

## Freemasons and the One Dollar Bill

Frequently, a wild array of meanings in an effort to explain the symbols on the one-dollar bill is attributed to Freemasonry regardless of the facts.

Some conspiracy theorists suggests the imagery and symbolism on the bill points to a conspiracy and an undue influence by the Masons on American finances and America's life. Serious scholars and historians do not support these views, nor the other evidence-troubled theories.

Leading the conspiracy notions is the Eye of Providence on the one dollar bill is the suggestion that Freemasons have some extensive and perhaps subversive influence over the founding of the United States and/or American finances and that the dollar bill is linked in some way to the occult. In fact, Freemasons did not begin to use the Eye of Providence as a symbol until over a decade after the Great Seal of the United States was created.

Another popular notion is that the word "Mason" appears within the letters of the Latin phrases surrounding the pyramid. Yes, one can find letters that spell "Mason" along with more than 120 other anagrams such as: *Micronesian*, *accordionist*, *sopranos*, *despots*, and most importantly the word: *misconceptions*.



## The Facts

The First Continental Congress assigned a committee to design a Seal to represent the United States. It took four years to accomplish this task and another two years before it was approved.

A pyramid appears on the left of the bill. Notice the face is lighted, and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the western portions of the nation. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we will continue to build the nation. Inside the capstone you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was the belief of the Founding Fathers that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything, thus resulting in the phrase "IN GOD WE TRUST."

The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means, 'God has favored our undertaking. 'The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means, 'a new order has begun.' At the base of the pyramid is the Roman Numeral for 1776: (MDCCLXXVI).

The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons: First, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong, and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own.



At the top of that shield there is a white bar signifying congress, a unifying factor - the coming together as one nation. In the Eagle's beak you will read, 'E PLURIBUS UNUM' meaning 'one from many'. Above the Eagle, there appears thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original colonies. The stars are encircled with dissipating clouds representing that any clouds of misunderstanding are rolling away and the nation is coming together as one.

Notice what the Eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows.

The numeral thirteen was significant: 13 original colonies, 13 stripes on our flag, 13 steps on the Pyramid, 13 letters in, 'Annuitt Coeptis, 13 letters in 'E Pluribus Unum', 13 stars above the Eagle, 13 bars on that shield, 13 leaves on the olive branch, 13 fruits, and if you look closely, 13 arrows.