

Five-Pointed Star in Freemasonry

By [Michael Glenn Maness](#)



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The Second Revised Version is scheduled for late 2009

The Revision is half the size with internet links to the sections like this that were
significantly shortened or simply placed online

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1. The 5-Pointed Star in More Light

No other fraternity or church or religion or institution on earth has as many symbols and allegories that focus upon character counting, because character *is* the tradecraft, through and through. In Freemasonry the 5-pointed star represents the five points of fellowship.¹

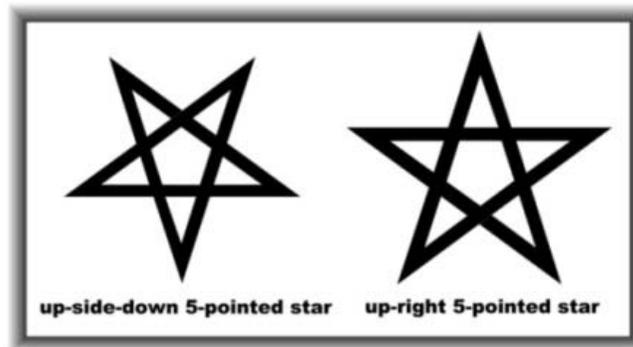
¹ See www.GrandLodgeOfTexas.org/audio/five_points_of_fellowship.mp3 for an audio lesson. Also see Johnston and Monette, *Masonry Defined* (1930; 935p.), 236-237, question #364; and Henry Wilson Coil, *Coil's Masonic Encyclopedia* (1996; 734p.), 252.

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|----------|--|
| 1. Foot | - reflecting service and meeting needs |
| 2. Knee | - reflecting prayer |
| 3. Heart | - reflecting trust |
| 4. Hand | - reflecting character support |
| 5. Ear | - with whisper reflecting wise counsel |

CHART 6. Five Points of Fellowship

They have been variously construed, even with six points of fellowship by some in the 1700s. Nevertheless, the five points stress *fellowship* with a respect for a man's character, even fraternity.

In unbelievable statements, but for the seriousness of the author, some have tossed Satanic allegations to the use of the 5-pointed star. These folks never care to know that Pagans and Wiccans use *both* upright and upside down 5-pointed stars. The *regular* up-right 5-pointed star is for positive magic, and the upside-down 5-pointed star is for negative magic and warding off evil and such. That would upset the critics.



PICTURE 1. The 5-Pointed Star

Real Satanists use the up-right 5-pointed star on the center of the forehead of Baphomet, an ugly goat-headed man with cloven feet; for a good summary on Baphomet as *unrelated* to Freemasonry, see the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and the Yukon.² Perhaps the largest vendor of Pagan items in the USA is Azure Green, and they have a poster outlining twenty renditions of pentagrams in,

² See <http://freemasonry.bcy.ca/anti-masonry/baphomet.html> for that as well as a host of a good Freemasonry information; it is a substantial site.

seventeen are the up-right 5-pointed versions.³ Character counts to Azure Green in their own principles.⁴

There is more. Wiccan and Satanic pentacles form a *regular* up-right 5-pointed star. We have seen how Paganism uses both kinds. So what? Up, down, left, right; 4-pointed, 5-pointed, 6-pointed—whatever does *regular* mean in this context, by the way? Is there a *star* policeman somewhere we need to consult? Is everyone who sports an upside-down 5-pointed star Satanic, too?⁵ That rationale gives Satan glory for everything a Satanist touches, allowing even the Cross of Christ to become tainted if so used by a Satanist and abused. God have mercy.

Long before the critics, Freemasons have understood the symbolism of the good and bad of these two stars as essentially having Pagan origins, where “Egyptians sometimes represented the number five by a star having five rays, because Horopollo pretended that it is the number of the planets” and the one representing one part of a dualism in God (pure, virtuous, good) and the other evil and all things opposed to the good.⁶

³ See www.AzureGreen.com/Posters/EPPEN:Poster:Pentagram/Page_4/EPPEN.html.

⁴ See www.AzureGreen.com/aboutus.html: “AzureGreen is the name that encompasses our relationship with the green growing earth and the azure waters and sky that sustain it. AzureGreen is a gateway of Fairy magic. It is a realm created by practical idealists to exemplify our philosophies, and provide the reality check that improves and refines them. It is our philosophy that the living should be done in a threefold balance of Action, Awareness and Relationship. We begin with awareness of our purpose for being upon earth, and proceed to act upon it in relation to the other beings and purposes encountered. Awareness of that relation to other beings and larger purposes renews the cycle of action. We act to enhance the harmony of our relationships with the many beings of the living Earth, and to pursue the purpose of spiritual growth.”

⁵ The Kappa Sigma fraternity founded 1869, www.KappaSigma.org, uses the up-side-down 5-pointed star on their school ring. Their four cornerstones are fellowship, leadership, scholarship, service. On its mission statements: The Fraternity should complement and enhance the educational mission of the host institution, The Fraternity should promote the ideal of Brotherhood, The Fraternity should actively contribute to the personal growth and development of its members, The Fraternity should promote ethical behavior and decision-making, and The Fraternity should encourage service to others. Reading what a fraternity says about itself is important.

⁶ Stillson, *History ... Masons and Concordant Orders* (Boston & NY: Fraternity Pub. Co., 1904; 904p.), 49, in a long section on the ancient mysteries and dualities, there is represented the two forms of the 5-pointed star: “This star [the first] represents GOD, all that is pure, virtuous, and good, when represented with one point upward: but when turned with one point down it represents EVIL, all that is opposed to the good, pure, and virtuous; in fine, it represents the GOAT OF MENDES.” Superimposed upon the up-side-down star is a four-horned goat with the nose forming the
[Footnote continued on the next page ... do enjoy]

The history of the stars goes way back. Even to Genesis.

2. The Divine Proportion and Golden Ratio of Phi

With respect to the five-pointed star and all of the hullabaloo, I have not seen one instance or water droplet given to what is variously called the Divine Proportion or Golden Ratio. What is clear is that the five-pointed star's greater glory and mystery is seen in geometry, and just when religion (or meaningful symbolism) began to use the star is relatively moot compared to the star's geometric proportions and how those proportions have a multitude of connections in both physical nature and mathematics.

The Divine Proportion, Golden Ratio, or Golden Section is constructed with Phi, the Golden Number, which mathematically is 1.618... without end. Similar to Pi (3.14...), Phi extends infinitely, and at this link you can see it to 20,000 places.⁷ The proportion (or ratio) of distance between the length of your hand and length of your forearm from elbow to wrist is Phi or 1.618. So is the proportion of the increase of the spiraling arms of the Milky Way galaxy. The spirals of a Nautilus seashell. The growth patterns in several flowers and plants, the genealogy of a honey bee, and the segmentation of insects. Many parts of the human body including bone lengths, the face, and even the prominent parts of an electrocardiogram (ECG or EKG) of a normally resting beating heart all show Phi in its remarkable symmetry. Uncanny. The pervasive presence of Phi or the Golden Number and the Divine Proportion or Golden Ratio makes them a natural wonder in themselves, an observable building block in the natural world and science. *Golden* indeed.

The pervasive representations of the Divine Proportion and Golden Ratio in nature have led some, not surprisingly, to see them in spiritual creations and art for thousands of years. You can see Phi and the Divine Proportion in the ratios of the Egyptian pyramids and veritably in Noah's Ark and the Ark of Covenant. Not being a mathematician myself, I could hardly believe how pervasive the ratio was, another

downward point—a commonly accepted representation in Satanism. This section precedes another long section on the concordant orders in Christian knighthood. This was a description, for better or worse, of how some of the mysteries presages some of the Christian earthy rituals, as even when Constantine ushered in the Christian state in 325 A.D. and a good number of Pagan priests translated some of their own rituals into Christian meanings; that in no fashion meant that Paganism was the source of Christianity or that all of the translations were legitimate.

⁷ See <http://goldennumber.net/phi20000.htm>.

awe-ha! experience that points to the marvel of creation itself. How much more beautiful the symmetry and Phi building blocks must appear to a real mathematician.

Eric W. Weisstein at Math World explains the Golden Ratio and Phi in rich detail.⁸ His details the formulae for Phi's relations and proportions in the pentagram, decagon, dodecagon, hexagram, the Golden Triangle, the Golden Rectangle, the Five Circles Theorem, the Great Dodecahedron, the Small and the Great Stellated Dodecahedron, the Great Icosahedron, Hoehn's Theorem, the Kepler-Poinsot Solid, the Miquel Five Circles Theorem, Miquel's Pentagram Theorem, the Star of Lakshmi, and much more, including the relation of the Fibonacci Numbers. The pervasive presence of Phi and the Golden Ratio make them a building block of sorts. Phi is the world's most astonishing number, even a golden number.

Eric W. Weisstein notes that the proportion's geometry was worked out further by Euclid (ca. 300 BC). Martin Ohm was the first to indicate the "Golden Section" in his German math textbook (2nd) in the 1835, and James Sulley first used it in English in his 1875 article on aesthetics in *Encyclopedia Britannica* (9th). Mark Barr apparently first used the Greek letter for Phi at the beginning of the 20th century in commemoration of the Greek sculptor Phidias (ca. 490-430 BC), who a number of art historians claim made extensive use of the Golden Ratio.⁹

Phi is more mysterious and ubiquitous than Pi, and that is not a lot of pie in the sky, but that does depend upon how you *divide* your pie.

Dan Brown's best-selling *The Da Vinci Code* (Doubleday, 2003; 454p.) has some intriguing elements and a snappy plot line and is full of art history. You get a small tour of art in Paris, France, as the characters grow and the plot unravels in Brown's mystery. Leonardo da Vinci (1451-1519) was a genius and utilized Phi and became a precedent for many Renaissance artists and scientists. Some have questioned the

⁸ See these masterfully at <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/GoldenRatio.html>, and then <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/Pentagram.html>, <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/Decagon.html>, <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/Dodecagon.html>, <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/GoldenRectangle.html>, and <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/FibonacciNumber.html>.

⁹ See Mario Livio's *The Golden Ratio—The Story of Phi, the World's Most Astonishing Number* (NY: Broadway Books, 2002; 294p), Roger Herz-Fischler's *A Mathematical History of the Golden Number* (NY: Dover, 1998; 195p), H. E. Huntley's *The Divine Proportion* (NY: Dover, 1970; 185p), Luca Pacioli's *Divine Proportion* (Abaris Books, 2005), R. A. Dunlap's *The Golden Ratio and Fibonacci Numbers* (World Scientific Pub., 1998; 162p), and Anne Sheppard's *Aesthetics: An Introduction to the Philosophy of Art* (Oxford Univ. Press, 1987; 192p).

validity of portions of Brown's book, but it is a *novel* after all. (I wrote a little commentary.¹⁰)

What are the connections between the Divine Proportion's Phi throughout nature and geometry and the pentagram in particular? Can one list *all* of the connections? I think not, and I doubt the practicality. But the geometric *connections* are there and plain to see.

Herein, geometry itself pushes the Satanic interpretations of the pentagram into oblivion. Believing that the world was created by the God of the Bible, all things having their coherence in the Son, that makes the Divine Proportion truly a piece of *Divine* architecture. God put the ratio of Phi nearly everywhere of significance in both nature and geometry, and of course Phi is an infinite number. So a crucial question rises: Is there a spiritual connection that can be spiritually *aided* and *facilitated* with mathematical calculation? No—the Bible does not give one.

Yet, God *is* the Great Architect of the Universe! You can *see* it. And the letter “G” inside the Square and Compasses refers to God and geometry, including the geometry within the 5-pointed star.

Yet there is more than meets the eye with respect to Phi.

There is more of a correlation between the symmetry of the Cross of Christ and the five-pointed star in the Order of the Eastern Star than anything the critics can conjure up in their Frankenstein concoctions. The Christian member of the Order of the Eastern Star does not find the five-pointed star a source of extra-sensory spiritual power, nothing like the various Pagan faiths do. That much is clear. Ask one! Ask me! I *am* here and have just told you above.

When one wants to know the meaning, it is sociable to ask. What is the *meaning* of the Medal of Honor star to the giver *and* to the recipient?

What is astonishing—in a mysterious kind of way—is that the Divine Proportion or Golden Ratio *is* truly a profuse fact of physical and geometric life. Without trying to force a very spiritual point here—as astonishing at it is—see the Divine Proportion in the Cross of Christ, where the Cross itself has been for millennia usually depicted with the two arms extending from the center—with the top the same length as the right and left arms—with the bottom portion longer and extending with a length-ratio to the arms that is Phi or 1.618 or thereabouts. It is not exact some of the time, not like the five-pointed star, and certainly the original Cross of Christ was different than the jewelry worn today. As a Christian, there is no spiritual meaning to me for the Golden Ratio or Phi themselves, but Phi and the ratio are present

¹⁰ See www.PreciousHeart.net/Da_Vinci_Code.pdf.

nevertheless. The ratio between the lengths of the arms of the Cross and the downward segment of the Cross is just that—a *connection*—and a connection reflecting the natural proportions of the human body. So the Divine Proportion and Golden Ratio of Phi *exist* in the Cross and more perfectly in the pentagram, decagon, dodecagon, hexagram, and more.

The Divine Proportion and Golden Ratio of Phi in the Cross has no special spiritual or necessary theological significance to me, but I can still *appreciate* and *see* some special glory. In each successive spiral in a Nautilus seashell or in the spirals of our Milky Way galaxy, yes, did God declare his own glory in the heavens? Sure he did. The Cross is beautiful to me as a symbol of my salvation and future home. Now then, and in the light of the Divine Proportion and Golden Ratio, the Cross is indeed made all the more *beautiful* now that I see its symmetry reflected in the bones of my human hand, in the Nautilus seashell's smoothly increasing curves, and even radiating out of our Milky Way galaxy—even reflected in my own resting heart beat!

Truly, in the Cross and its symmetry, we can see just a little bit *more* of the compass of life related in Colossians 1:17: "He is before all things, and by him all things consist." In a small way and by fluke of church usage, even the symmetry of the Cross of Christ is reflected profusely in all of creation in the Divine Proportion and Golden Ratio of Phi in both nature and geometry.

And the "G" in Freemasonry refers to both God and geometry, and Freemasons the world over refer to the Great Architect of the Universe.



3. The 5-Pointed Star in General Opinion

With respect to the up-right 5-pointed star, it is everywhere and has different meanings in different contexts. I feel a little like a child here, or a myth buster. The most universal meaning is simply as a symbol of a celestial and heavenly *star*, a star of a *star*, indicating a higher place and glory to some degree or another. As in the saying, "You're a *star*!" and "You shall get a star for that." Gosh, but that is simple-minded; that is obvious to everyone, except for those looking and hunting like an Indian scout to impute Satanic meanings where none exists and to impute so that people would see evil where none had existed before.

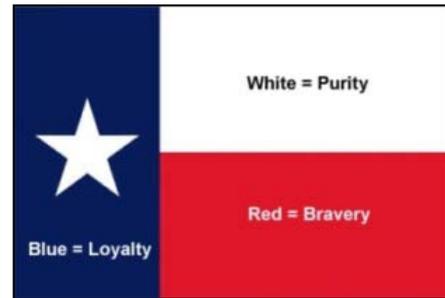
When peeling a 5-pointed star off of a sticker pad to mark a child's progress on a chart, making the child a *star*, I guess the teacher had better be careful that he or she places it *right* side up—lest the wrath of some star-man-police noogy fall on him or her. Or perhaps we just need to boycott the star-sticker factories and push for round

or square dots. Yet, “You’re a *dot*” just does not muster much *star* power—not for those on planet Earth.

The truth of the matter is simpler. Just because Wiccans and Satanists and Pagans use both kinds of stars, so what, that does not mean much to a school child. And their use should not regulate life categorically. The only time it would mean something to the school child would be in the *meaning* that the teacher gave to the child. Or that a critic spread in *proPaganda*.

While we are having fun here, how about the Alamo?¹¹ How about the Lone Star State, Texas, and the Texas flag?

The Lone Star Flag of Texas still stands for freedom today and remembrance of the Alamo, where many men died—many Freemasons—including Colonel William B. Travis, the leader of that courageous rebel band. *Remember the Alamo* carries a new tune in this context.¹²



PICTURE 2. The Texas Flag

¹¹ See *The Alamo* (starring Dennis Quaid as General Sam Houston, Billy Bob Thornton as David Crockett; director John Lee Hancock; Buena Vista Home Entertainment, 137 min.; Widescreen, Dolby; September 28, 2004). Oh, please do see the 1960 version starring Freemason John Wayne, Richard Widmark (director John Wayne; MGM/UA; 162 Min., DVD release 12-19-2000), as well as the *History Channel Presents the Alamo* (A & E Home Video; 12-30-2003; 250 min), *Alamo Documentary* (director Lynn Stevenson; Delta Music; 115 min.; 2004), *Remember the Alamo—American Experience* (Paramount Home Video; 60 min.; 2003), *Martyrs of the Alamo* (Starring Frank Thomson, Director D. W. Griffin, the oldest surviving Alamo film, 1915; 72 min.), *Heroes of the Alamo* (director Harry L. Fraser; 75 min., 1937). There are oodles of books. And yes, I did have to put this in twice—the anti-Masons need to learn something about the Alamo and Texas.

¹² See www.TSL.state.tx.us/ref/abouttx/flagcode.html for the code.

At www.TexasAlmanac.com/texasflags_2000.htm: “On Jan. 25, 1839, President Mirabeau B. Lamar approved the adoption by Congress of a new national flag.... consisted of a blue perpendicular stripe of the width of one-third of the whole length of the flag, with a white star of five points in the center thereof, and two horizontal stripes of equal breadth, the upper stripe white, the lower red, of the length of two-thirds of the whole flag. This is the Lone Star Flag, which later became the state flag. Although Senator William H. Wharton proposed the adoption of the Lone Star Flag in 1844, no one knows who actually designed the flag. The legislature in 1879 inadvertently repealed the law establishing the state flag, but the legislature adopted a new law in 1933 that legally re-established the flag’s design. The state flag’s colors represent the same virtues as they do in the national flag: Red means bravery; white, purity; and blue, loyalty.”

We cannot fault all stars, nor the fifty 5-pointed stars on Old Glory; they are not Pagan simply because a Pagan used the star. Did you know that Freemason George Washington preferred his own 6-pointed star? But Betsy Ross overruled him, illustrating how easy it was to make a 5-pointed star by folding a piece of paper and with one cut. Remember Phi?

Betsy Ross left her Quaker roots to marry Episcopalian John Ross, and her family disowned her. When in Philadelphia for the Continental Congresses, Washington would sit with the Ross' in Episcopal Church services. She was a strong woman who maintained faithfulness to the Revolution in hard times, even when forced to quarter British troops, and by then she became known as the "Little Rebel."¹³ My goodness, if you take a good look at the USA Presidential Seal, you will see 50 stars circling, with the top one being the only up-right 5-pointed star, and—you guessed it—the one on the bottom the upside-down 5-pointed star.



PICTURE 3.
**SEAL OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE
USA**

That is not all. What comes to your mind when you see the following?

¹³ David Hackett Fischer, *Liberty and Freedom* (2005; 851p.), 159-162,

See www.USHistory.org/betsy/more/canby.htm for an 1870 history by William J. Canby, and compare Lloyd Balderston's *The Evolution of the American Flag from Materials Collected by the Late George Canby* (Philadelphia, 1909), Edwin S. Parry's *Betsy Ross, Quaker Rebel* (1930), Roy Thompson's *Betsy Ross: Last of Philadelphia's Free Quakers* (1971), and William D. Timmins and Robert W. Yarrington's *Betsy Ross—The Griscom Legacy* (1981).

Btw, at www.USHistory.org/betsy/flagstar.html, you can learn how to fold a piece of paper and make a perfect 5-pointed star with one cut. At this site, we are also told that Freemason "George Washington's original pencil sketch for the flag indicated 6-pointed stars, a form he apparently preferred. Betsy Ross, however, recommended a 5-pointed star. When the committee protested that it was too difficult to make, she took a piece of paper, folded it deftly, and with a single snip of her scissors, produced a symmetrical five-pointed star. This seeming feat of magic so impressed her audience that they readily agreed to her suggestion."



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PICTURE 4. Medals of Honor

Let me tell a revelation I had about my own self-awareness. As a prison chaplain for over fifteen years, each time I saw the upside-down 5-pointed star in the Pagan literature, it always meant Pagan to me. But let me tell you this—as God is my witness—for my entire life I have never associated the Medal of Honor with Paganism, not once, and not after fifteen years of seeing Pagan stars. I have *never* thought about the upside-down 5-pointed star in the Medal of Honor—ever—as anything in the world but a *medal of honor* and a *symbol* of honor to the brave man or woman who had earned it. So now—in our post-anti-Mason world of sloppy critics—it is truly foul play to have that honor soiled by wicked allusions and loony attributions. The Medal of Honor deserves better, and the character of those who earned the medal deserve much clearer thinking and much more honor.

It was unnerving when these connections were made.

Goodness, the night sky might be filled with Satanic emblems. I am sure Satan loves being seen everywhere but where he actually lurks, as a lion seeking to devour. Sheese, the critic’s logic would consider me a Pagan if Satanists started using tomatoes in their services and I was caught eating a Burger King BLT.

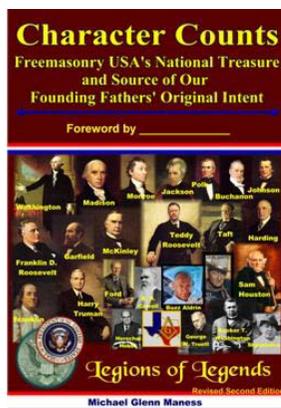
Now that I mention it, the tomatoes-are-evil groups are attempting to warn the unwary public: see www.TomatoesAreEvil.com. This is a campaign against tomatoes! Some nutritionists think they are harmful to the immune system because

¹⁴ See Congressional Medal of Honor Society at www.CMOHS.org. The first award of the Medal of Honor was made March 25, 1863, to Private Jacob Parrott, and five others. Since then there have been: 3,465 Medals of Honor awarded for 3,460 separate acts of heroism performed by 3,446 individuals (including 9 “Unknowns”). Today, there are 105 living Recipients of the Medal of Honor.

they are a member of the nightshade family. This website is bad news for tomato lovers, but fun. You can read the “evil facts” on the terrible tomato, play “evil games” shooting the tomato or comparing the tomato with Osama Bin Laden. You can stop by the “evil shop,” and see much more on books, t-shirts, and other anti-tomato paraphernalia. My goodness, there is more material here against the tomato than the SBC put put together in their less-than-a-comic-book-size throws—like *throw* a rotten tomato—against Freemasonry.

Have you ever seen the movie, *Attack of the Killer Tomatoes*? Rated worst movie ever, more than once. Ok, ok, ok ... I think I need a break.

And ... yes ... get a BLT.



By [Michael Glenn Maness](#)

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**The Revision is half the size with internet
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shortened or simply placed online**