



Who was St. John the Baptist?

The firm integrity of St. John the Baptist induced him to forego every minor consideration in discharging the obligations he owed to God; he was known as among other things, the last of the prophets and the precursor to Christ, whose coming he foretold. He was ultimately beheaded. The unselfish firmness with which he met martyrdom rather than betray his duty to his Master, his steady reproof of vice and continued preaching of repentance and virtue make him a fit patron of the Masonic Institution. His festival is celebrated on the 24 th. of June.

Who was St. John the Evangelist?

One of the Apostles, born in Galilee and known for his effective preaching in Asia Minor and at Ephesus. A man of great energy and poetic fire, he became one of the patron Saints of Freemasonry, earning that distinction because of his constant cultivation of brotherly love. The constant admonition of this Apostle in his epistles, to the cultivation of brotherly love and the mystic nature of his Apocalyptic visions, sometimes similar to the mystic communications of Freemasonry, are reasons for his veneration amongst Masons, and for adopting him as a worthy patron. The day consecrated as his festival, December 27 th at High Noon is the beginning of a new Masonic Year.

Two pagan ceremonies continued to remain popular well into the third century: the summer and winter solstices. (important dates to the rural and agricultural peasantry in those times, marking not only seasons but most importantly the planting and harvesting of crops). The Church, unable to eradicate such deeply embedded pagan customs decided to take them into its bosom, following the "joining them if you can't beat them" principle and gave these dates new names: thus the St. John's day in summer and St. John's day in winter were born.

There never was a "Lodge of the Holy St. John's of Jerusalem". Symbolically though every Freemason comes from this Lodge. It symbolizes the ideal which all of us should strive to reach. Using this phrase as a starting point for our Masonic careers means that we are dedicated to the principles those men stood for. One was learned, the other zealous. Both were godly. Each had virtues that enhanced the other. Mark your calendars and commemorate accordingly.

## JUNE NOTABLES:

- 1794 Died. Bro. Robert E. Lee, prominent revolutionary era general.
- 1844 Born. Bros. Joseph and Hiram Smith, founders of the Mormon Church.
- 1845 Died. Bro. Andrew Jackson, 7 th. U.S. President.
- 1864 Born. Bro. Rawson E. Olds, auto industry pioneer (Oldsmobile brand named after him).
- 1855 Statue of Liberty arrived in NYC, sculptured by Bro. F. Bartholdi.
- 1902 Born. Bro. Burl Ives, prolific Hollywood actor.



Reproduction of ancient engraving depicting a Candidate writing in a space representing the Chamber of Reflection. In a larger sense the scene reminds the Freemason of the scope and seriousness of his life and of the attention which he should give to the manner in which he lives it.

QUOTABLE QUOTES: "live so your friends can defend you but never have to" A.Glasgow  
"when you come to the end of your rope, tie the knot and hang on" F D Roosevelt

The word Temple is derived from the Latin word "Templum". The root of this word is Temp meaning "to cut or scribe" as in template. The ancients observed flights of birds and cut or scribed their direction on the ground with sticks. Ancient seers then used these markings to get their bearings and guide their travels.

Masonic Temples similarly help their members "to get their bearings". So the word Temple does not mean a place of worship to Freemasons, but rather a place to find direction for successful living.

In days gone by, all of our Masonic buildings were prominently labeled Temples. Political correctness has now caused them to become Centers, Buildings or Lodges. Rather than explain the ancient Masonic meaning of Temple, someone just simply changed it. That person could not be a Mason since we are sworn to conform to all ancient Masonic usages, and have admitted that it is not in the power on any man to make innovations to the body of Masonry. Therefore the desecration of our "Temples" appears to be the work of the same people that demoted The Holy Ghost to the holy spirit, and changed BC & AD to BCE (before the common era) and CE (common era).

Watch carefully Brethren, the Holy Bible could soon disappear from our altars. It looks far too religious, and I'm sure the politically correct Temple desecrators certainly must have it squarely in their sights. GC Carlson in letter to Philalethes Society.

