

## **Straight Talk #15 On The Order of the Eastern Star by William J. Schnobelen, © 2010**

The Order of the Eastern Star is easily the most popular and prestigious women's fraternal order in the world. Next to Freemasonry itself, our ministry is most questioned about the Order of the Eastern Star (OES), so we will cover some background dealing specifically with the "Star" (as it is fondly called by its members). We will also examine the order in the light of the Word to see if it is indeed as Biblical as is claimed.

The Order of the Eastern Star was founded in 1868 as a women's auxiliary of sorts for the Lodge. It is open to all female relatives of Masons, and functions under the authority of the Lodge. A Master Mason, called the "Worthy Patron" MUST be present at all Star meetings. There is also usually another Mason, an "Associate Patron," present. Otherwise, all the offices are held by women.

The exact function of the OES is a bit mysterious. To ask what the Star "does," is a bit like asking what a Lodge "does." The easy answer is "Not much," beyond some charitable work in the community and giving its members a tremendous opportunity to feel puffed up about themselves. Thus, the Star does what little it does with a inordinate amount of pomp and ceremony.

Star meetings, like Lodge meetings, consist of "opening" the meeting, with a great deal of processing around, waving of rods and banners and the singing of hymns (unlike the Lodge, they are usually Christian!). The officers ritually declare their stations and functions and Grand Chapter officers are introduced and honored with tedious predictability. This can easily kill a half-hour to forty-five minutes.

Then, minutes are read, sick members are mentioned and any items of mundane business transacted, much like any other club. If members are to be initiated, that is done; and that can take at least an hour. Then the chapter is solemnly closed, with a lot more ceremonial ado; followed by a social hour. ULTIMATELY, the chief function of a Star chapter, as of a Lodge, is to make more members! Everything else is secondary to that point.

### **The Five Points of the Star**

What makes the Star unique is its *feminine* character and its use of a large five-pointed star and five women characters from the Bible as key ritual features as the initiate is led through its "Labyrinth". These five "heroines" of the Bible are Jephthah's Daughter, Ruth, Esther, Martha and Electa. As the candidate is led through the Labyrinth, each "Point" officer teaches them a pious lesson based on the life of the woman they represent.

Considering the huge amount of oath swearing in Masonry, it is instructive to note that out of the hundreds of Biblical heroines, the rather odd character of Jephthah's daughter is the first introduced. Of all the famous Biblical women, why this one?

Mason Rob Morris, who put the OES together had a grisly sense of humor, since Jephthah's daughter is featured in the Bible as an innocent virgin who was literally sacrificed because of her father's fidelity to a rash vow (**Judges 12:29-40**) *That is a perfect metaphor of what happens spiritually to women in Masonic families!*

The Star is regarded by Masonic women as a fine Christian institution within Masonry. I was an Associate Patron in a chapter and can see how this might be assumed.

Classics like "How Great Thou Art" are sung. The motto of the chapter is right out of the Bible: *"We have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him."* (**Matthew 2:2**) Two of the "points" of the "Star" are from the New Testament.

However, it was easy for my wife and I to see (as witches who had joined the OES) that these pious Bible characters were really masks for the many aspects of the Goddess of witchcraft. Casual students of the Craft of Wicca (white witchcraft) know that Wiccans worship a "threefold goddess," symbolized by the three phases of the moon: 1) Virgin - New moon, 2) Mother - Full moon, and 3) Crone - Dark moon.

However, in the third degree the Craft, we learned of two other aspects. Actually if you think about it, there are five phases to the moon: new, waxing, full, waning and dark. That would fit, since the universal symbol of Wicca is the five-pointed star (pentagram). So what are these two missing aspects?

The first is goddess as sister, and the second is the goddess of love and sexuality who has a secret name known only to third degree initiates. When my wife and I joined the OES, we instantly saw how well their "star-point" heroines fit with the goddesses of witchcraft:

- 1) Adah (Jephthah's daughter) - the **Virgin**. The Bible specifically mentions her virginity (**Jdg. 11:37**)
- 2) Esther - **Crone** - she is the only star point who was actually a queen, as befits the high station of the crone.
- 3) Ruth - the **Lover or Harlot**. Ruth was originally a pagan, a Moabitess - a people noted for their temple prostitution and child sacrifice (**Ruth 1:4**). Of course, her whole story is a romantic story of faithfulness between her and Boaz.
- 4) Martha - the **Sister**. She was Mary and Lazarus' sister.
- 5) Electa - the **Mother**. She is the only one of the five star points whom the Bible

mentions as having children (**2 John 1:1**)

Our knowledge has since been borne out by the work of the Christian scholar, Dr. Cathy Burns. She uncovered the fact that Morris, the original founder of the Star initially called his star points by these names:

- 1) Adah was Luna, another name for the virgin goddess Diana.
- 2) Esther was Hebe, the cupbearer of the gods. This is important, because in Wicca, the Crone is known as the keeper of the Cauldron of Keridwen, which is the early prototype of the Holy Grail.
- 3) Ruth was originally Flora, a goddess who was worshipped in an annual festival called the Floralia, accompanied by much nudity, debauchery and licentious behavior.
- 4) Martha was Thetis, a sea goddess (the water element -note that water's elemental color is green - Martha's color)
- 5) Electa was Areme, a mysterious goddess name about which little is known. (See endnote 1)

Thus, for all its supposed piety, the Star is actually one of the most blatant examples of satanic gall in all Masonry! The symbol of the Star is an inverted, five pointed star, known in the world of witchcraft as a pentagram. (See endnote 2)

The pentagram is regarded as a very powerful magical device, and is perhaps the best-known symbol of Witchcraft! Its association with Witchcraft is undeniable. Upside down – as it is in the OES (two points on top, one point down) - it is the most common symbol of Satanism in the world today.

The inverted pentagram is the official symbol of the two largest satanic churches, the Church of Satan and the Temple of Set. This inverted star, with the goat's head within it (called "Baphomet") is on the cover of The Satanic Bible! (See endnote 3) You can see it in satanic graffiti and ritual sites! It is also found on the albums of satanic rock groups like Venom's "Black Metal" (See endnote 4) or Slayer's album, "Hell Awaits." (See endnote 5)

The association of the pentagram (especially inverted) with witches, magic and evil, is much more ancient than the Eastern Star. (See endnote 6) The pentagram has appeared in magic texts for centuries, and may predate the time of Christ. Why does a supposedly Judeo-Christian organization have the ultimate symbol of devil worship as its logo?

In order to solve this mystery, we need to understand what the "Eastern Star," actually means. Sadly, one of the key strategies a cult uses is to play upon the common interpretation of words. They will use words and let people assume the words mean

what they mean in normal usage, when actually they do not. Dealing with any cult involves getting through a jungle of definitions.

The cult (or fraternal order) will use words which have common meanings, like "Jesus" or "saved," or well known Bible verses, but will carefully not explain to potential members that they have applied a subtext to these terms, *a second layer of meaning or even an entirely different meaning!*

This is the problem with the OES. The people who put the order together back in the 19th century relied upon the familiarity with **Matthew 2:2** as a common "Christmas verse." However, in light of the satanic symbolism involved in the OES, we need to look for another layer of meaning applied to that verse of scripture.

## **A Star in the East?**

Note first of all that the King James text does not say "eastern star." It says, "*star in the east.*" An examination of the text will reveal that we are being exposed to a verbal *scam* here. Since the wise men were from the Orient (probably Persia), the star that they saw over Bethlehem could not have appeared eastern to them, but western. (See endnote 6)

This text means the **wise men** were *in the east* when they saw the star. Then they headed west to Bethlehem! You see, there is an important reason why the OES is called Order of the Eastern Star, and sadly, it has nothing to do with Matthew 2:2!

The phrase, "Eastern Star," has a very specialized meaning in occultism. It refers to the star, Sirius (See endnote 7), which is the most important star in Satanism! It is sacred to the god, Set. (See endnote 8) Set is the evil Egyptian god (their equivalent of a devil-figure) who killed Osiris. Set is probably one of the oldest forms of Satan! The Eastern Star is the star of Set. Thus, when the OES uses **Matthew 2:2** ("We have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him"), they rely upon all these nice ladies assuming that "**his**" refers to Jesus.

However, deadly word games are being played here. Though most women involved in the OES doubtlessly assume they are worshipping "Jesus" as they kneel around a huge satanic pentagram, it is obvious that the "his" actually refers to Set's star, not the star of our Redeemer.

The heritage of Sirius is so central to Satanism that we need to examine its place in Masonry. This subject alone should be enough to expose the satanic roots of the Lodge.

## **"The Blazing Star"**

Is it just a coincidence that the inverted pentagram is used as the signet of the OES? From its monitors and authorities we learn about the profound reverence due the pentagram in Masonry. For example, in the first (Entered Apprentice) degree, of the

Lodge, we learn about Masonic "Ornaments." The new Mason is taught that:

The ornaments of a Lodge are the Mosaic pavement, the indented tessel, and the blazing star ...Divine Providence...is hieroglyphically represented by the blazing star in the center. (See endnote 9)

Thus, we see that the center of the Lodge is a "blazing star" which supposedly symbolizes Divine Providence. This shows the prominent place given the pentagram in the Lodge room.



A Masonic Short Talk Bulletin reveals that indeed, this "blazing star" is NOT by any means the star of Bethlehem. (See endnote 10) Then *which star is it??*

To answer this, we must dig yet deeper into its meaning. In Albert Pike's commentary on this degree, we find the usual duplicity found elsewhere in the Lodge. He explains:

To find in the BLAZING STAR of five points an allusion to Divine Providence is fanciful; and to make it commemorative of the Star that is said to have guided the Magi, is to give it a meaning comparatively modern. Originally, it represented **Sirius**, or the Dog-star, the forerunner of the inundation of the Nile...Then it became the image of Horus, the son of Osiris, himself symbolized also by the Sun, the author of the Seasons and the God of Time...It became the sacred and potent sign or character of the Magi, the PENTALPHA...(See endnote 11)

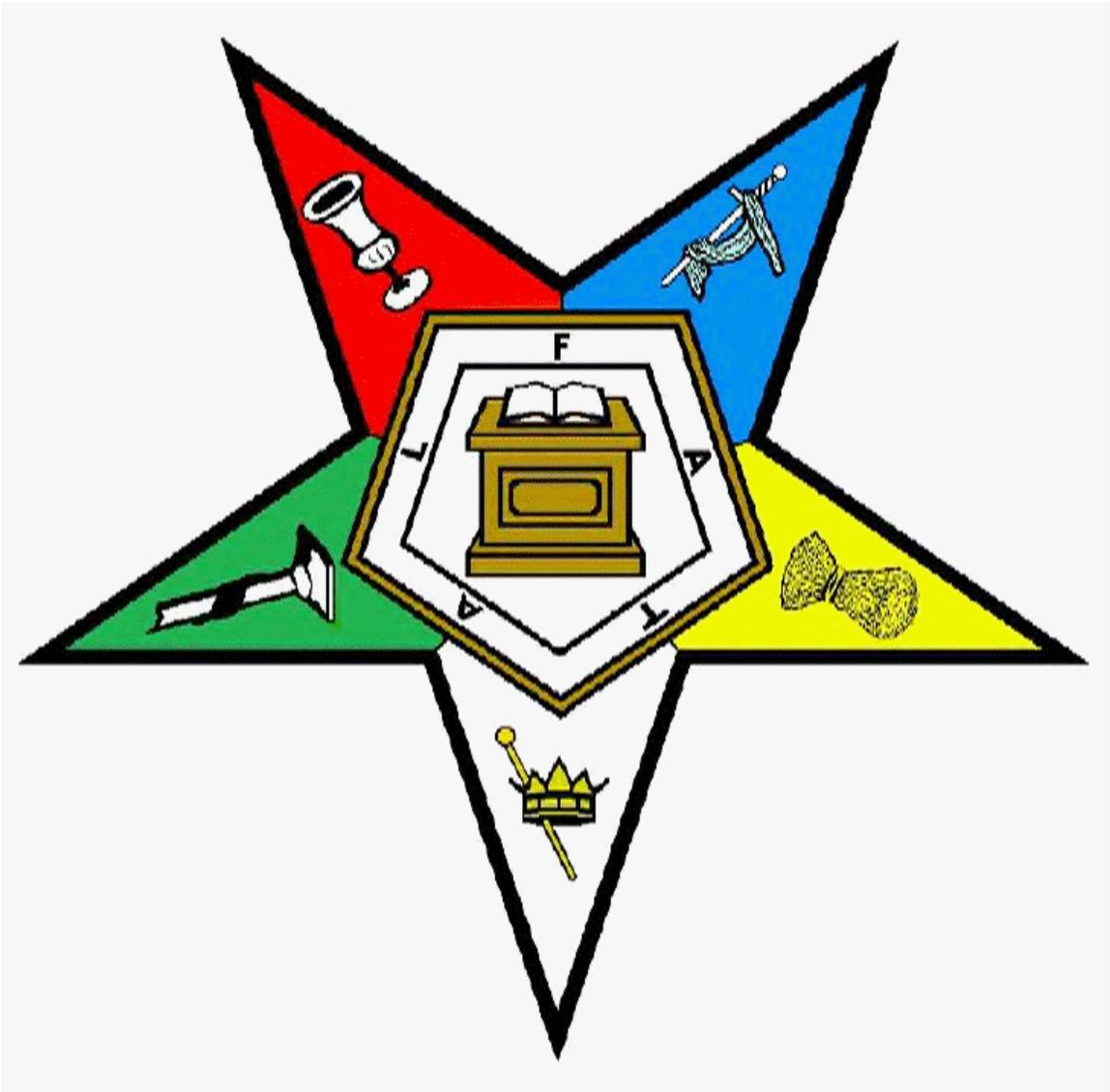
Pike readily casts aside the bland lie of the degree and confirms that the blazing star is neither Divine Providence, nor is it Matthew's "star in the east." It is an **Egyptian idol**, the symbol of Sirius!

Sirius is magically regarded as *the most dangerous star in the sky*. The Egyptian people suffered the most during its time of ascendancy. It reached its apogee in the Egyptian sky on July 23. This was the hottest, driest time of year for the civilization, when the Nile was at its lowest ebb—the Nile, upon which Egypt depended for irrigation. Thus, Sirius was a star of scorching, blasting evil. It was the most dreaded omen in the heavens - a cursed portent.

Its association with the dog or hyena, is ancient. Oddly enough, we carry in our modern language a reference to this scorched time of year. The time of great heat and humidity from mid-July to mid-August is often called the "Dog-days." The reference is to the Dog-star, Sirius.

In the light of all this, it is instructive to note that in the Worthy Matron's Handbook is a very interesting poem (the Worthy Matron is the head of the Eastern Star Chapter, rather like the Worshipful Master in Blue Lodge):

*You all know of that star of the east,  
And the story the Wise Men told;  
How it proclaimed to the world a new light,  
That bright wondrous star of old.  
We, TOO, have a star to worship,  
Giving hope and light by the way,  
If we only obey its teachings,  
And practice its precepts each day. (See endnote 12)*



The emphasis on the word "too" has been added to draw to light a very disturbing implication. The normal English sense of that phrase would be that the star that the OES worships is an entirely **different** star from that of Jesus' herald. Indeed, that is the case, as we have seen. In identifying Sirius, we have come very close to identifying the true deity of Masonry by yet another of his many masks.

### **Another Strange Coincidence**

Before we leave behind this examination of the Star's signet, there is one more oddity which needs to be revealed. As you see from the graphic above, the five pointed pentagram of the OES has five colors on those points. They are white, blue, red, green and yellow. These are reflected in the colors associated with each of the women who

occupy those star points - i.e., Martha wears green, etc.

Some might say, what of it? But what is vitally important to understand is that - by "*coincidence*" - those are the exact same colors used in ceremonial magick societies and witchcraft groups to apply to the four elements. Green is water, red is fire, blue is air and yellow is earth. But what of the white colored point? Well, white is considered by occultists and witches to represent the fusion of the four elements into something called the *Akasha*. *Akasha* is the etheric "soul-stuff" of which the higher plane of existence is composed, according to esoteric lore. This is similar to how in optics, white is made up of all the other colors.

Not only does the OES star have the right colors according to occult doctrine, but it even has them **in the right order!!** Now that is too much of a coincidence to be believed, wouldn't you agree?

Everything in witchcraft relates to those four elements and the *Akasha*. Even the application of the colors to the star point officers fits disturbingly well. For example, Red is fire, which stands in the occult for passion or love. The Star Point officer for the red point is "Electa," whose motto is "Love one another."

The Star Point officer for the yellow point (earth) is Ruth. Ruth's symbol is very earthy, a sheaf of wheat; and she herself, being a pagan Moabitess, is very "earthy" as well.

Martha is the green (water) Star Point and water is, of course, the symbol of new life and regeneration - even in the occult. Her teaching centers around the raising of Lazarus from the dead.

The "highest" color of the five is white, for *Akasha* or spirit. It seems to fit with the fact that Esther, the Star Point officer, is the only queen among the five women.

Strangely, the only color that doesn't seem to fit real well with the occult correspondence is the Blue Star Point (air) of Jephthah's daughter. Still, four out of five is a pretty BIG coincidence, wouldn't you agree?

## Spiritual Adoption

Before we go further on that point, though; we need to flag another critical problem in the Star—a reason why no Christian woman would wish to be a part of this organization. You see, the Star is known as "*Adoptive*" Masonry.

This means that mothers, daughters, wives and sisters of Freemasons are spiritually "adopted" into the Masonic order, even though they aren't actually Masons. Hence, they submit themselves to Masonry's spiritual authority.

Now, as we see, Set (Lucifer) is the acknowledged god of Masonry. Thus, what does it

mean for a Christian woman to be "adopted" into the Star? Obviously, she is submitting herself to the spiritual authority of Lucifer. She may not know this, but by bowing before the altar of the Star, the inverted pentagram of Baphomet, she has surrendered herself, however innocently, to the gods of Masonry—and this WILL give Satan an entry point into her life, no matter how devout a Christian she may be.

Remember, no Star chapter can meet without a Master Mason being present; and he brings with him, (usually without knowing it) **the priesthood of Baal or Lucifer.**

## The Sins of the Mothers?

A Christian woman is already adopted into a heavenly family (**Romans 8:15-17**), but what happens to her when she has unwittingly entered the temples of Lucifer and surrendered herself to his power? At the very least, it creates incredible inner turmoil.

She has become a member of two families, *families which are eternally at war with each other*. If she is a very strong Christian, she may be able to weather such an internal civil war; but she must understand that this conflict will be passed on down to her much more vulnerable children! (**Exodus 20:5**)

Think about it, ladies. Look at the spiritual and moral consequences of the involvement of thousands of good, Protestant women in the Star between the end of World War II and today. The children raised by those women; those born into the "Baby Boom" generation, have given themselves over to occultism, immorality, drugs, drunkenness and evil on a scale unprecedented in this nation's history! *Why?*

Why have men and women born in "good, Christian homes" between 1945 and the present been so given so many evils? Abortion runs rampant, the "hippie" drug culture almost wasted an entire generation, occultism and witchcraft are now in every bookstore. All of these horrible things can be traced, I believe at least in part; to the fact that the women who raised this generation were the first women to really give themselves with any degree of enthusiasm to the Star.

With the Star, Lucifer has driven a dagger right into the heart of American motherhood! He has taken women who would never be caught dead doing anything witchy or immoral and has beguiled them with a pious-sounding cult into worshiping the gods of child sacrifice and sexual promiscuity. Their children are reaping the grim harvest of Lucifer, or Set on those very sinful practices!

## The F.A.T.A.L. Flaw

Then there is the blasphemous "cabalistic word" which is the key secret communicated within the Star's initiation ritual. As many know, an important part of all Masonic ritual is the communication, at some point, of a secret pass or word by which one Mason may know another. This childish nonsense is carried over into the OES.

In the Star, the word communicated is "F.A.T.A.L." which are revealed to be the initials of the phrase: "Fairest Among Thousands Altogether Lovely."

Now, if you were going to pick a "secret word" for a society of women, wouldn't you think that you would come up with something a little less sinister than FATAL??

Additionally, Masonry, in all its forms, has a bad habit of doing things which take away the glory from Yah'shua the Messiah (See footnote 13). Over and over, scriptures which are Messianic prophecies (See endnote 14) in the Old Testament are ripped out of their context and applied to some Masonic character rather than Yah'shua (Jesus).

Here, in this motto, they are applying a Messianic reference to Yah'shua from the Song of Songs to themselves as Star members (**Song 5:10**). While not a precise quote, the sense is the same, especially given the current proliferation of modern "bible" perversions. (See endnote 14)

Once again, the Masonic leaders are taking verses away from Yah'shua and applying them inappropriately.

## An "Ipsissimus" Speaks

What does the "Eastern Star's" god actually represent? Dr. Michael Aquino is the leader of the Temple of Set, an elite satanic church. Aquino calls himself an "Ipsissimus," a term taken from the Golden Dawn, an influential Masonic/Rosicrucian society which served as the incubator for some of the premier magicians of this century, including S. L. Mathers, Dr. Wynn Westcott, Aleister Crowley and Arthur E. Waite. All of these men *were also high-level Freemasons!*

The title, "Ipsissimus," is the highest to which one may attain and implies that you are a god on earth. Few people take on the title, even within the egomaniacal world of Satanism. Aquino did, and he has emerged as the most articulate spokesman for the satanic movement today.

Aquino claims to have had visions of Set, and to have been anointed as a kind of "prophet" to continue the path begun by Aleister Crowley prior to the latter's death in 1947. (See endnote 15) Giving this man's credentials was necessary to show his authority to speak on the subject of Set.

Aquino has written that Set is the oldest formulation of the being now called Satan, the embodiment of the sense of alienation and loneliness which man feels from the universe. (See endnote 16) Man, Aquino claims, is in a unique state of separateness from the rest of creation and feels terribly alone. Set represents that reality of man's fractured relationship with his universe. That is a limited, but workable secular definition of "sin."

This is what the "blazing star" at the heart of every Masonic lodge represents: the Dog-star, Sirius—the symbol of Set! It represents the profound breach between man and his Creator. In short, it does represent sin. Though Aquino may not believe in sin, he has put a name to sin's pain, and that name is **Set!** This is why the pentagram, the symbol of Witchcraft, is also a prominent part of Masonry and the Order of the Eastern Star. They have the same god—Satan, or Set!

If you (or a woman you care about) are a Christian and are involved in the OES, you (or she) need to repent and get out of it immediately! The Star member needs to get on her knees and renounce her membership in the OES and send a letter at once requesting that her name be taken off the rolls. Our ministry can provide a sample of such a letter.

**Additionally, the person needs to go to YHWH in prayer and formally renounce their involvement in the OES. Pray something like this:**

*"Father, in Yah'shua's mighty name, I am sorry for my involvement with the Order of the Eastern Star and I renounce my involvement in it right now. I ask You to forgive me. In the name of Yah'shua the Messiah, my Lord, I command any evil spiritual influences which may be troubling me or my children to leave me at once, never to return. I command them to go where the Lord Yah'shua tells them to go by the voice of His Holy Spirit; in Yah'shua's name. Amen."*

Of course, if you are not a Born Again Christian, then it is even more important that you come to Christ in saving faith! It is not church membership or good works that saves us according to the Holy Bible, it is trusting in Yah'shua and His work on the cross.

**To become a Christian, you need to simply:**

**1) Acknowledge that you are imperfect, a sinner (Romans 3:23)**

**2) Repent and turn away from your sins (including the OES) (Acts 17:30)**

**3) Believe that Yah'shua (Jesus) is Almighty God, and that he died on the cross for your sins and rose from the dead to give you eternal life (Romans 10:9-10)**

**4) Through prayer, invite Yah'shua to save you from your sins and be the Lord of your life (Romans 10:13)**

**5) Renounce, in prayer to God, your involvement in the OES or other Masonic fraternities and ask Him to remove any negative spiritual influence that they may be having on your life (see above).**

**6) As soon as you can, receive water baptism by immersion.**

**Endnotes:**

1. Burns, Dr. Cathy, Hidden Secrets of the Eastern Star, Sharing Publications, 212-S E 7th St., Mt. Carmel, PA 17851, pp. 231-248. An excellent all-around book which is very comprehensive in its scope!
2. Shepherd, Leslie A., Encyclopedia of Occultism and Parapsychology, Avon Books, New York, 1980, 2, p. 552.
3. LaVey, Anton Szandor, The Satanic Bible, Avon Books, New York, 1969, front cover.
4. Godwin, Jeff, Dancing with Demons, Chick Publications, Chino, CA 1989, p. 172.
5. Ibid., p. 181.
6. Schnoebelen, William, The F.A.T.A.L. Flaw, Saints Alive in Jesus, Issaquah, WA, 1987
7. Michell, John, The City of Revelation, Ballentine Books, New York, 1972, p. 4.
8. Kenneth Grant, The Magical Revival, Samuel Weiser, New York, 1973, pp. 43-44, 65.
9. Ronayne, Edmond, Blue Lodge and Chapter, Ezra A. Cook, Chicago, n.d., pp. 87-88.
10. Short Talk Bulletin, "Blazing Star," Part 1 (March 1965, vol. 43, no. 3). p. 12.
11. Pike Albert, Morals and Dogma of and Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, pp. 14-14.
12. Watts, Charles A., Worthy Matrons' Handbook: Order of the Eastern Star, Washington DC, General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, 1988, p. 26.
13. We use the Hebrew name Yah'shua for Jesus since that is what He was named at birth and then called throughout His earthly ministry. We just do this out of respect and love for Him.
14. Messianic prophecies are those prophecies in the Old Testament that clearly point to Yah'shua as the coming Messiah in the New Testament. An example would be Isaiah 53 or Psalm 22.
15. For a closer look on the issue of the many modern Bible versions and their spiritual danger, see our Straight Talk on Bible Manuscripts, available from With One Accord.
16. Michael Aquino, The Wewelsburg Working, October 19, 1984.
17. Ibid.

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