the time professed Christianity. So he pulled what I would call a “Constantine” by giving his goddesses Biblical concepts or names, but keeping the symbols of the women the same as the pagan goddesses. Here they are:

1. **Jephthah’s daughter**, who Morris named **Adah**: The OES claims that she illustrates respect to the binding force of a vow. Jephthah made a vow to the Lord in Judges 11 that the first thing to greet him from his house when he returned from battle with a victory from God would be offered to the Lord. The first to greet him when he returned home from that battle was his daughter, so he kept his vow to the Lord in spite of how much it would cost him. Adah was originally the goddess **Luna**, the goddess of the moon. Luna is the “goddess with three forms” and also called Diana, Selene, Artemis, and Hecate. She is also goddess of witchcraft, sorcery, night (darkness), the lower world, and patron saint of feminists and lesbians since she perpetually shunned males. The

followers of Diana were the ones who started a riot against Paul and his companions in Acts 19 for preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ.

2. **Ruth:** She illustrates devotion to religious principles. Originally she was **Flora**, the goddess of springtime and flowers who was also called Chloris. Every year in honor of Flora, the Romans held the festival of Floralia in the spring. Floralia was much like Mardi Gras where the people participated in “merriment and licentiousness.”¹ This is a nice way to say they had drunken orgies.²
3. **Esther:** Illustrates fidelity to kindred and friends. Esther was previously **Hebe**, the goddess of youth who was cupbearer to the gods and goddess of domestic matters. The Romans called her Juventas.
4. **Martha:** Represents undeviating faith in the hour of trial. Her corresponding goddess was **Thetis** (Thesis), goddess of creation and the sea. She was mother of Achilles and dipped him in the river Styx to make him invincible. Thetis had the power to prophesy (i.e. fortune-telling) and was a shape-shifter.
5. **Electa:** This name is not in the Bible, but Morris gave this name to the woman hosting the church in her house in 2 John. The goddess who she replaced in the original plan of the Eastern Star was **Areme**, a secret goddess of the Egyptians whose name is not widely known.

Symbols

Masonic organizations like OES rely heavily on the use of symbols to hide the true meanings behind the doctrines they embrace. One Masonic publication admits, “It may be asserted in the broadest terms that the Freemason who knows nothing of our symbolism knows little of Freemasonry. He may be able to repeat every line of the ritual without an error, yet, if he does not understand the meaning of the ceremonies, the signs, the words, the emblems and figures, he is a Masonic ignoramus.”³ So here is a look at some of the symbols used by OES:

- **Broken Column:** This symbol can be traced back to ancient Egypt and symbolizes the fall of Osiris. Some depictions show Isis weeping over the column while holding a sprig of wheat in her right hand and a canopic jar in her left with Horus (Chronos, Saturn) standing behind her while she reads in a book of incantations to try to resurrect her husband. The broken column is also a phallic symbol where the column is the male member and the circular base is female genitalia. So here we see again how Masonic organizations are preoccupied with sex.
- **Pentagram:** The emblem of OES has a five-pointed upside-down star. This, of course, represents black magic, the Goat of Mendes, Baphomet, or his most popular name, Satan. They also use the right side up five-pointed star which represents white magic, the Light Bearer, or Lucifer, the other name for Satan.
- **Gavel:** Symbol of power and Thor’s hammer. Thor was the Norse god of thunder, lightning, air, and fertility. Thor was lord of the air and the Bible reveals clearly to us who that really is in Ephesians 2:2. Thor’s hammer was also a phallic symbol of the male member.
- **Equilateral Triangle:** It is used on Eastern Star badges and represents the perfection or divinity of humankind. Manly P. Hall, a 33 degree Mason, in his book *The Lost Keys of Freemasonry* (1923) states on p. 92 that “Man is a god in the making.” This idea that man can become a god is also taught by various other Masonic authors like Joseph Fort Newton, Arthur Edward Waite, and J. D. Buck. The origins of this doctrine go all the way back to the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3 when the Serpent told Eve “...ye shall be as gods...”

- **Hexagram:** Also called King Solomon’s Seal, the Star of David, this double equilateral triangle is the joining of the “Water Triangle” and “Fire Triangle.” It symbolizes contact with the dead (necromancy) and calling up devils. It is also a phallic symbol of the joining of male and female genitalia.

These are just a few of the symbols Eastern Star uses. Since they are Masonic, they also use all of the symbols promoted by Freemasonry. When the whole body of symbols is taken into account, it becomes obvious how corrupt an organization OES really is.

Cabalistic Motto

Cabala, or Kabbalah, or Qabalah, is Jewish-based theosophy (occultism). Eastern Star has a motto based on this mystic cult which appears as an acronym on their seal—FATAL. The acronym is a warning to its members about divulging their secrets but also stands for the motto, “**F**airest **A**mong **T**housands, **A**ltogether **L**ovely.” This password used in Eastern Star rituals is an offshoot of phrases found in the Song of Solomon. In Song of Solomon the man in chapter 5 was called *chiefest among ten thousand* and *altogether lovely* and he represents Christ. The phrase was used by Christians of old to express their love for Christ. The OES has given it a bastardized meaning. By reciting the motto, OES believes the initiate achieves salvation.

The phrase is used with the five women in each degree mentioned above:

- Jephthah’s daughter, because she devoted her life to preserve her father from eternal infamy, was the Fairest Among Thousands, Altogether Lovely
- Ruth, because she forsook home, friends, and all things, in a heathen land, to seek out the people of God, was the Fairest Among Thousands, Altogether Lovely
- Esther, because she offered her crown and life to preserve her people, was Fairest Among Thousands, Altogether Lovely
- Martha, because amidst all the despair of death and the woe of desolation, she preserved her faith in the Word of God, was the Fairest Among Thousands, Altogether Lovely
- Electa, because in her martyrdom for Christ’s sake she hesitated not to sacrifice all things that love can prize or friendship cherish, was the Fairest Among Thousands, Altogether Lovely⁴

So the Eastern Star has turned a phrase once used to represent Christ into a phrase to represent their initiates and have essentially pushed the Lord Jesus Christ aside to save themselves by their own works so they can become a god.

Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. [Romans 1: 21]

References:

¹ *New Larousse Encyclopedia of Mythology* (Prometheus Press, 1972) p. 210.

² Charles G. Berger, *Our Phallic Heritage* (New York: Greenwich Book Publishers, 1966) p. 78-79.

³ *Short Talk Bulletin*, “Symbolism” (March 1925, vol. 3, no. 3) p. 15.

⁴ *History of the Order of the Eastern Star* (Cedar Rapids, IA: Torch Press, 1917) p. 572.

Source: Cathy Burns, *Hidden Secrets of the Eastern Star* (Mt. Carmel, PA: Sharing, 2006).

–posted by Harry A. Gaylord–