

DISCOURSE

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“Don’t let appearances fool you”

Dear Brothers,

Have you ever been misled, bamboozled, or hoodwinked we all have. Unfortunately, for us our Fraternity is a microcosm of society and we have members unworthy of our principles and morals. Yes, we have wolves in sheep’s clothing.

These individuals are across the spectrum of our Fraternity and you need to pay attention that the rhetoric matches their actions, do not be fooled by hollow deeds, but look into the intent of those actions. Are you being used for their personal gains?

Many times, you see them in our Fraternity, they are freeloading in nature they attach themselves to a working party and waltz around working in the background giving the appearance of busyness, while they are in the forefront trying to receive the credit. Again, they fool you by their appearances.

Yes, these Brothers fool many of us; regrettably, they are so skilled in the charade they play, it may take years to find them out, only to the great disappointment for having been fooled by those we trusted most as a Brother.

Yes, by now they have reached the top, they are in the leadership role and guess what they have circle the wagon and do not let anyone in. Want to know why? They are fearful you would find out they have never really done anything of substance, they have not prepared, they have no message and most important they do not want to be discovered.

The result of this deception is that we continue to wonder in the wilderness without knowing where we are and where we are going. Loosing precious time, we do not have in the struggle to bring our Fraternity back to its place of prominence among humanity.

Sorry to say that this happens more often than I care to think about, our system is flawed in the fact that many of our traditions get in the way of unmasking the hypocrisy perpetuated on this humble craft, by unworthy Brothers.

We revere our leaders with an unhealthy reverence which by our traditions and regulations we cannot touch during their term of office, leaving ourselves open to their abuse of power, not really breaking the law but not really conducting themselves as benevolent leaders, leaving a void of communication, team effort and direction.

Furthermore when their terms are over you find yourselves hamstrung by the peer pressure not to do anything in order to start a new year in harmony letting the wrong doer go scot free pretending to pursue harmony in the Lodge once again. Forgetting that evil only succeeds when good is indifferent.

On the contrary, what we need is to expose those individuals for what they are, mere charlatans that have gone through our Fraternity as false prophets, leaving nothing behind but destruction of the trust that was bestowed on their shoulders. While they used that opportunity to build monuments unto themselves, so that posterity remembers them for what others through their generosity have built for them, not because they earned it, but because it is the custom to do so.

My Brothers do not let appearances fool you. Make sure that before you place your trust in anyone, that you question the motives that you analyze their actions that you study what they have accomplished with the opportunities they have been given. Do not settle for hollowed titles that were given and never earned. The final answer will require that you read, search and discover the true answers so that appearances will not fool you again.

As Masons, we should ever be vigilant at the portal of our institution not to allow the deceivers, the hypocrites, or the freeloaders to enter into the porch of our temples. As Masons we should ever be mindful that we have them among us and that we should ever be cautions of those we promote to leadership as they may very well be one of them, do not promote until they have been tried and true.

Never let evil and malice escape the wrath of justice for the sake of Harmony, Stand up for the virtues and principles of this venerable institution. All too often we say it is better to let it go because it will bring disharmony in the Institution, when in reality by doing so you have perpetuated a worst host on the fraternity for letting wrong go unpunished or at least unmasked so that all can be aware of its face.

In closing we must be honest with ourselves and remember, that evil only succeeds where good is indifferent. This can be seen in every aspect of our society at the local, state or national level. We must promise ourselves to act and stand up to evil in whatever form it may present itself and perform our Fraternal duties, rights and privileges in a righteous and virtuous way that it may meet with our Maker's approval.

Fraternally, your humble servant

Jorge L. Aladro
Deputy Grand Master

If you would like to receive, these newsletters make request at email below if you would like to forward to your list of friends you have my permission and thank you in advance.

“My Brothers, the newsletters are intended to be thought provoking, to get you to think creatively, to get you thinking what if?, to dare you to improve yourself and your Lodge.”

Note: If you would, like to have any of these presentations made at your Lodge or District Associations feel free to call.