

Can You Be a Christian *and* Greek?:
An in-depth analysis of Black Greek Letter Organizations
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INTRODUCTION:

Let me first emphasize that this paper serves solely to present the facts of Greek letter organizations as they relate to Biblical teachings and NOT to judge anyone or condemn any individual. The exploration of this issue is based exclusively from the ***actual*** ritual books of ALL nine recognized Black Greek Letter Organizations (BGLO's) and the relevant Biblical scriptures. From my previous experience in this area, one thing that is consistently clear is that the vast majority of people simply do not know what these ritual books contain, ***including*** members of the organizations themselves! As Christians, we simply must be followers of Jesus Christ and nothing else; however, this feat cannot be done in ignorance. There is freedom in truth; conversely, there is bondage in ignorance. Moreover, the sole purpose of this paper is to help my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ grow closer to our Lord.

As you may already know, the word "Christian", although extremely popular today, was not used much in the first century church of believers. As a matter of fact, the word "Christian" was only used 3 times in the New Testament as opposed to the word "disciple" which was used 273 times. Followers of Christ were called disciples, and those disciples were called "Christians" at a city called Antioch. Therefore, it is safe to assume that we "Christians" in name should be "Disciples" in function. Furthermore, as Disciples of Christ, we must follow Him regardless of ***our*** opinions on different issues. Accordingly, the title question of "Can You be Christian and Greek?" refers to whether one can be a "follower" of Christ and ***His*** ways while simultaneously participating in a Greek Letter organization.

One of our duties as Christians is to examine EVERYTHING. Paul tells us in 1st Thessalonians 5:21 to "Examine (Prove) EVERYTHING, and hold on to that which is good." It doesn't matter if somebody thinks it is good, if it does not pass the test when measured to the Bible, we should not hold on to it.

The word "examine" in this text applies to metals, referring to the art by which the true nature and value of the metal is tested. This trial was usually made by fire. The meaning here is that Paul's readers were to carefully examine everything proposed for their belief. They were ***not*** to receive it on trust, or to believe it because it seemed good. Rather, they were to test it against the word of God; what they found to be true they were to embrace and what did not line up with the word of God, they were to throw away. Furthermore, it does not matter if your mother, father or pastor supports something; if it does not line up with the scripture it must be discarded.

With the introduction out of the way, let us analyze the issue before us. Can you be a Christian *and* Greek?

ANALYSIS:

One common thought concerning BGLO's is that there cannot be anything wrong with them spiritually because they are "founded upon Christian principles". But are they in fact Christian based? Are they simply service oriented organizations bringing assistance to this world in which we live? Or, do they do the very stuff the Bible says "don't do"? Do they sing songs of praise to Christ *or* to Omega, Delta, AKA etc.?

Before examining the organizations themselves, let us first understand some biblical concepts. As noted earlier, "Christian" denotes a follower of Christ and His teachings; hence, if these organizations are "Christian" based, they would follow the teachings of Christ.

Moreover, the teachings of love, service and humanity existed long before Christ appeared physically on this earth, so something is *not* "Christian" if it merely practices these things. ***Rather, something is Christian if it adheres to the Bible.*** Bear in mind that Jehovah's Witnesses are a great example of service and togetherness; however, they expressly deny the deity of Christ. Mormonism stresses outreach and community service to the extent that every adherent is forced to go on a one year mission trip to further its cause, yet their principles are not based in Christ and His teachings.

So, do BGLO's cause Christians to go against the Bible? Some things in these organizations, like hazing, partying, immoral sexual behavior and swearing are known to many; however, what you are about to read will ***BLOW YOUR MIND!*** As you read what's coming up, bear in mind that I cannot discuss everything in the ritual books of BGLO's that is against the Bible, as the multitude of violations prevents me from doing such. Please pay special attention to the bolded and italicized quotations that were emphasized.



Kappa Kappa Alpha Psi- Let's take a look at the Kappa's. In preparations for ALL their meetings and their initiation process, "the Altar of Kappa Alpha Psi, which is the Sacred Delphic Shrine, shall be placed in the center of the room and covered with a crimson and cream coverlet (p.14 of ritual book)." ***THE SACRED DELPHIC SHRINE?*** The Delphic Shrine is significant in the Greek polytheistic religion because it was the shrine of the god Apollo. It was his most important place of worship where his oracle presided and prophesied. This Sacred Delphic Shrine is for Apollo the sun god, and this temple actually exists to this day in modern day Greece and is real! Even more disturbingly, candidates for acceptance into this fellowship are required to kneel at the "sacred altar of Kappa Alpha Psi and repeat the oath" (p. 23) which, among other things, includes swearing which the Bible said NOT to do. So Kappa Alpha Psi's members kneel at the Delphic shrine, the shrine of the god Apollo and swear their allegiance to it. How ***Christian*** does this sound so far?

Throughout history in both Greek and Judeo-Christian culture, altars were used for *only* two reasons. First, Altars are/were used for places of sacrifice to God (or *a* god in ancient Greek cultures). Secondly, Altars are/were used for worship. Throughout the Bible, men/women of God have built Altars to God to worship God for a number of reasons. Hence, the Altar of Kappa Alpha Psi, the Sacred Delphic Shrine is either in place for sacrifice (to Apollo) AND/OR for worship, either consciously or subconsciously. Either way, it is not what God would have for us to do with our lives.

Likewise, there is an “oracle” (which is a person considered to be a source of wise counsel or prophetic opinion usually spiritual in nature) present throughout the initiation process (likely an older member of the fraternity). Pledges go before this “oracle” and ask for wisdom so they can read the “*sacred*” Kappa Scroll. But the Bible says in James 1:5 “if any man lacks wisdom, let him ask of GOD”, not some oracle. The oracle then tells the pledge, if “thou are noble wise and true, the immortal *godS* will see you through. Gods? Does this sound like a Bible based organization? The Bible says in the 10 Commandments that thou shalt have NO OTHER GODS before or beside Him.

Moreover, the Bible says in Leviticus 18:1-5 “The Lord said to Moses, speak to the Israelites and say to them: I am the LORD your God, you must NOT do as they do in Egypt, where you used to live, and you must NOT do as they do in Canaan where I am bringing you. **DO NOT FOLLOW THEIR PRACTICES.** You must obey *my* laws, and be careful to follow *my* decrees. I am the LORD your God. Keep *my* decrees and laws, for the man who obeys them will live by them. I am the LORD.” We are bound to do ONLY what God allows as followers.



Zeta *Zeta Phi Beta Sorority* During the initiation process, the young women are blindfolded and go through a series of tests, most of which, including the oath is, done while kneeling. However, what is most troubling is that when they remove the blindfolds, they are informed that now “*Zeta has been written on your hearts and minds. You are now ready to receive the light of Zeta*” (pg. 141 of the ritual book). Does this sound purely social to you?

Notice the contrast of the Zeta ritual book to the Bible. In Hebrews 10:16, Paul quoted Jeremiah 31:33 where God said “this is the covenant that I will make with my people, after that time says the Lord, I will put *my law* in their *hearts* and I will write them on their minds.” Furthermore, David adds in Psalm 119:11 “(Y)our Word God have I hid in *my heart* that I might not sin against you.” God wants his Word written in our hearts and minds, not some organization. This bond between Zetas is so strong that upon the death of a soror, members clasp hands in a circle and recite the following. “Bless be the tie that binds **OUR HEARTS IN ZETA LOVE**, the fellowship of kindred minds are like to that above.” Again, does this sound purely social to you?



Sigma *Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity* As stated on page 10 of its ritual book, Phi Beta Sigma fraternity “is a ***SPIRITUAL*** fellowship that binds us in all activities along life’s narrow pathway.” I can respect that they do not even pretend to be just social; however, plainly state that ***they*** are a spiritual organization. What is this spiritual fellowship?...It is a Greek fellowship along with Greek gods and Greek goddesses. When candidates for admission are first brought in, they are told the traditional story of the original Greek traveler of their fraternity which is as follows: A man was led by the ***godS*** to a place called Death Valley to observe the bones of the unfit that did not know the meaning of brotherhood. “He is later taken to the foothills of Mt. Olympus where the greater ***godS*** were supposed to live under their ruler Zeus. It was in these mountains that our founding Brothers became Greek. Because they went before you and because you have exemplified the ideals of Brotherhood, Scholarship and Service, ***YOU are also now part Greek, the process (of becoming Greek) is occurring even as you stand before me***” (p. 8 of the ritual book). (During this portion the candidates are in the initiation court with the Sigma Altar p.6)

Do these sound like the teachings of Christ, or pagan Greek polytheism? Christians should try to become more like Christ, not anything else. Paul said in Philippians 3:10 “I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings ***becoming like Him*** in his death and so, somehow attain the resurrection from the dead.”

This ritual later states that the fellow Greek with his “***mind’s eye*** is privileged to observe the wonder of Mt. Olympus where Ares the Greek god of war resided...But Sigma has outlawed the warring Greeks and is now ***under the protection of Pallas Athena, the goddess of wisdom, Art and Industries.***” The mind’s eye refers to the ability to envision something (sometimes prophetically). Even worse, Sigma is under the protection of their goddess Pallas Athena, the goddess of wisdom. Is this the type of spiritual fellowship that Christ would have us under? Certainly not.



Delta *Delta Sigma Theta Sorority* (Depending on which edition is used, the page number may vary). The ***official*** emblem of DST is Minerva, the goddess of wisdom. Minerva was worshipped in ancient Greek and Roman societies and was viewed as the daughter of the god Jupiter (p.175 or 47). In like manner, Minerva is the figure at the top of the Delta Crest.

Moreover, on page 71 (or 26) of the Ritual Book, it describes the ceremony to be inducted. The speaker lights the torch of wisdom as the vice-president says “Our motto is: Intelligence is the torch of wisdom. Behold the torch of wisdom. (Pointing to the red taper). It burns wherever Deltas are assembled, and ***guides our footsteps.***” However, Psalm 37:23 says “The steps of a ***good*** man are ordered by the LORD: and he delights in his way”. Does God want me guided by the torch of wisdom from Delta, or by Him?

The same page later states that (Deltas) “work in the *name of our sorority*”. The Bible says in Colossians 3:17 “that **WHATEVER** you do, whether in word or in deed, **DO IT ALL in the NAME of the LORD JESUS CHRIST** giving thanks to God the Father by him.” But what is perhaps most disrespectful to God is found on page 73 (or 45) of the ritual book. In the section where it enumerates the establishment of new chapters, it states “Let me advise you always to work in the spirit of unity. May your light so shine in the community that the *name of Delta Sigma Theta* will ever **BE GLORIFIED.**” But Jesus said in Matthew 5:16 “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your **Father** which is in heaven.” Here we have an apparent contradiction to the Bible. Is this Christian based, even though it goes directly against what Jesus said?

Equally disconcerting is the recitation done in the closing of chapter meetings. Page 8 of the ritual book contains the Delta Mizpah which states “Dear Sorors, now we must depart, join hands in *Delta’s* chain. Let us be loyal, faithful, true in heart, **and HONOR DELTA’S PRECIOUS NAME. AMEN**”. Does this sound like something Jesus and His disciples would be saying? Christ was concerned with bringing glory to the father, and He taught His disciples the same way.

In like manner, the ritual book quotes the founding soror as she talked about the founding members and self-explanatorily stated what DST was founded upon. Specifically, page 91 (11th edition) states:

“They saw a star and followed it;
A path they cut and blazed the way;
They lit the torch of Sisterhood—
Let’s not forget nor lose the way
To love and serve for Delta.”



Alpha Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity As stated on page 1 of the ritual book, the name Alpha Phi Alpha means the “(F)irst and leading **brotherhood of the Ethiopians** to open its portals to all mankind.” Pages 4-5 of the ritual book describe the initiation process which includes blindfolding the candidate while he kneels and eats the food prepared by the **godS** for Alpha Phi Alpha men (usually raw noodles). Later, while in front of the **altar** (see “Altar” analysis on page 4 for Kappa Alpha Psi) “(A)ll members shall say BEHOLD, BEHOLD as the candidates’ blindfold is withdrawn and he sees **ALPHA PHI ALPHA THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD** in large letters over the **ALTAR**”. How irreverent! What light can this organization bring that Jesus Christ the Light of the World has not already given? Does God want his children kneeling or standing in front of this altar to partake in this process? Definitely not! The only question is whether you agree that Alpha Phi Alpha is the light of the world, and if not, as the Bible says in Amos chapter 3, “(H)ow can two walk together unless they agree?”

Equally troubling is the emblem of the fraternity, the Sphinx of Gaza found in Egypt. Sphinxes were idol gods worshipped by Egyptians. They had the body of a lion and the head of a pharaoh. Pharaohs were considered deities to their people, and were immortalized by these sphinxes. How does God feel about sphinxes and other Egyptian

idols? Well, Ezekiel 20:7 says “(G)et rid of the vile images you have set your eyes on, **AND DO NOT DEFILE YOURSELVES WITH THE IDOLS OF EGYPT, I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD.**” God views those idols as “defiling”, yet this is the emblem representing the fraternity and its members.



Omega Omega Psi Phi Fraternity The indoor ceremony begins as such: (pgs. 13-14 in the ritual book) “Who be ye that dareth to intrude upon the sanctity, peace and quietude of Omega?: (Number of) Sincere admirers and friends of Omega who have long hoped for and sought for an opportunity of **ALIGNING THEMSELVES WITH THE FORCES OF OMEGA.** What further token have you? Their (the pledges to the fraternity) implicit confidence in Omega...**You will now await the *pleasure of Omega* before whom I shall lay your petition...Let them give listening ears to all that may be said and done and seal within their bosom **THE SACREDNESS OF THE TEMPLE OF OMEGA.**”**

First of all, Omega is a *she* (page 21 of the ritual book) so we know this is NOT talking about God. Secondly, are Christians following Christ by entering the sacredness of the Temple of Omega? On page 20, the pledges come to “Omega to swear allegiance to HER cause...” and to “dedicate their lives to the service of Omega”. This has nothing to do with the gospel of Jesus Christ, and is not Christian at all. Also, are we to await the pleasure of Omega before whom they shall lay your petition? The Bible says in Philippians 4:6 “In everything by prayer **and PETITION**, with thanksgiving, **PRESENT YOUR REQUESTS TO GOD.**” Not to Omega or anything else.

Like the Alphas, the organization of Omega Psi Phi states that it is the light of the world. Page 28 of the Ritual Book deals with how they are to carry themselves “thus holding **Omega** up to the world as a shining light”. Jesus said in John 12:32 that if “**I** be lifted up from the earth I will draw all men unto me.” Here, Jesus was expounding upon the correlation between what is “lifted up” for display and what people are drawn to. As Christians, the harvest is plentiful, and the laborers are few. We cannot afford to waste time holding Omega up to the world as a self-proclaimed shining light, but rather hold Christ and His saving power up so that people can know Him.



Iota Iota Phi Theta Fraternity- Its initiation process entails candidates being brought forth kneeling, forming a circle kissing the sacred paddle and drinking from the sacred cup which is VSQ Brandy (pages 290-291 of the Ritual Book). This really needs no explanation; the Bible is against God’s children kneeling while taking shots of Brandy and kissing some sacred paddle. To conclude the initiation process, the new members sing the Fraternity hymn which in part states “**Iota Phi Theta, To thee our hearts we bring**”. How can we serve **2** masters? Can we kneel and swear allegiance to “Iota Phi Theta” and then kneel and say our prayers to God? We cannot; the Bible says that we cannot serve 2 masters. We will love one and hate the other (Mark 6:24).

In like manner, this organization also says in its ritual book that its “brotherhood is the light of the world” (pg. 294). Brothers and sisters, all of these organizations, whether in song, creed that their organization is either the light of the world or that their tenets are the light unto the feet of the members (A.K.A. pg. 54 “it is a beacon of light”). Let me assure you that there is only one Light, and that is none other than Jesus Christ. We are “lights” in this world by reflecting the Light of Jesus Christ. Without Christ, there is utter darkness in the life of everybody. It does not matter how much community service is done!



AKA Alpha Kappa Alpha-(Depending on the edition, page number may vary). During the initiation process, candidates kneel and take a number of pledges (p. 32). When they arise, an ivy wreath is placed on the candidates head and a candle is lit as they are informed by the Basileus, “may you always remember that you are **not** only joining with individuals, but **you are uniting with THE Alpha Kappa Alpha.**”(pg 33.) THE Alpha Kappa Alpha??? Does this sound purely social? Is it God’s will for us to “unite” with this? Of course not, Psalms 86:10-12 states, “for You (God) are great and do wondrous deeds; You alone are God. Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; **UNITE** my heart to fear Your name. I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God, **with all my heart**, and will glorify Your name forever.” God wants us to be united to Him and Him alone, not some organization or anything else.

Page 39 of the Ritual Book- **The A.K.A. pledge**- “To thee O Alpha Kappa Alpha! **We pledge our hearts, our minds our strength.** To foster **their** teachings, **Obey thy Laws**, and make **thee** supreme in Service to all mankind. **O Alpha Kappa Alpha, We greet thee!**”

Page 5 of the Ritual Book- “I think I shall never know, another love that thrills me so, Dwells in my heart by night by day, as does my love for **A.K.A.** I think that I need never fear, where hearts are loyal, true and dear. Secure I am, at work, at play, of such are these the A.K.A. I think when I shall come to die, there will be no need of fear or sigh, For if I’ve been an A.K.A., life owes me naught, I’ve lived my day.

Page 58 of the Ritual Book (Founder’s Day Ceremony)- “Oh Alpha Kappa Alpha, **We dedicate our hearts to greater love of thee.**”

Page 28 of the Ritual Book- “Repeat after me: I show my submission by kneeling (Candidates kneel a few minutes. Nothing but silence prevails).” Later on the same page the candidates are asked “Candidates, **are you willing to enter deeper into the mysteries of our organization? If so, repeat after me, I am**”.

What is the first and greatest commandment? “To love the Lord your God with all of your Heart, mind and strength.” How can we do this by dedicating and pledging

our hearts and “uniting” with an organization? Essentially, **God and A.K.A are asking for the same thing**. God wants your heart, mind and soul and we cannot pledge that to A.K.A, or any other organization; rather, we must follow the first and greatest commandment given by our Lord and savior Jesus Christ and choose whom we will give our hearts.



SGrho Sigma Gamma Rho- p.R4-R5 of the Ritual Book- Represented by the goddess Aurora, this sororities pledge is as follows: “To thee **ONLY**, Sigma Gamma Rho, I pledge **my life, my best efforts, and cooperation**. **In thee I pin my faith**, hope and trust so that the order of Sigma Gamma Rho shall be a beacon of light to all womankind to all womankind who are interested in every phase of education. **I therefore dedicate the best that is within me to further its cause**. In no way will I so demean myself that my actions will reflect negatively upon this sorority. By each soror will I play the part of sister. By each sister will I stand until the end. **Within thee, O Sigma Gamma Rho, will I find the inspiration for the making of a fine and true character.**”

This pledge is done while the initiates are on their knees (p. R1) and the Presiding Officer lights the candles of the pledges from her candle. This pledge is far more than an acceptance to follow sorority guidelines; rather, it is a pledge of the candidates “life”. Should a Christian be on their knees “pinning their faith in” and “pledging their life” to an organization?

More Pledges/Hymns...

Iota Phi Theta- p. 297 of the Ritual Book (Hymn of Iota)- “Iota Phi Theta **to thee** our **HEARTS** we bring in token of lasting love, **to thee** we proudly sing. Iota Phi Theta we vow eternally to wear thy shield of brotherhood for all the world to see.”

Kappa Alpha Psi- p. 18 of the Ritual Book- “Oh noble Kappa Alpha Psi, the pride of all our hearts, True manliness, Fidelity, thou ever dost impart; The **SOURCE** of our delights and joys and happiness thou art, Oh noble Kappa Alpha Psi, from thee we’ll never part... We’ll live for thee, we’ll strive for thee, we’ll all thy ways adore...”

Page 65 of the Ritual Book- Bless us Lord, now and forever... Grant us peace and love and wisdom to be true Phi Nu Pi and one day we’ll be together **PRAISING KAPPA ALPHA PSI. AMEN.**”

Delta Sigma Theta- Page 7 or 31 of the Ritual Book (**The National Hymn**)-

“Delta! With glowing hearts we **PRAISE THEE**,
for the strength thy love bestows,
for the glowing grace of thy sisterhood,
and the power that from it flows.
Keep in us a strong endeavor,
AND OUR SOULS TO RAPTURE RAISE.”

DELTA lights the flame and ever
warms our hearts *HER* bonds to praise.

Delta Sigma Theta! We rejoice in THEE!
Delta Sigma Thetas We pledge thee loyalty.
Devoted to truth a bond of our youth,
that keeps *OUR HEARTS CLEAN AND PURE TO THE END*;
the bright gleam of thy vision *HAS LIGHTED THE WORLD*;
Delta Sigma Theta! Our Own!..."

Song Sung at Delta Crossing/Delta Chant- "All of my love, my peace my happiness, I
give to you O Delta." (Repeated)

Phi Beta Sigma- Page 8 of the Ritual Book (The Crescent Chant)- "O Sigma Dear, Thou
hast for years led brave men strong and free, *TO THEE WE RAISE OUR HEARTS IN
SONG, WE PLEDGE OUR LOYALTY...*"

Alpha Kappa Alpha- The Initiation Hymn: Page 14 of the Ritual Book (1996 edition).

Hail Alpha Kappa Alpha dear, *we greet thee here
tonight*, and may this noble sisterhood be always our
Delight. And may this noble sisterhood be always our
delight.

We love our motto good and true and strive to do the right
By culture and by merit, too we'll climb to
glory's height.

When cares of life overtake us and our locks are turning
gray, *we'll always reverence A.K.A. forever and a day,*
*We'll always reverence A.K.A. forever and a day, we'll
always reverence A.K.A. forever and a day.*

SWEARING

Jesus said in Matthew 5:34-37 "**But I say to you, DO NOT SWEAR AT ALL,
But let your statement be, 'Yes, yes' or 'No, no'; anything beyond this comes from the evil
one.**"

Omega Psi Phi- Page 22 of the Ritual Book- "I (full name) uninfluenced by mercenary
motives and imbued with a desire to serve mankind in the name and presence of the
Almighty God, and of all I hold sacred and under the seal of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, do
solemnly and sincerely promise **AND SWEAR** that I shall always help a distressed
brother..."

Delta Sigma Theta- Page 23 of the Ritual Book(8th edition)- “The pledges come forward, one at a time, kneel (optional) and take the pledge...I(name) do hereby acknowledge that I willingly seek admission to the Pledge Club of Delta Sigma Theta, and do **SOLEMNLY SWEAR** that I will bear true faith and allegiance to it.”

Kappa Alpha Psi- Page 30 of the Ritual Book- “***Kneel at the Sacred Altar of Kappa Alpha Psi*** and repeat this oath: I, in the presence of Almighty God and the members of Kappa Alpha Psi here assembled, and at the Sacred ***Delphic Shrine***, do hereby **SOLEMNLY SWEAR** that I shall keep secret forever all things that may transpire or be revealed to me during my initiation.”

Phi Beta Sigma- Page 13 of the Ritual Book- “In the presence of Almighty God and the members of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, I do **SOLEMNLY SWEAR** or affirm that I will never divulge any secret,...”

Alpha Phi Alpha- Page 6 of the Ritual Book- “I do **SOLEMNLY SWEAR** (or aver) to keep absolutely secret the name and workings of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated.”

This in and of itself should be game-set-match for the abovementioned organizations. Jesus said do NOT swear, because anything else comes from the devil! These organizations use swearing as a vital part in their initiation process. Is this Christian based? Certainly not; rather, it is actually the exact opposite of what God wants for us to do.

What is your view of swearing now? Can one say “oh, it doesn’t mean that, we are just trying to unite to do good in our communities”? Let me assure you that this is not a suggestion, but a commandment from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

ANALYSIS CON’T

Brothers and Sisters, let us not forget the ***first*** and ***greatest*** commandment given to us by our Lord Jesus Christ is found in Mark 12:29-30. “The Lord our God is ONE, Love the Lord your God with **ALL** your heart and with **ALL** your soul and with **ALL** your mind AND with **ALL** your strength.” How can we accomplish this if we are pledging our hearts, minds and strength to an organization? All of the “divine 9” freely give their love, loyalty, strength and heart to something that is clearly not God. God is one; although he may have been called Elohim, Yahweh and the like in the Old Testament, I can assure you that **His** name is not Delta or Sigma etc. and that these organizations are not praising God when they sing songs of praise to these organizations .

These organizations claim to merely be social; if so, why do they kneel and sing songs of praise to it? Are these the songs that Christ would have us sing? The Bible instructs us that we are to praise God only. Psalm 148:13 states “praise the name of the LORD, for His name ALONE is exalted.” Also, Psalms 86:12 states “I will praise you O LORD my God, with **ALL my heart**; I will glorify **your** name forever.” What have these organizations done that has catapulted them to a level worthy praise? And if they are not false worship, please tell me what the songs mean. If “Delta, with glowing hearts we

praise thee” does not amount to false worship, then what would? If the AKA’s song stating “we dedicate our hearts to greater love of thee” is not a song dedicating their hearts to AKA then what else can it mean? If Phi Beta Sigma’s crescent chant raising their hearts to Sigma in song is not false worship, then should we be singing this on Sunday morning? How would you feel if someone in your church stood up to lead the congregation in one of these songs? The fact is that they are not Christian and have nothing to do with Christ and are something that the Bible instructs us **NOT** to do.

Please remember that Satan is extremely subtle. The first thing that God wanted us to know about him was that he was more subtle or cunning than any other animal (Genesis 3:1). Therefore, his tactics that cause Christians to disobey God are extremely subtle. He knows that people are not going to simply one day stand up and sing songs of praise to something that is not God; however, if he masks it enough with community service and positive things, he may be able to subtly lead Christians away from obedience.

A good example of this is found in Acts 13:10. This particular text deals with a man named Elymas, a false prophet working against Paul and Barnabas as they were trying to convert a man to Christianity. Paul, a leader of the early Christian Church looked at him and said, “You are a child of the Devil, and an ENEMY of everything that is right. You are full of all **subtlety and deceit**, will you never stop perverting the **RIGHT** ways of the Lord?” Notice the characteristics of this “child of the Devil”. He was FULL of ALL subtlety. That means he was EXTREMELY slight, faint, clever, cunning, sly AND crafty in his approach to turn people from the faith. He was NOT wearing the red suit with a pitchfork or anything like that; rather, he was subtly attempting to lure people away from being obedient to God. The enemy wants to turn people away from God! What is a great way? By subtly getting them to break God’s commandments.

We as Christians are not our own; rather, we were bought at a price by the blood of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 6:20). Furthermore, how can we give something away that is not even ours? Christ bought your whole being on that Cross and we cannot give ourselves to anything but Him. It is similar to a situation where a parent buys the child the car because he/she could not afford one. Although the car may be under the control of the child, he/she is not at liberty to give it to someone else. The same is true for us; we could not afford the price for our lives, but God paid for it through the blood of Jesus Christ. Now that He has paid the price, although our lives are under our control, we cannot do as we please, but rather the will of the Father. That will is to praise Him ALONE and to live for Him by following His word.

As we have seen a lot of the rituals and songs of these organizations, the practices go against the Bible. Accordingly, we must understand that anything that is against or adversarial to the teachings of the Bible is satanic. Before you discard this as too harsh, realize that we can only view things as God has painted them in His word. We should not invent nor accept a description of Satan and his ways that is not biblically based.

What do you think of when the word satanic is used? Surely if it were satanic people would be biting the heads off of newborn babies or something like that. But, when you read the Bible and see what Satan does and who he is, you will find that when he is introduced in the Bible, it is **NOT** as the distorted, ugly red creature in hell but rather, a clever, cunning, crafty being that causes disobedience through deception.

As a matter of fact, the English word for satan derives from the Hebrew word saw-tawn which means “adversary”. So something would be satanic if it is adversarial or opposite to God and his Word. Shall we have a brief grammar lesson? The suffixes “ic” and “ial” have the same meaning which is “having characteristics of”. Something would be rabbinic if it had the characteristics of Jewish rabbis. So in order to be grammatically correct, we would attach “ial” to adversary to explain its nature, and likewise “ic” to satan to likewise describe *its* nature. So if something is adversarial to God, it is satanic. The word adversarial doesn’t have the bite of the word satanic, but they are the very same by definition!

And something is adversarial IF, by definition, it offers something opposed to someone else. In law, adversarial parties are NOT separated by the subject as they are arguing a case, but are separated by what they are trying to prove in that specific area of interest. For example, if I am a defense attorney for John Doe, and he is charged with robbing a 7-11, I would attempt to introduce evidence to make the listener, the jury, believe that he is not guilty. Likewise, my ADVERSARY or my satan, would attempt to go *against* what I had said, and establish the opposite. We will talk about the same subject **BUT** want the jury to agree with our stance.

So what are the “characteristics” of Satan or the Adversary? To answer this, one must look no further than the book of Genesis in the Garden of Eden. When the subject of eating from the tree came up in the garden of Eden, Satan offered an opposing interpretation or spin on what God had clearly stated. In Genesis 2:16-17, the Bible says, “And the LORD God **COMMANDED** the man, saying, of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, **DO NOT EAT FROM IT:** for in the day that thou eatest thereof **YOU WILL DIE.**” However, later we see the adversary talking about the same subject and the Devil said to Eve in Genesis 3:4-5, “**YOU WON’T DIE:** For God knows that when you eat from the tree, your eyes will be opened, and ye will be like gods, knowing good and evil”. Satan used the same topic but had an adverse position to God’s previous commandment.

Satan is a mis-leader. He attempts to subtly mislead the children of God USING THE WORD OF GOD into disobedience very subtly. So something is like satan if it subtly misleads the children of God. Remember, according to Genesis 3:1, satan “was **MORE SUBTLE** than any other animal.” He operates cleverly, to deceive people into disobedience. **God says don’t, Satan says it’s okay. God says you will die, Satan says you will not die.** There is not a more satanic attribute than to cause a Christian to ignore or disobey a commandment of the living God.

Let’s do a quick recap. God says do NOT swear, bow down, have idols and we have seen that these organizations doing **EXACTLY WHAT GOD SAID DO NOT DO!** God says work in my name so that I can get the glory, and the organizations work in the name of their Greek organization so that the organization can be glorified. Jesus said that He is the light and these organizations have proclaimed that they are the light of the world. God says do NOT follow these pagan, non-Christian practices, but as we have seen, the ritual books of BGLO’s are filled with NON-Christian practices. The Bible says to praise God alone, these organizations sing songs of praise to their fraternity/sorority. These are the **SAME** subjects, but adverse stances.

Satan, the adversary is just as busy today as he was in the Garden of Eden. Eve ate the fruit that God told her not to eat because she “saw that the tree *was* good for food,

and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, ***and a tree to be desired to make one wise***, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.” But God NEVER said that the fruit would make them wise. What is one consistent promise of the BGLO’s? That they will gain **WISDOM**. (See Iota’s- p. 249, A.K.A’s p. 59, Sigma’s p. 5, Kappa’s p. 43, Delta’s p.71 or 28, Alpha’s p. 1, and Omega’s p. 16 (knowledge to understand mysteries of Omega.)

The Bible says that Eve was beguiled or led astray. She was lead off course from what God has for her by satan’s presentation of gaining wisdom from this beautiful tree. She was allured by the promise of wisdom from a source that is not God. It was an assurance that she would get something positive from her disobedient act. The power of deception is such that it temporarily blinds one’s eyes to the complete truth and causes the deceived person to believe in a lie. In other words, it is to have faith in a lie.

BGLO’s are nothing more than a counterfeit of what God has properly ordained. Brothers and sisters, please know that there is NO greater example of human togetherness and service than the disciples who accomplished something unprecedented in history in the furthering of Christianity. Furthermore, there is NO greater example of sacrifice than Christ’s dying on the cross. Jesus and the church already established these things 2000 years ago. When He was told that His mother and brother were outside, He replied that “he that does the will of my father is my brother and mother” (Mark 3:35). I know two particular members of the same fraternity; one is a Bible believing Christian and the other will expressly deny the veracity of the Bible and Jesus. Are they brothers? According to their organization yes, but according to Christ, no.

What about the “connections” that these organizations offer? Let me assure you that a child of the God of the universe does not need any hook-ups. To the church in Philadelphia, Jesus said “behold, I have set before you an open door, which no man can shut.” When God does something for you, the open door can never be shut and you do not have to rely on any man or organization.

The essence of counterfeit is that it looks very similar; however, it is not made of the same thing, and did not go through the same process. What makes money real is not what it looks like because that can be copied, but rather the material it is from which it is made. The American dollar is made from a very detailed cotton-like substance that cannot be reproduced. One can imitate what it looks like, but the counterfeit that did not go through the same process will not be made of the same thing. God has established His way of service, togetherness, loyalty, and love all rooted in Christ and these organizations offer some of the same aspects but at the root of them are pagan rituals and practices that expressly oppose the Bible.

There is far more that can be written concerning this issue; however, due to my shortage of time, and the shortage of the average attention span, I will leave you with the following. Proverbs 16:25 tell us that “there is a way that seems right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” We have to rely on God and His word, NOT what anybody else says or thinks.

COMMON ARGUMENTS...

ARGUMENT # 1- My pastor is in a BGLO, do you mean to tell me that my Pastor/Bishop is wrong? How can an influential and anointed man/woman of God be involved in idolatry?

Take note of Exodus 32:1-23. Aaron was the first high priest in Israel and was an extremely influential figure in the Ancient Hebrew culture. Aaron gained a name for being extremely eloquent in speech, so much so that **he was the spokesman for God** when Moses was to go to the Pharaoh to demand a release of the Children of Israel! Interestingly, this Aaron, the High Priest at the time, a man anointed by God, was the man that personally and deliberately led Israel into pure and absolute idolatry. Moreover, verse 2 states that because of the requests of the Children of Israel, Aaron **CREATED** an idol for Israel. He instructed the children of Israel to bring him all their gold and from that HE made them a golden calf to worship. The people sang songs and danced around the idol as their god that led them out of Egypt.

So here, the Priest made and condoned a disobedient act. This is a prime example that explains that just because a preacher/pastor condones something, it does NOT mean it is all right in God's eyes. God was angry because of their actions! The Bible says that God's anger burned against them for this act. Aaron was more influential than any preacher of our day. Yet this powerfully anointed priest led his God's chosen people into false worship. If Aaron could be wrong, so could your pastor!

ARGUMENT # 2- Well, I'm a member of a BGLO and I disagree with a lot of the stuff they do, but I'm not going to denounce, I'll just not participate in some stuff.

What does the Bible say about this my brothers and sisters? Second Corinthians 6:16-17 asks "what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For **we** are the temple of the living God; just as God said, 'I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. "Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord. What agreement does Christ have with Pallas Athena, Minerva, the Forces of Omega, the Sphinx etc.? The answer is... none. So what are we to do? We are to come out from among them and be separate and distinct.

Paul later tells us in Hebrews 12:1-3 "let us lay aside **EVERY WEIGHT** and the **SIN** which so easily entangles us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the Author and Finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right of the throne of God. For consider Him who endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest you be weary and faint in your minds". My brothers and sisters in Christ, what is indisputable is that the practices of the BGLO's are **not** "Christian". Despite this uncomfortable truth, we have to "lay it aside" as they are a weight to your spiritual growth and their practices are contrary to God's word.

ARGUMENT #3-Well, I'm a member of a BGLO, and I know that a lot of what they do is non-Christian, but I am staying a member in order to be a light in a dark place (to minister and share Christ with others.)

Jesus shared the message of salvation and redemption without becoming the people he ministered to. In John 8:1-12, Jesus encountered a woman caught in adultery. He did not commit her acts, but He was still able to effectively minister to her. The Bible states that Christians should be lights in dark places, but it **NEVER** asks us to become sinful, or do things that are considered sin in order to bring the light. However, the Bible does share that we are “to be no longer conformed to the world”... (Romans 12:2). We as Christians can still effectively share the message of Jesus Christ to sorority and fraternity members without becoming them. Jesus never became like the Pharisees nor did Paul involve himself with Greek Pagan worship, **BUT** they were still able to share their Message.

ARGUMENT #4- It's not that serious. When I sing the songs or go through with the ceremonies, I don't mean them and my allegiance is still to God.

Let me assure you that even if it is not serious to you, it is serious to God. Jesus says in Matthew 12:34-37, “Out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks...Men will have to give account on the day of judgment for **EVERY** careless word they have spoken. For by your **WORDS** you will be acquitted, and by your **WORDS** you will be condemned.” So even if you don't think that what you say and go through is a big deal, Jesus does!

How would you feel if your wife/husband/boyfriend/girlfriend came home and told you that they cheated on you and their excuse was that they didn't mean it? Would you shrug it off because their feelings weren't into the act that they committed? The same concept is true here. Brothers and sisters, God has enumerated a number of prohibited acts in His word and we cannot seek to circumvent our obedience to God by simply saying “well I didn't mean it”.

CONCLUSION

God wanted the Ancient Israelites out of Egypt so that they could go to the Promise Land. In like manner, He wants us out of these organizations so He can put us in the place of promise that He has created for us. However, the truth remains that God wants us away from whatever will hurt our growth spiritually, **even** if it separates us from some things or people. Jesus said in Matthew 10:34-38 “*Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a man's enemies will be they of his own household. He that loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he does not take up his cross, and follow after me, is not worthy of me. He that finds his life will lose it: and he that loses his life for my sake will find it.*”

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we must forget those things which are behind and press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. **He** is rich in mercy, and wants us to follow the path He has prescribed and most importantly, **He is here to lead us down every path of life, as “He will never leave us nor forsake us” (Hebrews 13:5).**

Ritual Books Used...

Sigma Gamma Rho

Iota Phi Theta 1994.

Grand Chapter Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Revised Edition 1968.

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc.

Ritual of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated Reprint 1976.

Zeta Phi Beta 11th Edition 1997.

Omega Psi Phi 2nd Printing 1976.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Revised November 1996 *and* August 1977

The Official Ritual of the Grand Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Inc. 11th Edition 1996 *and* 8th Edition 1969.

WHY IN THE WORLD DID I WRITE THIS PAPER???????

The first thing people usually ask me concerning this issue is why in the world I am doing this research? Not that it should matter because the content alone and God's word are the only things of importance; however, due to interest here it goes...

I went to Morgan State; while there, I never had any meaningful contact with BGLO's. I played on the Men's Basketball team for about 2 ½ years and although we had a combined record of 9-50 in those years (horrible I know) and I wasn't exactly playing a lot of minutes a game, it was nevertheless *extremely* time consuming. For that reason, even if I ever had any interest in pledging anything, I would not have had the time to go through with it anyway. None of my immediate family members or friends were involved in BGLO's; hence, I never felt any incentives to join. While at Morgan, I had numerous friends/associates in BGLO's; I didn't see anything wrong with them as I had not yet been exposed to their ritual books/practices.

My attitude about BGLO's remained indifferent and I never gave them any meaningful thought until I spoke with a Delta who denounced. As she explained to me some of the practices and rituals that were done, my eyes were literally opened to this issue. That was good; however, I knew that I needed more than word of mouth to be able to fully investigate this issue. Later, I gained access to all of the 9 ritual books, which after I got the books, I knew that I could not keep its contents to myself. The Truth will definitely make you free, but can make you uncomfortable in the process, myself included.

I love you all with the love of the Lord, Jordan Rice.

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