

the Universe—or Word—and honors Him as 'the true Light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world.'"

Such doctrines, which we personally indorse, would wholly destroy the cosmopolitan idea of Masonry.

But hear the *Voice* again:—"...He who hears and obeys the voice of Masonry, also hears and obeys that of the True Shepherd, and can be, and is, a Christian. ...Each [the church and Masonry] recognizes the same True Shepherd."

We are dumbfounded that such an excellent magazine as the *Voice of Masonry* should declare such a doctrine for the symbolic lodge!

Masonry teaches a code of morals, by symbols, which, if not obeyed, the Christian and the Jew are alike unfaithful to their respective creeds. Yet the Masonic creed is no more nor less than:—1. Belief in God as the Great Architect—Creator—of the Universe, which does not interfere with the dogma of the Trinity, nor with the Jews' idea of God; for both believe that God is the Creator of all things, and the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. This trust in God is the only pre-requisite in matters of faith that Masonry requires, and which must be avowed on a postulant's first entrance to the lodge.

2. Belief in a future and eternal life is forcibly taught in the Master's Degree.

The triune manner of seeking and being admitted to a lodge; the number of principal officers; the repetition of the number three, or use of the triangle, has no "Unity in Trinity" significance. It is esteemed a sacred number. So is the number seven, which Pythagorians considered a perfect number, and which is also a sacred number in Masonic symbolism.

In the Ancient Mysteries, the three pillars (Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty,) represented the Triad of Deity. If it is true that the lodge was first

known in the time of Solomon, and that he was an English scholar, we may adopt the theory, or call it coincidence, that the initials of the Hebrew words for Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty, will spell God, if read, as Hebrews read, from right to left. But even this does not prove the Christians' idea of Trinity.

The equilateral triangle may be esteemed by the Christian as an emblem of the Trinity, as it has been venerated by Pagans and Jews of antiquity and of to-day, as a symbol of Deity. If its equal sides suggests the idea of Father, Son, and Spirit to the Christian, they as forcibly refer others to the great departments of God's creation:—Animal, vegetable, and mineral; or the three attributes of God:—Omniscient, Omnipotence, and Omnipresence.

Indeed, the figure is not used in the lodge at all; although the right-angle triangle is.

Masonry is not sectarian, but it is religion if homage to Deity with moral precepts is religion. It cannot take the place of the church to Jew or Christian, because it is not sectarian, and does not carry in its symbolism enough of religion to satisfy the cravings of the human heart, unless we accept the popular idea of the "Campbellite" (we beg pardon—Christian) church, viz.:—That the Bible is the book of doctrine or creed, and take it as "the rule and guide of faith" that each may interpret for himself.

Since the above was in type, we have received the October *Voice of Masonry*, which suggests that:—"If the *Masonic Home Journal* will turn to...the *Voice of Masonry* for April, 1889, it will find light..." and thinks it "is equally necessary for the enlightenment of the editor of the *Home Journal*," as for the anti-Masons for whom the article referred to was written.

We learn something every day, and too often forget it. We will be glad to learn from Bro. Brown, "or any