



Greek Organizations: Fraternities and Sororities

Part 1

The Divine Nine and the National Pan-Hellenic Council

There are nine historically Black Greek letter organizations (BGLOs) that make up the [National Pan-Hellenic Council](#). Collectively, these organizations are referred to as "The Divine Nine." Each of these fraternities and sororities is rich in history - ties to one or more of these organizations may be found in many college-educated Black families in the United States.

- **Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity**, Founded 1906, Cornell University
- **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority**, Founded 1908, Howard University
- **Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity**, Founded 1911, Indiana University
- **Omega Psi Phi Fraternity**, Founded 1911, Howard University
- **Delta Sigma Theta Sorority**, Founded 1913, Howard University
- **Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity**, Founded 1914, Howard University
- **Zeta Phi Beta Sorority**, Founded 1920, Howard University
- **Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority**, Founded 1922, Butler University
- **Iota Phi Theta Fraternity**, Founded 1963, Morgan State University

National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc. - Quick Facts

Founded: May 10, 1930 at Howard University, Washington, DC.
Incorporated as a perpetual body in 1937.

Official Web Site: www.nphchq.org

National Headquarters: National Pan-Hellenic Council, Inc.
Indiana University
Memorial Hall West 111
Bloomington IN 47405



PLEDGING



Pledging Pamphlet

By: Minister Charles A. Johnson III

Thinking About Pledging? **READ THIS!**

Joining a Greek fraternity or sorority has long been a part of the social norm for college students nationwide. In fact, a lot of individuals come to college their freshman year knowing which fraternity or sorority they want to pledge before even knowing what field of study they want to major in!

Most individuals never question this practice, partially because they have a long family tradition of legacies in the fraternal orders or maybe they think, "so many people are doing it, so it can't be wrong." Whatever the reasoning, participation in these organizations frequently occurs and fascination with fraternities and sororities is very evident.

Such is also the case with Freemasonry. Masons have been credited with doing a lot of good in society. The Shriners have built hospitals for the sick and terminally ill, shelters, and have contributed so many other good deeds in public service that they would put many churches to shame.

I have nothing against doing good, however, just because good is done does not mean God approves of the vehicle doing the good. I know drug dealers and gangsters that provide financial stability for their families.

Now financial stability for families is good! But just because good is done, does not mean that God approves of the vehicle doing the good.

God surely does not approve of drug dealers and gangsters. Now I am not saying that drug dealers and gangsters are akin to being in a fraternity or sorority, so don't misunderstand me. I am only trying to make my point that just because good is done, does not mean that God approves of the vehicle doing the good.

Many professing Christians are involved in these orders. The effort of this pamphlet is to provoke thought in professing Christians concerning this issue. Should you, as a Christian, be involved in such organizations? I'm sure you asked yourself this question before you pledged if you are in an order already. So I am asking you to ask yourself this question again.

The target audience of this pamphlet is those who have not pledged and are wondering about it. This pamphlet seeks to provide you with 'insider' information that I deem necessary for you to know in order to make an intelligent decision. All of us can agree that in order for it to be an intelligent decision, it must be an informed decision with facts considered.

I, as a minister of God, have a duty to provide professing Christians with as much information as I can in regards to their spirituality. Now you may be thinking, 'What does joining these orders have to do with my spirituality?' Keep reading, you will see. I believe that you should have access to as many of the facts as possible before making a decision.

The secret orders disagree with me here. They believe that you don't need all the facts before making a decision on whether or not to join their fraternities or sororities. I know this because you don't get all the facts until **AFTER** you become a member of these organizations. This is why these organizations are sometimes referred to as 'secret societies.' Friends, it is too late to decide whether or not you want to join an organization **AFTER** you have already become a member. You have already joined!

This is particularly unfair to Christians who have to take caution how they proceed spiritually. How can you evaluate organizations that you are thinking about joining which have confidential manuals you cannot read until **AFTER** you choose to become a member? This strips the Christian of the ability to make a completely informed decision, and thus gives the Adversary all the room that he needs to set a trap.

However Christians, I am here to help you. I am sent by the Lord Jesus Christ to be a guide. I wish to provide you with some of the information contained in these confidential manuals. This way, you can make your own decision about pledging with more of the facts. This privileged information will be compared with Scripture to see if it passes God's test. If the evidence demonstrates that it does not, then you have your answer. Do not pledge, and if you have already pledged, disaffiliate yourself with anything that does not pass God's test. God's test is by Scripture alone.

That said, this pamphlet will seek to prove beyond any reasonable doubt of the logical mind that these 'secret societies' are not of God, that they are not 'Christian organizations' as some claim to be, and that they are not to be partaken of by any Christian because they violate many Scriptural principles which Christians are commanded to follow. Before I begin my presentation, know that I am always open to receive your comments, answer your questions, consider your dissent, etc. Just use the contact information on this website anytime (**UPDATED 2005**). Now reader, open the Scriptures and simultaneously open your mind. Come let us reason together.

The Swearing of Oaths

The first point that I would like to make here concerns the swearing of oaths. This is a practice required by all these fraternities and sororities as a pre-requisite prior to initiation. Let us now read the Scriptures...

"But I say unto you, **Swear not at all**; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. **But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.**" (Matthew 5:34-37 KJV)

Now read the Word of God in another place...

"But above all things, my brethren, **swear not**, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, **neither by any other oath**: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; **lest ye fall into condemnation.**" (James 5:12 KJV)

From reading the Word of God in the above two sacred texts, it can be plainly understood that Christians are not to swear oaths at all. Their communication is to be 'yes' or 'no' and not more than this. Swearing an oath is to go further than your 'yes' or 'no' and bind yourself by something you deem greater. This is clearly forbidden by the above texts. Now to go to the extreme and swear upon God's Name or by God at all demonstrates either willful disobedience of these texts or ignorance concerning the meaning of them. Now we will investigate the clandestine testimony of the orders to see how portions of the ritual compare with the Scriptures.

A Sorority's Oath

For an example, I have inserted the Charge and Pledge of Allegiance to be repeated by candidates for membership in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. The following excerpt is taken from **THE OFFICIAL RITUAL OF GRAND CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY INCORPORATED** and is confidential to the membership of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated. Ironically, on the first pages of this confidential manual in the National President's Message, it states that Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is **FOUNDED ON CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES**. Is this claim true? Well, this portion that comes from their own confidential manual will be supplied to you for your scrutiny, and determine for yourself. An excerpt from this oath reads as follows:

"I, _____, do solemnly promise in the presence of the Eternal Spirit of Truth and these finite witnesses, that I will uphold my sacred vow and pledge to Delta Sigma Theta, ever mindful that membership in Delta Sigma Theta is a lifetime commitment..."
(p. 72).

The Masonic Oath

For another example, I have inserted the oath of a Master Mason, to be repeated by the candidate for Master Mason, the third and highest degree in the Masonic Blue lodge. Also included with this vow are the first two vows that one must take for the first two degrees, first degree entered apprentice and second degree fellow-craft.

For the sake of space, the three oaths will be combined together. The Masonic lodge is admitted by some to be the "Father of all Frats," and boldly claims Biblical affiliation. Let us see if our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ condones a Christian being affiliated with the Masonic lodge and approves of the rituals and practices of the Craft. Here are exerts

from these heinous oaths. I must advise that you take heed before reading further, because the content is gory and graphic.

"All this I most solemnly and sincerely promise and swear with a firm and steadfast resolution, to keep and perform the same without any equivocation, mental reservation or secret evasion of mind whatsoever, binding myself under a no less penalty than that of having my throat cut across, my tongue torn out by its roots (1st degree), my left breast torn open, my heart plucked out (2nd degree), my body severed in twain, my bowels taken from thence and burned to ashes (3rd degree) should I ever knowingly violate this my solemn obligation as an Entered Apprentice Mason, a Fellow Craft Mason, a Master Mason"

(Taken from the confidential manual by Ronayne, Edmond. Handbook of Freemasonry, 1943. Chicago: Powne Co. 1973).

Is this Christian? No, this practice is undoubtedly of the Devil. Swearing an oath giving permission to defile and destroy the body, which is supposed to be the temple of the Holy Ghost! (*1 Corinthians 3:16-19*). Dear reader, such blasphemy and disregard for the Words of Jesus Christ and the Apostle should be shunned, forsaken, and renounced by any who profess Christianity. The Scripture also speaks on this wise, when it says '*Let every one that names the Name of Christ depart from iniquity (2 Timothy 2:19 KJV)*'

Would Jesus Christ approve of such a heinous blood oath?

A Mason may say to you that those words are "just symbolic." Although history has not always verified their account, because several who have left the Lodge and/or turned against it have turned up 'missing,' this statement being "just symbolic" doesn't matter. The Bible teaches that **EVERY IDLE WORD THAT MEN SHALL SPEAK, THEY SHALL GIVE ACCOUNT OF IN THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT!**

"But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."
(Matthew 12:36-37 KJV)

Heinous blood oaths such as these mentioned above are also taken to gain membership in the female branches of Freemasonry. These include, among others, the *Order of the Eastern Star* and the *Heroines of Jericho*. These will be discussed in more detail by contacting me personally by my contact information supplied on this website, because I have access to other confidential manuals that are not discussed here.

HAZING

The pledging process often involves hazing. Hazing that is physical in nature has been reported against these organizations for decades. These cases have been settled in and out of court and in some cases not settled or solved at all. Most times the members of the orders attempt to cover up and conceal these happenings.

This hazing of the physical type could include, but is by no means limited to, punching, kicking, hitting with objects, paddling, choking, forcing to drink large quantities of alcohol and/or doing drugs, forcing unwanted sexual engagement, etc. Several pledges have died over the years due to injuries incurred while trying to join the orders.

The most under reported aspect of hazing is psychological in nature. 'Proving yourself' to the society by allowing the members to use and abuse you psychologically is just as wrong as allowing the members to use and abuse you physically. Unfortunately, many endure the psychological hazing because they don't equate it with the physical hazing. Christians however, should see no difference. Enduring bitterness, profanity, and other means of psychological abuse at the hands of sinners for the sake of entering any of their societies should not be tolerated by any Christian and should be an immediate sign that the Lord is not in this process and does not approve.

Some of the members in these orders deny that hazing takes place. These individuals are intentionally deceitful and are not interested in the Truth. These would say anything to cast the order in the best possible light, which is part of the 'loyalty' they expressed before God when they swore their oaths. So such an answer should not be trusted. If they are honest, they will admit that hazing does take place and has been a part of initiation into fraternal orders since their founding.

Now some of the members will say that they themselves were not hit, and it depends on where you pledge as to whether or not physical hazing takes place. I don't doubt that this can be sincere, but what about the psychological hazing? It is

no less hazing than physical hazing, and for Christians to submit themselves to psychological hazing is no less wrong than for Christians to submit themselves to physical hazing.

Keep in mind reader, that just because the members deny it doesn't mean that it does not happen. Many of these individuals will lie and intentionally skew the Truth in order to preserve the reputation of their order. I have had many professing Christians come to me in counsel and confess that their Greek lettered fraternity or sorority hazed them. Several of these were in tears and torments. Many of these did not even make the 'cut,' and got beat for nothing and endured the mind games for nothing!

Let me now say this to members of fraternal orders who haze God's People, whether it is physical abuse or mental abuse. God is going to judge you who physically harm that which belongs to Him! God is going to judge you who psychologically harm, harass, and torment that which belongs to Him! May the Lord have mercy on you when you are judged!

You think that what you have done is hidden? No, I tell you, no indeed! For the eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good. (*Proverbs 15:3 KJV*)

Jesus can and will expose you. He said that there is nothing hid that shall not be known (*Luke 12:2 KJV*).

Therefore whatever you have spoken in the darkness shall be heard in the light, and whatever you have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops (*Luke 12:3 KJV*). If you are hazing (physically or psychologically) any pledge and especially a Christian pledge, you need to repent now and forsake that wickedness.

This hazing is not 'officially endorsed' by 'national headquarters,' but yet allowed to continue on the majority of college campuses. It must be reported! It must stop!

Many souls are hurting because of this hazing madness. I can tell you this, brotherhood and sisterhood is not supposed to feel like that. Many of the victims are afraid to come forward, but a few brave souls are demanding that these organizations be held accountable. God will judge.