

SCOUTING – Evans Nicholson, Choosing Truth Ministries www.ctmin.org

As a preamble to the Scouting Movement and links with Freemasonry I would like to illustrate the subtleties involved. When we think of Freemasonry, we usually think of such organizations like the Eastern Star for women, Job's Daughters for girls, DeMolay for boys and the Shriners. You have to be a Mason before you can become a Shriner. These are only a few of what we refer to as 'direct affiliations'.

There are other affiliations considered as being 'indirect affiliations' even though they are under Masonic authority. The affiliation to Freemasonry is generally subtle in most cases. Usually members of these indirect affiliations are unaware that they are under a Masonic authority. Some members may be aware of the Masonic links while others aren't. In this context we think of the Odd Fellows, Moose, Elks, Ku Klux Klan, Mafia, etc. Almost every fraternal organization has a link to Freemasonry. There are three that I will exclude. The Lions, Rotary and Kinsmen. Not because there hasn't been some Masonic influence, but because ritual, covenant relationship and oaths have been excluded as a part of membership. However, there is a danger involved in these organizations. Masons are ever present recruiting for the Masonic fraternity. In my Federal work place I know of at least one federal employee who was a Kinsmen recruited into Freemasonry by Masons who were also Kinsmen. So it also applies to the Lions and the Rotary.

Regarding the organizations linked to Freemasonry, here's one that is usually a surprise to many, the Scouting Movement. Lord Baden-Powell, the founder was a Mason. The following quote comes from Kitchen, Yvonne. Freemasonry Death In The Family. Fruitful Vine, PO Box 1112, Mountain Gate, Victoria 3156, Australia. 1997. ISBN 0-646-34807-8. Page 156 "Even the Scouts and Girl Guides have their roots in Lord Baden-Powell's Freemasonry. He was a well-known Mason in the Lodge of the Grand Orient."

Powell's Masonic affiliation is probably something that most Scout leaders are unaware of. Regarding Lord Baden-Powell, without knowing much about him as an individual, he probably was a decent person like most Masons. It's important to recognize this. Most Masons are civic-minded people with a desire to help others. Many are active in charity work and many are active in the church. God loves the Masons, but He wants them to be set free. To come into freedom into His Kingdom.

Considering the Scouting Movement, it has some tremendous activities that we can't deny. When we think of Scouts, we think of camping, tying knots, helping little old ladies across the street and their 'good deeds' motto. However, we also need to be aware of the Masonic authority and influence over the Scouting Movement. The 'good deeds' becomes 'good works' in Freemasonry. Freemasonry teaches that you can earn your way to heaven without Jesus by good works alone. This same groundwork is laid in the Scouting Movement. There is both blatant and subtle danger here.

One day I was thinking about some of the things I had done as a Cub Scout. I suddenly realized that many of the things I did as a Mason, I had done as a Cub Scout in my youth. We had a game where we were blindfolded and led around in a circle. In Freemasonry this is called circumambulation, an ancient Hindu rite of sun god worship. We had a secret handshake, a secret password and secret gestures. These things were all done in fun. They were a game to us.

On many occasions you have the Scouts doing what they do under a Masonic influence coming into a church having been given authority to operate within that church. I know of churches that have recognized the dangers involved and have Christianized the Scouting they allow into their churches. I would just ask that you pray about it to protect your children and your churches.

If we look a little deeper, we'll find some things that are more obvious. When you look at the Brownies, also founded by Lord Baden-Powell with his wife, you'll see things that shouldn't have any authority in the church.

Attached are five pages taken from a Brownie manual. The first page is titled 'How the Brownies Got Their Name'. The following are quotes from this page; "So Lord Baden-Powell thought about it and thought about it. Then he remembered the fairy tales he had read when he was a young boy. He remembered the wonderful goblins and fairies in these stories. They were called **brownies** and they did many things." "Lord Baden-Powell had found the perfect name for the new guides." This page tells us that the Brownies have a direct and an absolute identification with the spirit realm.

On the second page there is a story line where a little girl named Brooke has traveled into the forest seeking the wise Old Owl to find out how to become a brownie. She receives a rhyme, an incantation, that she repeats "...over and over: Twist me and turn me and show me an elf, I look in the water and there see myself."

The third page is titled, "Legend of the Toadstool". On this page referring to Powell it says, "He wanted them to have something special to go in the center of the Brownie Ring. He chose the Toadstool for some very special reasons." Those who are familiar with witchcraft ritual will understand the significance of this Brownie Ring and circles used in witchcraft to perform rituals within a circle. At the bottom of this page we read, "Each Brownie who lends a hand and does Good Turns for others can look into the magic pool and see herself. She can dance with joy around the Toadstool." Some major events have taken place. Each girl performing the ritual has made a verbal confession identifying herself to be an elf by looking into the magic pool. She has identified herself with the spirit realm, a realm not of God. This process occurs within a circle where according to the occult, 'the greatest concentration of spiritual forces occur.' Forces not of God.

On the fourth page we see circles again, called Circle Emblems. These are the badges or emblems that a Brownie earns to wear on her shirtsleeves. Again she identifies with the spirit realm with each emblem earned. The first emblem on this page is called a djinn, identified as being flaming spirits. Dryads identified as being tree spirits. Elves are mischievous beings. Fairies are clever and playful. Gnomes live in the earth. On the fifth page we see more of these circle emblems. Kelpies are water spirits. Lares are household spirits. There are leprechauns, nymphs, pixies and sprites called water spirits. As we recognize that these are not spirits of God or from God we understand the true nature of the spirit realm that these girls have entered into.

Most people who think of the Brownies, think of a family orientated group having fun and teaching good ethics. By thinking in those terms very few question or look beneath the surface to see the spiritual realities. In this manner many churches welcome the Brownies attempting to give their support to community outreach. When this occurs authority issues take place. The church has given authority for witchcraft to operate within its spiritual boundaries. This becomes a chink in the armor providing the devil with a foothold that he can use to increase his destructive potential within that church.

In 2001 while traveling in the prairies of western Canada, I met with a pastor in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. During the course of our time together discussion included the Scouting Movement and the Brownies. This revealed a situation in the local Baptist Church where several pastoral groups came together on a weekly basis to pray for their city. The problem was that they were experiencing a significant barrier in their prayer time. He then told me that their scheduled prayer time coincided with Brownie meetings in the basement of the Church.

The above illustrates a spiritual reality that the church opens itself to when granting authority for witchcraft to operate even though out of ignorance and with good intentions. This spiritual reality also applies to the individual. The verse from Hosea 4:6; "My people perish for a lack of knowledge" helps to also illustrate the spiritual dynamics in how a subtle deception can lead to greater levels of destruction for the church and the individuals involved.

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FREEMASONRY AND THE SCOUTING/GUIDING MOVEMENT

Some of my happy memories come from the time I spent as a Brown Owl – leading young girls into maturity and confidence. This was done through the Brownie program, which teaches about helping others, nature and games to inspire teamwork. I still think the program is excellent, but unfortunately it has a very insidious covering. The Word of God states, “come out from among them and touch not the unclean thing”. 2 Cor. 6:17

So what is the “unclean thing”? It is witchcraft through Freemasonry.

My understanding of the Masonic influence in the Guiding movement came as a result of reading a book by Ed Decker, long after I resigned from Guiding.

The book, What You Need to Know About Masons, is the story of how a preacher becomes involved in Masonry. It is written in a novel format. While reading the chapter on this young man’s initiation the Holy Spirit spoke directly to me and said, “You know this ceremony”. I asked the Holy Spirit for further revelation and He brought to mind the Brownie initiation ceremony – a rite I was very familiar with.

First the Brownie is blindfolded, then the leader escorts the candidate around the outside of the Brownie ring. She then leads her “down the garden path” (which is actually an euphemism for leading astray) to the magic pond – a mirror on the ground. The leader then turns the girl three times while saying “twist me and turn me and show me the elf – I look in the pond and I see”, at which point the blindfold is removed and the Brownie says “myself”.

She has lost her identity and aligned herself to the spirit realm as an elf. Webster’s: elf (n), a mischievous fairy...mischievous, tricky. Fairy: an imaginary being...with magic powers.

To see how this coincides with witchcraft/masonry I have lined up the points under ‘initiation ceremony’.

| <u>Brownie</u> | <u>Freemasonry</u> | <u>Witchcraft</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Blindfolded with necktie | Blindfolded | Blindfolded |
| Circumambulates ring | Circumambulates room | Circumambulates room outside |
| Led down to Toadstool | Led to altar | magic circle |
| Rhyme connecting self to spirit world | Oath displacing self | Led to altar |
| Blindfold removed to see | Blindfold removed to see the | Oath to spirit realm – Satan |
| “wisdom” in the form of an owl | three great lights of | Blindfold removed to see lights |
| on the toadstool. | Freemasonry, wisdom, beauty, strength. | of witchcraft i.e.; Lucifer – angel of light |

After reviewing the similarities between the initiation ceremonies I did further research.

The promise made is a threefold one – to god, Queen and country, although it has been changed recently to reflect the changing times.

The god of Freemasonry has a three-syllable name JAH-BUL-ON. The correlation between them is:

JAH.....JEHOVAH.....GOD
BUL.....BA’AL.....QUEEN OF HEAVEN
ON.....OSIRIS.....EGYPT OR COUNTRY

There are even greater similarities in both the younger branches Brownie/Cubs and the senior sections Scouts/Guides. Led by the Holy Spirit He showed me these:

Scouting/Guiding

Unequally yoked – all creeds Guide law #4 – a
Guide is a sister to every other guide. 2 Cor. 6:14
Work way up
Insignia (badges) given at each stage
Worn on a sash
Lanyard
Blindfold initiation
Secret handshake
Three-fold promise God, Queen, Country
Boys only – Guides Brownies added

Freemasonry

Same – all are brothers whether Christian, Hindu,
Islamic, Buddhist, etc.
Climb up
Insignia (jewels) given at each stage
Worn on sash or apron
Cabletow
Blindfold initiation
Secret handshake
Three syllable name JAH-BUL-ON
Men only – Eastern Star, Job's Daughters added

The Guiding organization has a world badge and flag – “the three leaves on the trefoil, like the three fingers held up in the guide sign, stand for the three-fold promise: the two stars signify the promise and law; in the center is the compass needle pointing the right course; the base is the heraldic flame of love, while the colors are those of the sun in a clear blue sky which is above us all.” Page 47, the True Book about Girl Guides, Author Alex Liddell, Publisher Muller #41, 1956.



On the surface this looks very innocent, but when we look deeper we can see the hidden meaning in the symbolism of this pin.

As I have shown earlier the three-fold promise represents JAH-BUL-ON, but it also represents the three levels of masonry to become a full-fledged Mason. They are the first three degrees – entered apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Mason. The two stars flank the compass just as the two pillars Jachin and Boaz flank the entry into Masonry. The compass is in the shape of an obelisk, the sign of the Egyptian sun god Osiris, a god revered in Masonry. The flame is an heraldic interpretation but leads away from God who is love. Finally the colors of blue and gold represent Osiris, the sun god over all.

The Boy Scouts also have a world pin. It has a cord around the degree like the first tracing board of the Entered Apprentice degree. It is the cord of the mystic tie. The center is the fleur-de-lis. It is interesting to note that Lord Baden-Powell was a member of the Grand Orient Lodge which has its roots in French Freemasonry – hence the fleur-de-lis. Baden-Powell lived in South Africa and that is where the first lodge to bear his name was inaugurated (#488 Victoria). He presented this lodge with a VSL (volume of sacred law) on May 12th, 1931. His son was also initiated into this lodge. Also there are at least six lodges in Australia that bear his name.



Again I reiterate that the program is excellent and has merit, however I urge you in the light of what you have read to evaluate the dangers inherent in this organization. Be aware of the many other organizations that offer healthy alternatives for our youth.

And most of all PRAY for the leaders of this organization. Like I was, they are totally unaware of the foundations and the spiritual web entangling them. PRAY for the boys and girls involved.

“He who the Son sets free, is free indeed.” John 8:34



How the Brownies Got Their Name

Lord Baden-Powell was a very famous man. He began Scouts and Guides. Although he lived in England, Scouts and Guides spread all over the world.

At first, only older girls belonged to Guides. But very soon, the younger girls wanted to join. They wanted to do all those interesting things, too. The name chosen for these new young Guides was **Rosebuds**. But the girls did not like this name. After all, rosebuds can't do anything — except maybe smell nice.

So Lord Baden-Powell thought about it and thought about it. Then he remembered the fairy tales he had read when he was a young boy. He remembered the wonderful goblins and fairies in these stories. They were called **brownies** and they did many things. They helped people in many ways. They were happy little people. And they made other people happy. Lord Baden-Powell had found the perfect name for the new Guides. Can you guess what it was? — Of course, **Brownies** was the name. And this time the girls agreed. Don't you?



WHAT IS A BROWNIE?

The trolls have hidden the answer to this question in the riddle below. But they can't trick you, can they? See how quickly you can find the answer.

A  + E is an L + f or
 little  + L who is
 hel  ful and always sm  ong

You can find the answer to this riddle on page 106.

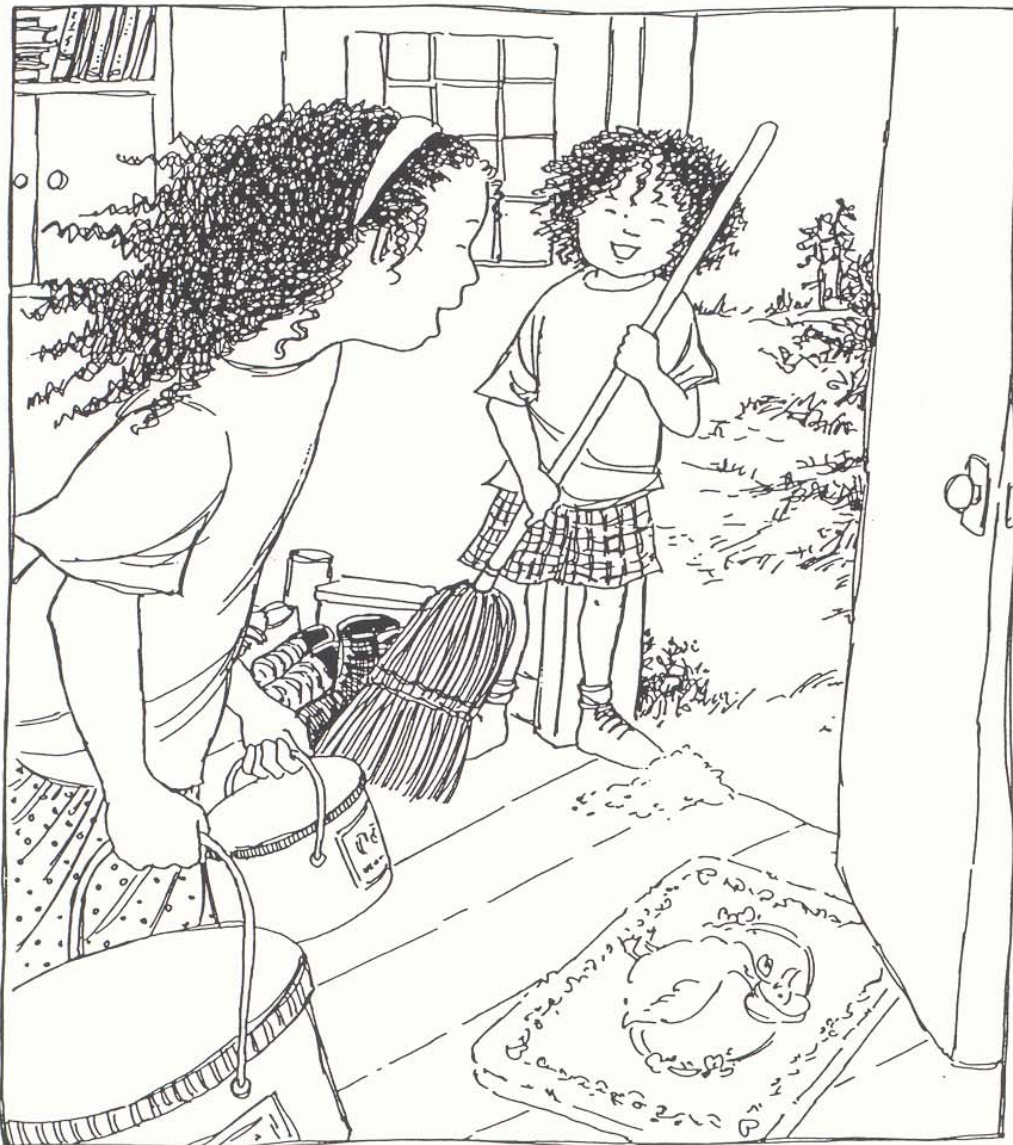
"But I'm not a brownie!" she said.

"Why not?" asked Old Owl.

"I don't help out at home or do anything for others... Oh!" slowly Brooke guessed the secret. "You are wise, Old Owl. Thank you for telling me the secret of the brownies. I must run home now and tell my sister."

Brooke rushed into the house. She found her sister and told how she had discovered the secret of the brownies. The two were so excited that they danced about the room and repeated the rhyme over and over: "Twist me and turn me and show me an elf, I look in the water and there see myself."

"We have work to do," whispered Brooke, afraid that someone would hear them.





Legend of the Toadstool

Many years ago Lord Baden-Powell suggested the name Brownies for younger girls in the Guide movement. He wanted them to have something special to go in the centre of the Brownie Ring. He chose the Toadstool for some very special reasons. Here are the reasons.

Lord Baden-Powell wanted Guiding to be strong so he laid a solid foundation, represented by the firm green grass on which all nations stand. So the grass underneath the toadstool is the foundation which unites Brownies everywhere.

On the grass stands the Toadstool. Its stem is the Promise and Law. If Brownies keep their Promise they will wear a crown of happiness. This is the cap of the Toadstool.

Brownies learn from the wise owl that sits on top of the Toadstool.

When Brownies have kept the Promise and Law and have become wise, they are ready to "Lend A Hand" to others. As Brownies help other people, friendship and happiness grow.

Each Brownie who lends a hand and does Good Turns for others can look into the magic pool and see herself. She can dance with joy around the Toadstool.

Circle Emblems

Each Circle has its own song.

DJINN

(pronounced jin)

BLUE WITH WHITE HAT

Arabic: They are transparent or flaming spirits. They do good turns for people, but also like to play tricks.



Djinn Song

*We're the Djinn who love to play;
We're good helpers every day!*

DRYADS

(pronounced drī'ads)

WHITE WITH GREEN

Greek or Roman: They are tree spirits.



Dryads' Song

*Playful Dryads strong and true,
Nature's friend in all we do.*

ELVES

BLUE

English, Norse or German: They are small mischievous beings.



Elves' Song

*This is what we do as Elves,
Think of others, not ourselves.*

FAIRIES

YELLOW

French or Roman: They are clever and playful.



Fairies' Song

*We're the Fairies shining bright,
Trying hard to do what's right.*

GNOMES

WHITE

French or Roman: They live in the earth and often guard buried treasure.



Gnomes' Song

*Here you see the laughing Gnomes,
Helping others in our homes.*

KELPIES

RED AND YELLOW
Scottish: They are
water spirits.



Kelpies' Song
*We're the happy,
friendly Kelpies,
Smart and quick
and ready helpers.*

LARES

(pronounced lah'rays)
YELLOW WITH BLUE
Roman: They are household spirits,
similar to the helpful German Brownie.



Lares' Song
*Now you watch
the Lares working,
Playing, singing,
never shirking.*

LEPRECHAUNS

RED
Irish: They are
mischievous and
often guard treasure.



Leprechauns' Song
*Happy Leprechauns are we,
Helping friends and family*

NYMPHS

BLUE
Greek, Roman or French:
They are water spirits.



Nymphs' Song
*Nymphs love water
bright and blue,
Smiling, playing, helping too.*

PIXIES

GREEN
Unknown origin: They
are playful and mischievous.



Pixies' Song
*Look! We are the jolly Pixies,
Helping people when in fixes.*

SPRITES

GREEN
French or Roman: They
are nimble, water spirits.



Sprites' Song
*Sprightly Sprites we're
on our way,
Play and laugh
and help today.*

Prayer For Breaking Curses

The following prayer has been provided by Frieda Wiebe of Abbotsford, BC. Frieda compiled this prayer from several reference materials looking for common elements to address concerns with involvement in such things as the Scouts, Brownies etc. Being a prayer that one takes to heart before our Lord, it can be expanded to include other areas of concern, confession and renunciation in time spent before our Lord.

There is one important aspect of this prayer that I would like to touch on – where it reads “...all ungodly ties with Cubs, Scouts, Brownies and the Girl Guides.” We need to be very careful on how we label and judge. We have to recognize the good things involved in our associations with these organizations, the people, the honorable intentions of these people, friends we made and all of the very good things we received through the charitable, sacrificial efforts of others. If we enter into prayer time and arbitrarily condemn these aspects we may well receive judgment upon ourselves. As an ex-Mason I have come to know that God loves the Masons. I’ve also learned that whom He loves, I’m not to condemn. We come before God to receive freedom from the ungodly aspects of these organizations, not to condemn the people who He loves and who we are instructed to reach out to in His love through His Son Jesus.

It is necessary however to commit to Biblical instruction when dealing with the ungodly elements associated with these organizations. We are not to be unequally yoked, to be separate and not to partake in the sins. In these matters God’s Word is our standard as we “honor our fathers and mothers”, repent, renounce and apply forgiveness in the manner in which we will in turn receive. God makes it clear that if we refuse to forgive, we will likewise not receive forgiveness. The motivations and condition of our heart are very important to God when we go before Him in prayer.

“Father God, I come to You in the name of Your Son Jesus Christ and in His presence I confess that He is my Lord and Saviour.

“Lord Jesus, You have called and equipped me to follow You and to do Your will.

“I ask You through Your Holy Spirit to convict me of any sin that allows Satan to oppress me in any area of my life.

“I am willing and ready to repent of anything that gives the enemy legal rights in my life.

“Lord by Your Holy Spirit, search, expose and break all legal rights, curses and schemes of the enemy.

“I ask for Your protection over myself, my family and all that I come into contact with as You deliver me from every evil influence I may have brought into my life.

“Jesus I submit to You and resist the devil with all of his schemes and evil works.

“With all of the armor provided, I take the shield of faith to quench the fiery darts of the wicked. I take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

“Your Word proclaims Satan to be a false god, an accuser of the brethren, a liar and a thief, seeking to steal, kill and destroy.

“I resist Satan and all of his works.

“Through the power of Your blood Jesus, I break all curses, hexes, vexes, spells, incantations, rituals, psychic powers and works of witchcraft sent to destroy my life, my family and ministry.

“I renounce and cancel all ungodly ties with Cubs, Scouts, Brownies and the Girl Guides.

“I resist and break all demonic powers sent here, to me or this land, by any shaman, tribal chief, religious or cult leader.

“I speak blessings in Jesus’ name on all the people of this land so that they will find freedom, joy and truth in You Lord Jesus.

(You may pause while listening to God and pray as the Holy Spirit leads you.)

“Amen”

On January 30 – February 1, 2004 Choosing Truth Ministries hosted a booth at Missions Fest in Vancouver BC, Canada. During that time we spoke with a Scout leader from one of the local churches who was concerned after viewing the contents of this article. Using church facilities he described activities which included praise and worship, along with Bible study prior to other activities related to Scouting. During the discussion we told him, ‘to keep doing what they were doing and not to stop’. This is an example of Christian outreach to the youth within the Scouting organization when it is Christ centered.