

Volume 6 Issue 1

January 1, 2017

This Month's Feature Stories

- Who Was the Widow's Son?



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Who Was the Widow's Son?

Who was the "Widow's Son"? The answer might seem easily answered, but when one reads of legends, scripture writings, the Apocrypha and other historical documents it becomes apparent that perhaps we cannot answer this question so easily.

In the writings of Masonic scholars we learn of Hiram Abiff, "The Widow's Son". There are others referred to as "The Widow's Son". It seems this is a title to which more than one can be named. The use of the title is actually traced back to the Grail lore traditions which speak of a descended blood line and specifically reference Ruth.

Ruth, a woman of the Moabite tribe, was married to Boaz, and she was a heroine of the Old Testament. She was also the Great Grandmother of King

David. That King David, the father of King Solomon, who built the Temple? Ruth became pregnant, and married Boaz. He was quite a bit older being 80, while Ruth was 40. The book says that Boaz dies the next day. That must have been some wedding night.

From this point on, all the descendants of Ruth, were known simply as "Sons of the Widow". A genetic title if you will. A genealogy can be traced. Ruth gives birth to the first "Son of the Widow", Obed, who grows up and bears his son Jesse, who bears his son David who bears his sons Solomon and Nathan.

Using the lineage given in the Gospels of the Christian Bible, Jesus the Nazarene is a descendant of Ruth, making him also, a "Son of the Widow" or "Widow's Son". There are

forty-five generations from Ruth to Jesus. This leaves an interesting problem for us as Masons. Nowhere in the lineage mentioned in the Bible does it refer to Hiram Abiff. Knowing this, it seems the trail grows cold in the search for Hiram Abiff's title of "The Widow's Son". The Grail legends were written in a way that lends itself to allegory and therefore, the story cannot be just assumed to mean that Hiram was literally just a son of woman who lost her husband. These legends early on establish this title and what it means, which is a descendant of Ruth or more aptly a descendant of Boaz, either the 31st or 30th generation from Adam if you rely on Luke's genealogy.

Could Hiram Abiff be related somehow to the historical Jesus the Nazarene? The Gos-

Programs & Announcements



We are busy getting back in the groove! We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a safe and

Happy New Year!

The Annual Grand Lodge of Texas Annual Communication will be this month in Waco

from Thursday, January 19th thru Saturday, January 21. We will formally receive our Vanguard Award and you never know what else may be in store. Don't miss it!

The Masonic year is half over! Now is the time to be thinking about your commitment to the lodge and whether or not you want to move along in the line

or become a part of the officer line.

Gun Show this month on Saturday and Sunday, January 7-8. We need to work our raffle. Fantastic Teeth—THIS MONTH—Tuesday January 31, 6PM at the Scottish Rite.

THERE IS A LOT GOING ON THIS MONTH—Don't miss it!

And God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. Genesis 1:3



A Message From the East
Worshipful Master John Rosser

Brethren, as I take a moment to look back through the rear-view mirror to January past, I think about all of you that attended lodge during our Stated meetings and Floor Practice. To all those who attended and took part, my most heartfelt Thank You! You lend dignity and authority to our proceedings. Each time you attend lodge you help strengthen our bond, tighten our friendship and bring us closer to reaching our Masonic goal.

Brethren, do you know a man you feel would make a good Mason? Does he know that you are a Mason? He can't ask you about Masonry if he doesn't know you are a Mason. It's all fine and good to say "to be one ask one" But "He" must know you are a Mason before he can ask. There are many ways to show him you are a Mason . . . your ring, your watch, your license plate. All subtle but effective. We are always looking for a "few good men". I know you

know one! Get that good man to lodge. He needs Free Masonry. Maybe you feel a little intimidated by the questions he may ask. Take a few minutes and go to Lubbock Lodge's website, where you will find the answers to all the questions "He" may throw at you. Time is a precious commodity.

I will Strive to Live with Love and Care upon the Level by the Square.

"The grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race"

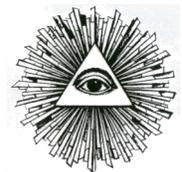
Washington

A Message From the West
Senior Warden Jerry Hendrick

As I am writing this article, I have come to realize that masonry is one of the best things that I have been very grateful for having in my life. Being part of this great body of men has helped me learn to reevaluate things in my life. So I have been able to make better choices. This is due to understanding the obligations that I have taken. The phrase about masonry "making good men

better" is very true. I have traveled all over the world and seen many different things and the lives that have been touched by masonry, experiencing the this organization only opens the eyes so that one does not have a single view. Masonry takes men front all over the globe and binds them together to create a fraternity so large that you are never alone no matter

where you go. So as we go about our daily lives let us remember to say thanks to all of our masonic brothers, so we can keep this great organization growing in the new year and from many years to come.



From the South
Junior Warden Coke Etgen

QUALIFICATIONS OF A PETITIONER

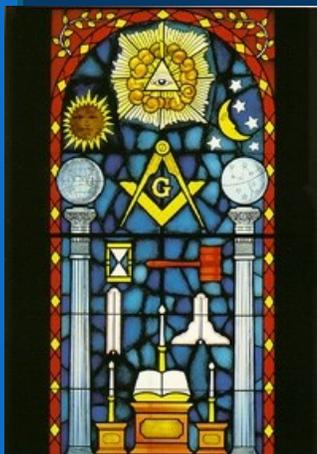
As each of us are guardians of the West Gate it is important to remember the qualifications to petition the lodge for membership. Questions to bear in mind:

- Is the petitioner is mentally qualified to receive Masonic Degrees?
- Is the petitioner is morally fit to be received into the

Fraternity?

- Are there organizations to which he belongs will impair his usefulness to the Fraternity?
- Do his neighbors, acquaintances and employers give him a good character?
- Can you determine whether or not the maintenance of lodge membership in any way be of a financial detriment to those dependent upon him?

The qualifications to be a Mason are clear and distinct. There are physical, moral and spiritual qualifications. Specifically, in Texas, the petitioner must be a man of at least 18 years of age. He must be free of any previous felonious criminal convictions and be of good moral character. He must also believe in a Supreme Being and the immortality of the soul.



"Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but far more difficult still, to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment."

Benj. Franklin



From the Secretary Harrold Loveless
Taking Care of Business

Greetings Brothers,

I pray everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year.

Just a reminder that dues notices were mailed out to all Lubbock Lodge members in early December. I am asking for the notices to be mailed back to update addresses in the database. So far I have only received four

notices back as "return to sender with no forwarding address", informed by family that two of our Brothers have passed on, one affiliated to another lodge, which leaves thirty-eight still due back. All notices returned have had their membership cards mailed to them. I will finish mailing Endowed and Exempt members cards the first week in January. If you have not re-

ceived a dues notice, please contact me, otherwise please mail to Lubbock Lodge as I check the mail several times a week.



From the Senior Deacon Justin Robbins
Visiting Brothers & Prospects

Brethren:

We would like to thank the brothers and visitors that attended our stated meeting for December. At our stated meeting we had the following visitors: Rod Armstrong PM from Makenzie Lodge #1327; Bob Clemmons, 33°, PM, Bob Chesser, and Glenn

Ashcraft, from Yellow-house Lodge #841; and Jason Jones from Alvin Lodge #762.

We hope to see you at our next stated meeting on Friday, January 13th at 7:30 pm (dinner at 6:30 pm) and encourage anyone interested in getting involved with the degree

team to attend floor practice every Tuesday at 7:00 pm.



Let us endeavor so to live that when we come to die even the undertaker will be sorry.

Mark Twain



From the Senior Steward Luis Ramos
Food, Flowers & Frolic

Happy New Year!

Well a new year is upon us, let not make a resolution for the year but let us just better mason to each other and to our family. We as mason should be leaders and followers, we should set examples as to what a mason should be and al-

ways be. I myself plan on 2017 being a great year personally with my family, friends and all masons.

I hope each and every one of us have a great and prosperous year.

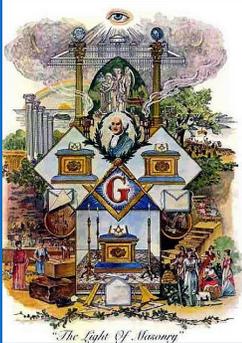
Happy New year



Upcoming Menu for January:

- Build you own sandwich**
- Asst potato chips**
- Cookies**
- Asst drinks**

Who Was the Widow's Son? con't from Page 1



pels leave either a cold trail or a definitive “no,” since he isn’t mentioned at all in the genealogy given by Luke or Mathew. Determining that the term “Widow’s Son,” a flip flop of the term “Sons of the Widow,” was not actually meant to refer to a man whose father had passed, but rather the epithet given to the offspring and lineage of Ruth, heroine of “The Book of Ruth” or “Scroll of Ruth” presented in the Old Testament.

When Hiram Abiff is referenced as being a “Widow’s Son”, it is implied that he was of the line of Ruth, who was married to Boaz and from them, according to Luke, a continued line to King David, King Solomon and eventually to Jesus the Nazarene. The problem here is that nowhere in the lineages mentioned in Luke or Mathew does Hiram show up. Was he a distant relative or cousin?

King Solomon was also a “Widow’s Son” in the sense of being of the lineage of Ruth. Is this why King Solomon called for a Tyrian which was handpicked to be the architect of the Jewish Temple of the God of Israel? Could Solomon have hired Hiram since they were family? Doing detective work in genealogy can be taxing enough when researching ancestry just a few generations removed from the researcher, a task made much more difficult using biblical origins as references.

The lineage of Jacob is vital to this story. Twelve generations prior to the time of King Solomon, and eight generations prior to the time of Boaz, the twelve sons of Jacob were the founders of the twelve tribes of Israel. The fourth son of Jacob, Judah, was of the line that included the wise King, and extended through

him to Jesus the Nazarene. The sixth son, Naphtali, was the founder of the line that included Hiram Abiff.

It is elementary to suggest that at the time of Jacob the designation of “Widow’s Son” had not yet been used, however, in his offspring, through time until we reach the time of Ruth, and from then on, it is not so unthinkable that the lineage would have used this epithet when speaking of their heritage or when scholars were recording the history of the time or even the Gospels. What is it about this lineage which draws the title to it? What was so special? The three largest monotheistic religions, Judaism, Christianity and Islam all regard it [the lineage] with reverence. After all, this lineage contains Adam, Enoch, Noah, Shem, Abraham, David, Solomon, Nathan, Zerubbabel and Jesus the Nazarene.

Perhaps the coincidence which ties this lineage together is the ability to create. According to Luke, the line starts with Elohim (The Great Architect of the Universe) and then to Adam. The Christian Bible does not specifically make any magnificent claims to what Adam had ever built, however several other men in this lineage in fact are great builders. Enoch was the builder of the mythological underground temple consisting of nine vaults with an altar where on the “Stone of Creation” and the Tetragrammaton were said to have been hidden. These legends are featured in the York and Scottish Rites namely the 7th degree in the York Rite called “The Holy Royal Arch” and the 13th degree of the Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction, called the “Royal Arch of Solomon”. In recent years it has even been suggested that Enoch was the builder of the Great Pyramid

at Giza. The ancient Egyptians are said to have known the Great Pyramid as “The Pillar of Enoch”.

A somewhat obscure reference to that is found in the Bible, “In that day shall there be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar at the border thereof to the LORD. And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt...” Isaiah 19:19.

Noah of course built the mythological Ark to house all of the creations of God that were spared in the legend of the great flood.

Abraham or Abram and his son Ishmael are purported to have built the Kaaba, a cube shaped building in Arabia which is one of the holiest sites for Brothers of the Muslim faith.

King David built a city and his palace and had sons, one of whom was King Solomon, who was responsible for the Temple of Solomon, which we all know is at the center of the teachings of our noble craft. These builders in the original line or “Alpha Lineage” the line that according to Luke starts with God and leads to Jesus the Nazarene go on and on with fantastic accomplishments.

Let us not forget however that there is the allusion to the building of the spiritual temple, a spiritual artificer which Jesus the Nazarene seemed to personify and ages before then the character Freemasonry calls its patron, Hiram Abiff; the hand-picked chief architect of the Temple of God. A man to emulate in his duty and fealty to his brothers, both Hiram of Tyre and King Solomon, this is the man we learn about in our de-

Who Was the Widow's Son? con't from Page 4

gress and indeed try to emulate. The "Alpha Line" is synonymous with "The Widow's Son". It could merely be the separation of the generational gap and a more coded obscure way of saying "of the Tribe of Judah" without being abrasive.

It could be that the Tribe of Judah was the main branch of this line and that The Widow's Sons are an offshoot of the original line but whose closeness to the original line needed to be preserved by means of a title given to these builders.

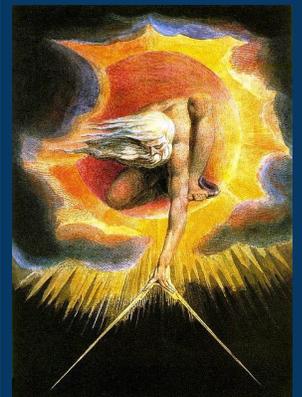
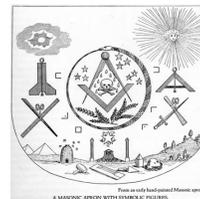
In the end, we will never know if Adam, Jesus the Nazarene or Hiram were truly related, how-

ever it is clear that The Widows Son is a title given to the offspring of Ruth and her descendants. It is also clear that Freemasonry calls its patron Saint Hiram Abiff a "Widow's Son", who was a builder and that the lessons taught philosophically within our Masonic system have much to do with building as well, the main difference is that we are building our spiritual temples. In the Masonic system we follow in the footsteps of Hiram Abiff but we not only represent him, we physically become him in the degrees and in the end we all end up a "Widow's Son". Becoming a Master Mason we all end up

being builders of fantastic edifices of hearts, minds and souls.

So brethren, I ask you, "Who is the Widow's Son?" Look in the mirror brothers and you will surely see him.

Author: Bro. Robert H. Johnson
The Working Tools Magazine
November 2013



HAPPY NEW YEAR



January 2016 Calendar



Lubbock Masonic Lodge #1392

Masonic Calendar

Appoint a Committee on Members in Arrears
 Fantastic Teeth Kick Off
 Hilltop Organization meeting
 Ladies Program & Widows night February?

January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day	2	3 WOLFFORTH LODGE	4	5	6 YELLOWHOUSE MTG	7 LUBBOCK GUN SHOW
8 LUBBOCK GUN SHOW	9 EMMA LODGE COMMANDERY	10 LUBBOCK OES FLOOR PRACTICE	11	12 ABERNATHY LODGE COUNCIL	13 LUBBOCK STATED MEETING	14
15	16 CROSBYTON LODGE ML King Day	17 MACKENZIE LODGE FLOOR PRACTICE	18 SCOTTISH RITE	19 SLATON LODGE FREEDOM OES GRAND LODGE	20 GRAND LODGE	21 DAYLIGHT LODGE GRAND LODGE
22 GRAND LODGE	23	24 FLOOR PRACTICE	25	26	27	28
29	30 HILLTOP MEETING	31 FANTASTIC TEETH!				
		December '16 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		February '17 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28		

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"If you have knowledge, let others light their candles with it." *Winston Churchill*

LUBBOCK MASONIC LODGE #1392

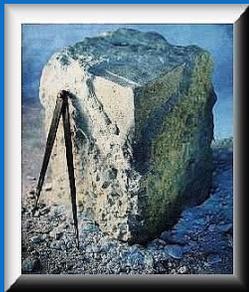
MASONIC DIST 93-A

4539 Brownfield Dr
Lubbock, TX
79410-1721

Meetings:
Second Friday of each
month, 7:30 p.m.
Meal: 6:30pm

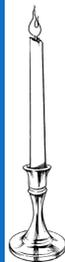
Floor School:
Every Tuesday @ 7p.m.

lubbockmasoniclodge.org



Brotherly Love, Relief & Truth

This Month's Sickness & Distress



Patti Williams wife of Bro. Bruce Williams



Please take the time to visit our sick and distressed; send them cards or call them on the phone, and be sure to keep them in your prayers.
If you know of sickness or distress with a brother or his family, please let us know.

This Month's Brothers & Birthdays

Bill D. Hart 1/9
Bobby Claud Cook 1/15
John L. Cross 1/18

John J. Osborn 1/25
Ravi Dani 1/29
George R. Flickinger 1/31

The Quarry: Our Degree Work
By Bro. Coke Etgen, PM

SYMBOLS, EMBLEMS AND ALLEGORIES OF THE THIRD DEGREE

The symbolism of the First and Second Degree was for the most part designed around the art of architecture; their purpose was to teach you to be a builder, in the First a builder of yourself, in the Second a builder of society. In the Third Degree the symbolism takes another form, although its background continues to be architecture, and its action takes place in a Temple; it is a spiritual sym-



in the light of it all its symbols, emblems, and allegories must be understood.

bolism, cast in the form of the life and death of the soul, and its principal teaching is that if a man has permitted himself to be buried under the rubbish heap of his sins and passions and lusts, it is possible for him, if he has learned the secret of the spiritual life, and with the help of God and of the Brotherhood, to rise again into a new life. This teaching gives us the key to the whole Degree, and



The things a man has to have are hope and confidence in himself against odds, and sometimes he needs somebody, his pal or his mother or his wife or God, to give him that confidence. He's got to have some inner standards worth fighting for or there won't be any way to bring him into conflict. And he must be ready to choose death before dishonor without making too much song and dance about it. That's all there is to it."

Blaise Pascal

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