

The Cult of “Christian” Antimasonry

The source for this list comes from the Christian Apologetics Research Ministry and can be found online at: <http://carm.org/cults-outline-analysis>

This is from the first section “What is a cult?” and represents a fairly standard listing of the traits of cults. I have not listed the points that are not relevant to the the discussion of “christian” antimasonry.

What is a cult?

- *Generally, it is a group that is unorthodox, esoteric, and has a devotion to a person, object, or a set of ideas.*

1. New Teaching – *has a new theology and doctrine:* Add works to grace by requiring all Masons to leave Freemasonry, often including writing letters formally withdrawing membership and other public rituals to renounce Freemasonry. Although many antimasons claim that being a Freemason has “nothing to do” with salvation status as a Christian, the constant accusations of Satanism, worshiping other gods and having another plan of salvation, as well as “invitations” to leave Freemasonry and then antimasons will “talk to us”, all show that claim to be false. As does comments that “real Christians” wouldn't be Masons. NOTE: this is a claim to know the heart of a man, which is something that God reserves only to Himself and not to any other.

- Only True Teaching – *often considers traditional religious systems to be apostate and it alone possesses the complete truth.* A small group that considers the opinion of a vastly greater number of better trained theologians and preachers who don't disapprove of Masonic membership as ignorant, deceived or actively evil. They commonly interpret the Bible in a person and private manner contrary to orthodox interpretations. This is preaching a different gospel.

- Strong Leadership – *often an individual or small but powerful leadership group holds control of the group's teachings and practices.* There are common threads, sources, claims and tactics of deceptive antimasonic teachings. This core shows up in the comments and “teachings” of all antimasons who claim to be Christian.

- Asset Acquisition – *often requires tithing and/or property transfer to the religious system.* The professional antimasons who claim to be Christian always have their books, tapes, etc. With the “really real deal on Freemasonry” available for sale. Of course, to “support their ministry”. Meanwhile, a number of Masonic sites have entire books available online for the the public at no charge. Many others can be found available for public reading at lodges and Scottish Rite reading rooms.

- Isolationist – *to facilitate control over the members physically, intellectually, financially and emotionally.* Ephesians5-11.org is a prime example with its suggested method of trickery and deceit to ambush a Mason by himself with a group to browbeat him. For example, there is a quote from the document Leading a Christian out of the lodge available on that site. In the section titled “**Don't let them know you oppose Freemasonry**”, it opens with: “Keep your intentions to witness to a Mason to yourself and your prayer group. If you don't, you may not get the opportunity to witness. Masons will not usually speak with you if they know that you hold a negative opinion about Freemasonry. The more they think you know, the less likely they are to let down their defenses and meet with you. The most common Masonic defense is silence. The most effective method is to work one-on-one with a man who has not had time to speak with other Masons about the meeting.” So, the first thing the antimason chooses to emphasize here is that you must play false and not openly declare your position, then

like a wolf working a flock, cut a “sheep” out for the “kill”. Personally, I find it repugnant when those deluded by antimasonic teachings turn children against their aged parents to harass them over this as I have personally witnessed happening repeatedly.

- *Controlling* - *exercises control over the members. Sometimes this is through fear, threatening loss of salvation if you leave the group. Sometimes through indoctrination.* Threatening loss of salvation, check. For some of the other attempts to control through fear, look up Jack Chick's antimasonic pamphlet “The Curse of Baphomet” where only a cultic ritual destruction of all Masonic related regalia can save the life of the couple's son.

- *Indoctrination* – *possesses methods to reinforce the cult's beliefs and standards where opposing views are ridiculed and often misrepresented.* Constant refrain of assertions without any proof for their views. The repetition of their position over and over and over again without dealing with logic, facts, context or even dealing with Scripture when quoted against them shows a pattern of indoctrination.

- *Apocalyptic* – *to give the members a future focus and philosophical purpose in avoiding the apocalypse or being delivered through it.* Often cited as a “sign of the times” by misusing the verses on end times deception to link to Freemasonry. Of course, the logical flaw that deception should be **increasing(!)**, which means Freemasonry should be growing, but instead, all fraternal bodies are declining in membership as the population ages and more people are dying off.

- *Experience* – *various practices including meditation, repetition of words and/or phrases and “spiritual” enlightenment with God are used as confirmation of their truth.* This one isn't closely relevant unless it falls under the “spiritual” enlightenment clause because of the number of “christian” antimasons who rely on personal testimonies of being “convicted” by some spirit, which gives them the authority to be unquestioned by all “real Christians”.

- *Persecution* – *predictions of being persecuted, often combined with claiming any opposing views demonstrated against them as a form of persecution.* Done deal, this is constant.

Many have non-verifiable belief systems

- *For example, they teach something that cannot be verified.* The best example of this remains the anonymous Mason who, contrary to what Freemasonry teaches, has decided that “Freemasonry is all the religion he needs...”. Then somehow this applies to all Masons everywhere. Freemasonry specifically instructs each member that they are to study their holy writings and attend their faith's services.

- *Often, the philosophy makes sense only if you adopt the full set of values and definitions that it teaches. With this kind of belief, truth becomes unverifiable, internalized, and easily manipulated through the philosophical systems of its inventor.* This one rings a loud and clear bell, because the first issue is the claim that Freemasonry is a religion. Now once you assume that one without proof, actually contrary to objective facts, then you can gallop along adding in all kinds of trappings of religion freely and reinterpreting everything to suit your fancy and agenda. The antimason who claims to be Christian cannot get out of the mindset of beliefs, private (and sometimes heretical) interpretations of Scripture and seriously weird conspiracy theory “logic”. This is why “christian” antimasons often fail to answer questions about their beliefs and Scriptural interpretations, because they cannot defend them except within the framework of their core antimasonic belief system.

The Leader of a Cult

- *Often charismatic and is considered very special for varying reasons.*
- *The leader has received a special revelation from God.* Very common, you can see it on many antimasonic sites, all based on testimonies about some spirit guiding them.
- *The leader claims to be appointed by God for a mission.* Well, starting up multiple ministries doesn't count, does it? /sarcasm ends
- *The leader claims to have special abilities.* Their special "word" and "leading" that teaches them things taught to Masons that Masons don't seem to remember being taught, anywhere, at any time, in any lodge.

2. *The leader is often above reproach and is not to be denied or contradicted.* Self evident by reading antimasonic material everywhere. To contradict the pronouncements of the antimason who claims to be Christian is to be branded a liar, ignorant, stupid or very evil. In any case, not "worthy" of questioning someone as exalted as the antimason.