

T.F.S.
Three, five, and seven
3 5 7

By Ed Halpaus, Grand Lodge Education Officer.
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“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.” Aesop

MORE ABOUT OUR MASONIC OBLIGATIONS

By Dr. Stanley Shapiro,
Lodge Education Officer, Albert Pike Lodge – Hopkins, MN

We are obliged to respect our uniqueness and ourselves no more or less than our brothers. This means we may not withhold from him, or permit others to withhold from him any of the reverence, solicitude, or freedom we claim for ourselves. We may not exclude anyone from this deference because of race, creed, color, social position, economic class, or any other consideration. This is different than toleration (which is merely permitting what is not approved). I believe our Masonic duty of tolerance involves being fair toward those whose opinions, actions, or culture, are different from ours. It involves a liberal spirit toward the different views and actions of others, which can lead to a genuine respect and love for these differences in others rather than simply tolerating our differences.

There are no limits to this obligation. We cannot respect our fellow brothers excessively. We may not injure him in any fashion, humiliate him, oppress, exploit, or deprive him of anything to which he is entitled. We are not to deceive him or withhold the truth from him. Oppression may be through words or deeds. We are not to inhibit or restrain his self-fulfillment according to his inclinations, talents, and conscience.

We also have the right to expect our Brothers to behave toward us as we seek to behave toward them.

As Masons we also have this respect for all individuals, have a noble sense of generosity, and zeal in the interest of mankind, and in the advancement and progress of humanity.

From the Great Light of Masonry: “Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the LORD, since I have shewed you kindness, that ye will also shew kindness unto my father’s house, and give me a true token:” Joshua 2:12 AV

Please remember: if you would like to participate in the latest Masonic Monday Question, please go to <http://www.lodgebuilder.org> and click on the Lodge Education forum. When you have an answer send it to masonicmonday@gmail.com the Masonic Monday Question for the week of 11/29/10 is: **What passages of scripture are most appropriate for reading in Lodge?**

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“Is there any one maxim which ought to be acted upon throughout one's whole life? Surely the maxim of loving-kindness is such: Do not unto others what you would not they should do unto you.” Analects

A new Education Video has been uploaded to You Tube, it can be viewed at:
<http://www.youtube.com/glmned>

T.F.S. & Masonic Matters can also be read on Ed's Face Book page;
<http://www.facebook.com/ed.halpaus> - <http://halpaus.blogspot.com> - <http://www.mn-masons.org> - <http://sites.google.com/site/edsmasonicmatters/>

With “Brotherly Love”,
Ed Halpaus
Grand Lodge Education Officer

**Seek to mentor a Brother Mason:
It's good for him, it's good for you, and it's good for Freemasonry!**