

July 17, 2026 #159

Dear Brethren and Friends,

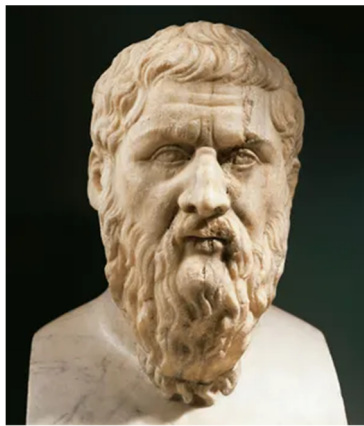
Special Announcements:

July 18 (Saturday) – OBI will be taking blood donations at the Lodge parking lot. Times are 8:30 am to 10:30 am. Walkins welcome.

My Ramblings by W.: Scott A. MacDonald © 2026

What is Truth?

Plato was a student of Socrates and a teacher to Aristotle. Unlike Socrates, we have writing from Plato. In fact, most of the information we have on Socrates came from Plato.



The works of Plato have five central themes:

1. Pursuit of Truth – Truth is discovered through reason rather than through the senses and wisdom comes from questioning assumptions and seeking deeper understanding.
2. The Theory of Forms – Physical objects are temporary and imperfect. Eternal truths and ideals are permanent and more real than material things.
3. The Tripartite Soul – The soul has three parts:
 - Reason – seeks wisdom and should govern.
 - Spirit – courage, honor, and ambition.
 - Appetite – desires for pleasure, wealth, and comfort.
4. Justice – Justice exists when every person fulfills the role for which they are best suited and all parts of society work together harmoniously.
5. Education - Education should develop character and wisdom, not merely provide vocational skills. Knowledge should transform the individual

As we can see, there is much in the teachings of Plato that translate into Freemasonry.

- Truth as a lifelong pursuit.
- Light as a symbol of wisdom and enlightenment.

- Virtue as the foundation of a meaningful life.
- Self-improvement through discipline and reflection.
- Reason as a guide for moral decision-making.
- Symbolism and allegory as powerful tools for teaching deeper truths.
- The cultivation of character as the highest measure of success.

Although Plato was not a biblical thinker and lived centuries before Christ, many of his ideas have similarities to biblical themes.

<u>Plato</u>	<u>Bible</u>
Reality extends beyond the visible world.	"What is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." (2 Corinthians 4:18)
Truth is greater than appearances.	"You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free." (John 8:32)
The soul is more important than possessions.	"What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his soul?" (Mark 8:36)
Wisdom should guide desires.	"Walk by the Spirit and do not gratify the desires of the flesh." (Galatians 5:16)
Human life has a higher purpose.	"Set your minds on things above." (Colossians 3:2)
Education leads toward truth.	"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:13)

Lord, we thank you for the wisdom you provide to us and the ability to discern wisdom from folly. In His name I pray. Amen.

Lodge Calendar

July 14 (Tuesday) – Fellowship. Dinner at 6 pm.

July 21 (Tuesday) – Stated communication. Dinner at 6 pm, lodge at 7 pm.

July 28 (Tuesday) – Fellowship. Dinner at 6 pm.

August 4 (Tuesday) – Stated communication. Dinner at 6 pm, lodge at 7 pm.

Aug 11 (Tuesday) – Fellowship. Dinner at 6 pm. After dinner our speaker will be W:. Mike Dill discussing the Blue 2.0 program from the Grand Lodge.

Aug 18 (Tuesday) – Stated communication. Dinner at 6 pm, lodge at 7 pm.

Aug 25 July 28 (Tuesday) - Fellowship. Dinner at 6 pm.

August 17 (Monday) - District 12 meeting at Red Fork Lodge #505.

Sept 29 (Tuesday) - 5th Tuesday Dinner.

October 15 (Thursday) - District 12 meeting at Tulsa Lodge #71.

Dec 1 (Tuesday) - Lodge election night and Stated Meeting. Dinner at 6 pm, Lodge at 7 pm.

Dec 6 (Sunday) - Officer Installation. 2 pm light refreshments to follow.

Dec 29 (Tuesday) - 5th Tuesday Dinner

See you at Lodge!

Sincerely,

W.: Scott A. MacDonald, Treasurer and Membership Calling Chairman

PS - I will be posting the weekly newsletter on our website at <https://bamason.org/newsletter>.