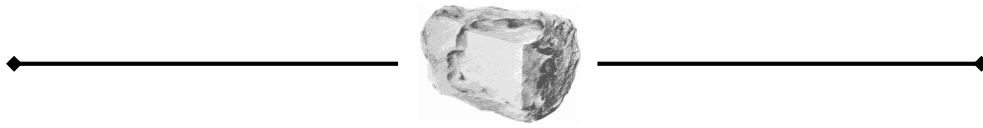


THE TOUGH GUY



A Masonic Education Piece

Published by Longstreet Lodge No. 268

Free & Accepted Masons of Mississippi

Chartered January 30th 1864



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2015

Formatted to be printed as a Booklet

THE TOUGH GUY

I used to be a tough guy and that is the truth

No man made me afraid in the days of my youth

I lived fast and my nights were long

I was young, foolish and head strong

I worked in a mill, a job that was tough

The days were long and the nights were rough

The money was good, I bought expensive things

I loved the joy that money could bring

I wanted the world to see what I saw

A tough guy with a big mouth and an iron clad jaw

I served in the Army and I was proud

I laughed at weaker men out loud

I met a guy in Mexico one day

Who changed my attitude in a very big way

I started a ruckus with this man one night

I hit him in the face with all of my might

He got up from the floor and made me see
That there were tougher men on earth than me
He did what I thought no man could do
The man from Mexico, at Five Foot Two

I fought for fun, I was a scrapper
I never gave a single thought about the hereafter
Life for me was living for today
And I never considered any other way

Religion was a drag, I never had the time
To learn about things like bread and wine
I was a man on a good times path
I never gave a single thought about God's wrath

When I got out of the Army I returned
To the Paper Mill job that I had learned
Things for me were just the same
I went right back to the life I had claimed

I met a man at work one day
And he told me that there was a better way
He was good at his job so I pretended to hear
But the words that he spoke fell on deaf ears

We made fun of him, but he continued to try
To tell what would happen to us, if we died
Day after day, he kept being faithful and true
And he told us about Jesus, the Savior he knew

He didn't mind the dirty jokes we played
He would do his job faithfully, day after day
He had a look of peace in his eyes
And slowly, over time, I began to realize

That Paper Mill life had slowly changed
It was not the strongest, but the smartest who reigned
Those of us in the toughest bunch
Now wanted to sit with this man for lunch

He taught us the things that we needed to know

And our respect for his knowledge began to grow
He was the best at his job and yet he was kind
But this man had another agenda on his mind

He started to show me what the Bible meant
And how it didn't happen by accident
At first I doubted what he had to say
I never thought of things in quite that way

As time went on with each new day
He had some new words to say
He taught me the truth about eternal life
And how it can only be gained through Jesus Christ

He led me to be saved through the blood of the Lamb
The one, the only the great I AM
As we travel through life, we never know
The effect we have on others as we go

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