

PROPRIETOR OF

ELLEN G. WHITE

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Office Address:

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20012

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1627 So. Knoxville
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74112

My dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter of August 9 in which you ask "Please tell me if your members can be Masons."

Seventh-day Adventists have a high regard for the Masons. Observing members of our church have witnessed the good accomplished by this group of high level citizens.

The interest of Seventh-day Adventists are so consumed with the proclamation of what they believe to be God's last message of mercy to the world prior to the return of Jesus Christ that they must forego the pleasure of certain activities that would doubtless be good but which they do not count as of supreme importance in these last days of time.

You see, Mr. Middleton, we have a sense of urgency about us. Anyone familiar with current events knows that something great and decisive is about to take place in the world and that mankind stands today on the verge of a stupendous crisis. We feel that we have a message for these times which alerts men and women to the bright prospects of hope in the return of our Lord. This is the hope of the world.

While Seventh-day Adventists would like to cooperate with Masons in many things in which we all have common interests, we are wary of several aspects of Masonry that trouble us. 1. it is a secret society; 2. it holds to a common belief in the natural immortality of the soul which we believe is not taught in the Scriptures. The Scriptures teach conditional immortality. 3. To many good Americans and persons of other countries Masonry takes the place of the church in their thinking and in their lives. This is unfortunate for Jesus did not establish a secret society when he established His church but an open society to which all mankind is invited and there are no secret rites.

So I will leave your question open-ended insofar as the answer is concerned so that you can see why by choice Seventh-day Adventists, generally speaking, are not Masons, indeed, why perhaps none of them are Masons, though there may be a few.

W. P. BRADLEY	T. CARGICH	A. L. WHITE	D. A. DELAFIELD	PAUL GORDON
President	Vice-President	Secretary	Associate Secretary	Assistant Secretary

August 25, 1971

Again let me repeat my high regard and deep respect for the sincerity of the belief of the Masons. My father was a 32nd degree Mason. He was also a member of the Church of England, the church to which I belonged in my childhood.

With kind regards and may God bless you, I am

Sincerely in Christ's service,



D. A. Delafield, Associate Secretary

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