

Regular attendance is not a question of eternal salvation

Regular attendance at a Lodge or Chapter is not a question of eternal salvation. We are not a missionary society. The fact that we use ballots is proof of this. True, we do not recognize social standing as a sine qua non, still we demand respectability and belief in a Supreme Being, and these are, after all, the severest of tests. There are many Masons who do not go to their Lodge or Chapter save when hunted out on special occasions, and yet they live the lives of good citizens and subscribe liberally to every worthy Masonic object. There may be more genuine fraternity and pleasure in a meeting of twenty than in one of five hundred. Let each go his own way and hold his own opinion on the question, while practising tolerance and patience when listening to others. A Companion may be so situated as regards his employment and his home surroundings that he would not be exemplifying good Masonry by attending every meeting of his Lodge or Chapter. Instead of criticising others, and sneering at the small attendance at meetings, let us turn the "white light" on our own conduct and into our hearts and not cast stones until we feel satisfied that we ourselves are blameless.

Sources:

Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada at the annual convocation, 1912 Address of the Grand First Principal, Most Excellent Companion Fred W. Harcourt