

## **.Freemasonry**

What does our Church think in relation to people belonging to the Masonic order?

Though individual members of the Masonic order may differ in their religious beliefs, and though among its 33 degrees there are also several “Christian” degrees, Masonry as such upholds false principles which may readily be recognised as such by pondering the Bible texts here indicated:

1. Masonry requires only the belief in a Supreme Being, not in the Triune God, yet regards its members as brothers despite their differences. (Ex 20:3; Isa 42:8; Joh 17:3).
2. Masonry regards the Bible as a “holy book,” yet does not accept the Gospel of Jesus Christ and also uses non-Christian books on its altars in the Bible’s stead in countries where the Bible is not accepted. (Isa 8:20; Mk 16:16).
3. Masonry teaches salvation by human works, character, and merit rather than by grace, for Christ’s sake, through faith. (Eph 2:8,9; Tt 3:5).
4. Masonry relies on its own works and merits for an answer to its prayers, since its prayers are not offered in Jesus’ name. (Joh 14:13; 16:23-24).
5. Masonry threatens dire reprisals upon those who knowingly and wilfully violate the oaths required of its members at the time of initiation. (Ex 20:13; Mt 5:21).
6. Masonry tries to build character, but without the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which is the only means of producing God-pleasing character. (Joh 15:5; 17:17; Eph 2:10; Hb 11:6).
7. Masonry practices and promotes sinful fellowship by uniting Christians and non-Christians in a common Christ-less worship and regarding them as brothers despite their fundamental religious differences. (Rom. 16:17; 2 Cor. 6:14-18; 2 Tm 2:16-21; 2 Jn 9-10).
8. Masonry promotes only natural, not Christian love, the latter alone being acceptable to God (Mt 5:46; Gl 3:26-28; 5:6) and being found only where the Gospel of Christ is in use. (1 Jn 4:19).

The church’s task is to bear witness to the truth of God’s Word and to warn men against uniting with any group that teaches and promotes false doctrines and principles which war against their souls. No child of God can with good conscience and without sin hold membership in and support a false church, much less a Christ-less religion such as that of Masonry and similar religious lodges. They can have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but must rather reprove . them (Eph 5:11). “If the Lord be God, follow Him.” (1 Kng18:21)