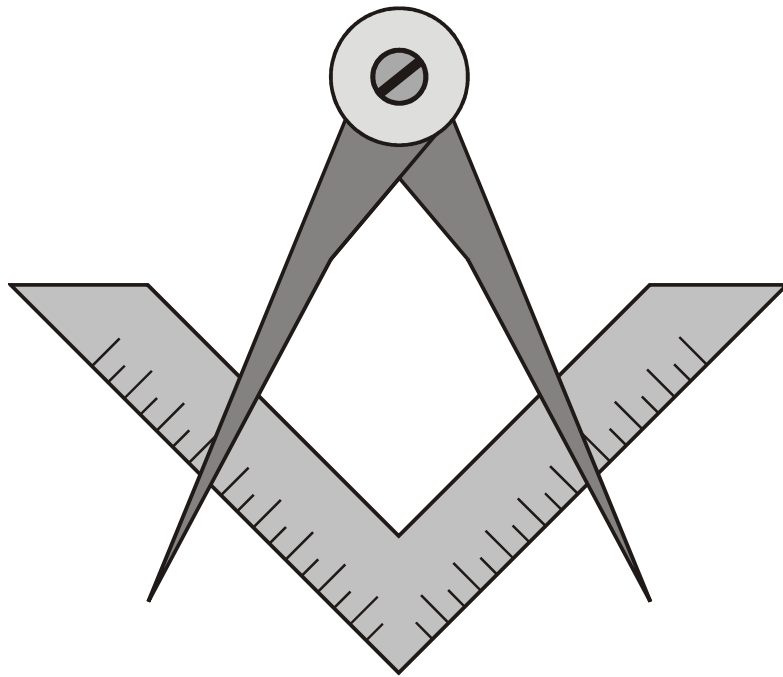


# Master Mason Study Guide



Revision 03/19/12

KEY	TO	SYMBOLS	USED
( * )		One Rap	
( * * )		Two Raps	
( * * * )		Three Raps	
( % )		Step	
( / )		Due-guard	
( # )		Sign	
( 0 )		Token	
( @ )		Action	
( . . . . . )		One person moving	
( : : : : : )		Two people moving	
( : : : : : : : )		Three or more people moving	
—		Other person responding	
—		Pause	

This degree allows multiple candidates. The Ritual reflects a singular candidate. There is nothing wrong with replacing Brother with Brothers or he, with they, etc.

The Red highlighted areas within this study guide, are for instructional purposes. This study guide now matches the one (1) letter key along with the updates found in the written out ritual. It is our intention that this document will be used as a study guide and the one (1) letter key will remain the recommended official ritual.

If the candidate has any physical problems, ie: has trouble kneeling, walking. The Ritual may be deviated from to accommodate his needs. (using a wheel chair, sitting a candidate in a chair at the altar, etc)

1 MASTER MASON DEGREE  
2 OPENING

3 (Within the Lodge)

4 Brethren, please be clothed and in order. Officers take your  
5 stations for opening this Lodge. ( \* ) Is the Tiler of this  
6 Lodge present? If so, he will approach the East.

7 ( . . . . . )

8 Brother Tiler, your place? — Without the door.  
9 Your duty there? — To keep off all cowans or  
10 eavesdroppers and allow none to pass or repass but such as  
11 are duly qualified and have the Worshipful Master's  
12 permission.

13 ( @ ) Receive the implement of your office, repair to your  
14 place and be in the active discharge of your duties.

15 ( . . . . . )

16 ( \* ) Brother Senior Warden. — Worshipful Master

17 Are you sure that all present are Master Masons? — I am  
18 sure, Worshipful, ( % - # ) that all present are Master Masons.  
19 — (or if not sure) I am not sure, Worshipful, but will  
20 ascertain through the proper officers and report.

21 ( \* ) Brother Senior and Junior Deacons. — Brother  
22 Senior Warden. — Approach the West  
23 ( : : : : : )

The Jr Deacon should approach the East from the West along the South. The Sr Deacon should approach the West from the East along the North. They should, align, turn inward and meet West of the altar then approach the West together

24 Give me the pass of a Master Mason. (Junior Deacon gives  
25 it to the Senior Deacon (T-B-C) and he to the  
26 Senior Warden.) Pass right and left through the Lodge and  
27 see if all present are Master Masons and collect the pass.  
(Everyone in the East, is already vouched for. The Password is T-B-C.)

28 ( : : : : : ) (Note instructions to the Deacons as  
29 given in the Entered Apprentice Degree as to the correct  
30 procedure for purging a Lodge.)

31 Brother Senior Warden, a stranger. — Is there a Brother  
32 present who can vouch for the stranger?  
33 Brother Senior Warden, I will vouch for the Brother.

34 Brother Senior (or Junior) Deacon, the Brother is vouched  
35 for.

36 (If no one present responds the Senior Warden says:)  
37 Brother, it will be necessary for you to retire and be  
38 examined. ( : : : : : )

The Sr. Warden should appoint a Committee of at least 2 PM to go out with the brother and examine him. If he is an MM, he will have a dues card. The test oath can be given. He should know the Due Guards, Signs and Tokens of all three degrees, his Lodge number and the WM of his Lodge .

1 Brother Senior Warden, confusion. — Communicate and  
2 receive the pass. ( @ )

(If the wrong password is given, the Deacon should give the correct password and receive it from the Brother)

3 ( : : : : )

4 (Junior Deacon gives the pass to the Senior Deacon and he  
5 to the Senior Warden)

6 (Senior Deacon) Brother Senior Warden, I am sure that all  
7 on the right are Master Masons.

8 (Junior Deacon) Brother Senior Warden, I am sure that all  
9 on the left are Master Masons.

(The Deacons return to their place)

10 ( : : : : )

11 Worshipful Master, ( % - # ) I am now sure that all present are  
12 Master Masons.

13 I wish then to see them come to order as such, reserving  
14 yourself for the last.

15 ( \* \* \* ) Brethren, please come to order as Master Masons.

16 ( % - # ) In order, Worshipful.

17 ( \* ) — ( % - # )

18 ( \* ) Brother Junior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. ( % - # )

19 The first great care of Master Masons when convened? —  
20 To see that the Lodge is duly tiled.

21 Attend to that duty, and inform the Tiler that this Lodge is  
22 about to be opened on the Master Mason Degree in Masonry  
23 for the dispatch of business and direct him to tile  
24 accordingly.

25 ( . . . . ) ( \* \* \* ) Brother Tiler. — Brother Junior  
26 Deacon.

(The Jr Deacon should take his staff with him)

27 This Lodge is about to be opened on the Master Mason  
28 Degree in Masonry for the dispatch of business. You are  
29 directed to tile accordingly.

(The Tiler does not give a response to the Jr Deacon)

30 ( . . . . ) Worshipful Master, this Lodge is tiled.

31 How is it tiled? — By a Brother Master Mason without  
32 the door armed with the proper implement of his office.

33 His duty there? — To keep off all cowans or  
34 eavesdroppers and allow none to pass or repass but such as  
35 are duly qualified and have the Worshipful Master's  
36 permission.

37 ( \* ) Brother Senior Warden. — Worshipful Master. ( % - # )

38 Will you be off or from? — From.

- 1 From what and to what? — From a Fellowcraft to a  
2 Master Mason.
- 3 Are you a Master Mason? — I am.
- 4 What induced you to become a Master Mason? — In  
5 order that I might travel in foreign countries, work and  
6 receive master's wages, the better to enable me to support  
7 myself and family and contribute to the relief of distressed  
8 Master Masons, their widows and orphans.
- 9 What makes you a Master Mason? — My obligation.
- 10 Where were you made a Master Mason? — In a regularly  
11 constituted Lodge of Masters.
- 12 What number constitutes a Lodge of Masters?— Three  
13 or more consisting of a Worshipful Master, Senior and  
14 Junior Wardens.
- 15 The Junior Warden's station in the Lodge? — In the  
16 South, Worshipful. (% - #)
- 17 ( \* \* ) Brother Junior Warden. — Worshipful Master.  
18 ( % - # )
- 19 Why in the South and your duty there? — As the sun in  
20 the South at high meridian is the glory and beauty of the  
21 day, so stands the Junior Warden in the South to call the  
22 craft from labor to refreshment, superintend in the hour  
23 thereof and see that none convert the means of refreshment  
24 into intemperance or excess, to call them to labor again at  
25 the Worshipful Master's order, that he may have pleasure  
26 and they profit thereby.
- 27 The Senior Warden's station? — In the West, Worshipful.  
28 ( % - # )
- 29 Brother Senior Warden. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )
- 30 Why in the West and your duty there? — As the sun is in  
31 the West at the close of the day, so stands the Senior  
32 Warden in the West to assist the Worshipful Master in  
33 opening and closing his Lodge, pay the craft their wages if  
34 any be their due and see that none go away dissatisfied if in  
35 my power to prevent, harmony being the strength and  
36 support of all institutions but more especially this of ours.
- 37 The Worshipful Master's station? — In the East,  
38 Worshipful. (% - # )
- 39 Why in the East and his duty there? — As the sun rises  
40 in the East to open and govern the day, so rises the  
41 Worshipful Master @) to open and govern his Lodge, set the  
42 craft at work and give them proper instruction.

1 ( \* \* \* ) Brother Senior Warden. — Worshipful Master.  
 2 ( % - # )

3 It Is my order that this Lodge be now opened on the Master  
 4 Mason Degree in Masonry for the dispatch of business,  
 5 during which time all private committees and other  
 6 irregular and unmasonic conduct tending to disturb the  
 7 peace and harmony of the same while engaged in the lawful  
 8 pursuits of Masonry are strictly forbidden, under no less  
 9 penalty than such as a majority of the brethren present,  
 10 acting under the by-laws of this Lodge, may see cause to  
 11 inflict. This you will announce to the Junior Warden in the  
 12 South and he to the Brethren around the Lodge that they,  
 13 having due and timely notice thereof, may govern  
 14 themselves accordingly.

15 Brother Junior Warden. — Brother Senior Warden. —  
 16 It is the order of the Worshipful Master that this Lodge be  
 17 now opened on the Master Mason Degree in Masonry for  
 18 the dispatch of business, during which time all private  
 19 committees and other irregular and unmasonic conduct  
 20 tending to disturb the peace and harmony of the same while  
 21 engaged in the lawful pursuits of Masonry are strictly  
 22 forbidden, under no less penalty than such as a majority of  
 23 the Brethren present, acting under the by-laws of this  
 24 Lodge, may see cause to inflict. This you will announce to  
 25 the brethren around the Lodge that they, having due and  
 26 timely notice thereof, may govern themselves accordingly.

27 Brethren, you hear the order of the Worshipful Master, as  
 28 communicated to me by the Senior Warden in the West,  
 29 agreeably to his order so let it be done.

30 Together brethren attend the signs. ( % - / - # ) ( % - / - # )  
 31 ( % - / - # - \$ )

32 \* (East)            \* (West)            \* (South)

33 \* (East)            \* (West)            \* (South)

34 \* (East)            \* (West)            \* (South)

35 (Chaplain) May the blessing of Heaven rest upon this  
 36 meeting so happily begun. May it be conducted in order and  
 37 closed in harmony. Amen.

38 (Response) So mote it be.

39 Brother Senior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. ( % - # )  
 40 Attend the altar.

(The Sr. Deacon does not take his staff with him)  
 41 ( . . . . ) (Please note instructions outlined in the in the  
 42 Entered Apprentice Degree. Bible is opened at Ecclesiastes,  
 43 Chapter XII)

1 Brother Senior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )  
2 (Flag ceremony, See Entered Apprentice Degree)

3 (Worshipful Master) I now declare this Lodge open for the  
4 dispatch of business. (Senior Warden erects column)

5 Brother Junior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. (% - # ) —  
6 Inform the Tiler.

7 ( . . . . . ) ( \* \* \* ) Brother Tiler. — Brother Junior  
8 Deacon.

9 This Lodge is now open for the dispatch of business.  
10 ( . . . . . )

(The Tiler does not give a response to the Jr Deacon)

11 (Junior Deacon) Worshipful Master, (% - #) the Tiler is  
12 informed.

13 ( \* )

1 MASTER MASON DEGREE  
2 FIRST SECTION

3 (CANDIDATE PREPARATION

4 The Candidate is divested of all metals. Both knees are  
5 exposed. Both feet are not shod. The cable-tow is wrapped  
6 three times around the mid-section of his body. He is hood-  
7 winked. He wears an apron as a Fellowcraft.)

8 ( \* ) Brother Junior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )

9 Ascertain if there are any candidates in waiting to receive  
10 the Master Mason Degree in Masonry.

11 ( . . . . . ) ( \* \* \* ) Brother Tiler. — Brother Junior  
12 Deacon. Are there any candidates in waiting to  
13 receive the Master Mason Degree in Masonry?

14 Brother \_\_\_\_\_ is in waiting to receive the Master Mason  
15 Degree in Masonry.

16 ( . . . . . ) Worshipful Master, (% - # ) Brother J D. — Brother \_\_\_\_\_ is in  
17 waiting to receive the Master Mason Degree in Masonry.

18 ( \* ) Brother Stewards. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )

19 Retire, prepare and announce Brother \_\_\_\_\_ to receive the  
20 Master Mason Degree in Masonry.

21 ( \* ) Brother Secretary. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )

22 Retire and collect the fee.  
23 ( : : : : : )

24 ( . . . . . )(Secretary at altar) Worshipful Master. (% - # ) —  
25 Brother Secretary.

26 The fee is collected.  
27 ( . . . . . )  
28 ( \* \* \* )

29 (Candidate knocking at the inner door)  
Worshipful Master. (% - # ) — Brother Senior Warden.

30 While peaceably engaged in the lawful pursuits of Masonry  
31 there is an alarm at the inner door of the Lodge.

32 ( \* ) Brother Senior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )

33 Hail the alarm and see who comes here.

34 ( . . . . . )  
(The Sr Deacon opens the inner door and asks the Stewards)

35 Who comes here? — Brother \_\_\_\_\_ , who has been  
36 regularly initiated an Entered Apprentice, passed to the



1 degree of Fellowcraft and now wishes to receive further  
2 light in Masonry by being raised to the sublime degree of a  
3 Master Mason.

4 Brother \_\_\_\_\_ it of your own free-will and accord? — It  
5 is.

6 Brother Stewards, is he worthy and well qualified, duly and  
7 truly prepared? — He is.

8 Has he made suitable proficiency in the preceding Degrees?  
9 — He has.

10 Is he properly vouched for? — He is.

11 By what further right or benefit does he expect to gain  
12 admission? — By the benefit of the pass.

13 Has he the pass? — He has not; I have it for him.

14 Advance and give it. — ( . . . . . ) T-B-C.

(The Stewards do not have to whisper the pass.)

15 Brother \_\_\_\_\_ , wait with patience until the Worshipful  
16 Master shall be informed of your request and his answer  
17 returned.

18 ( . . . . . to Altar)

(The Sr Deacon does not say, Worshipful Master)

19 ( # ) Brother \_\_\_\_\_ , who has been regularly initiated an  
20 Entered Apprentice, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft,  
21 and now wishes to receive further light in Masonry by being  
22 raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason.

23 Is it of his own free-will and accord? — It is.

24 Is he worthy and well qualified, duly and truly prepared?

25 — He is.

26 Has he made suitable proficiency in the preceding degrees?

27 — He has.

28 Is he properly vouched for? — He is.

29 By what further right or benefit does he expect to gain  
30 admission? — By the benefit of the pass.

31 Has he the pass? — He has not; I have it for him.

32 Advance and give it.

(The Sr Deacon goes all the way to the East to give the pass. He does not have to whisper the pass.)

33 ( . . . . . ) T-B-C. The Sr Deacon returns West of the altar ( . . . . . )

34 Let him enter and be received in due form. ( \* ) ( . . . . . )

(The Sr. Deacon returns to the inner door opens it and says)

35 Let him enter and be received in due form.

(The Candidate is taken by both hands and led into the Lodge.

He should stop between the West and the Altar. From this point forward, he does not give the sign when addresses by the Wardens or Worshipful Master).

36 ( : : : : ) Brother \_\_\_\_\_ , on entering this Lodge of Master

37 Masons, you are received on both points of the compasses

38 ( @ ) extending from your naked left to right breast, which

1 is to teach you that, as the vital parts of man are contained  
2 within the breast, so the most excellent tenets of our  
3 institution are contained between the two points of the  
4 compasses, which are friendship, morality and brotherly  
5 love.

6 ( \* )

7 ( : : : : stop at East)

(All in procession should face the East)

8 (Chaplain) Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy  
9 youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw  
10 nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;  
11 While the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not  
12 darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain:

13 In the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and  
14 the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders  
15 cease because they are few, and those that look out of the  
16 windows be darkened.

17 And the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound  
18 of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of  
19 the bird, and all the daughters of music shall be brought  
20 low;

21 Also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and  
22 fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall  
23 flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire  
24 shall fail: because man goeth to his long home, and the  
25 mourners go about the streets:

26 Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be  
27 broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the  
28 wheel broken at the cistern.

29 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the  
30 spirit shall return unto God who gave it. (Ecclesiastes XII  
31 1-7)

32 ( \* ) ( : : : : )

33	* (South)	* (West)	* (East)
34	** (South)	** (West)	** (East)
35	*** (South)	*** (West)	*** (East)

36 ( \* \* \* )

37 (Junior Warden) Who comes here? — Brother \_\_\_\_\_ , who  
38 has been regularly initiated an Entered Apprentice, passed  
39 to the degree of Fellowcraft, and now wishes to receive  
40 further light in Masonry by being raised to the sublime  
41 Degree of a Master Mason.

1 Brother \_\_\_\_\_ , is it of your own free-will and accord? — It  
2 is.

3 Brother Senior Deacon, is he worthy and well qualified,  
4 duly and truly prepared? — He is.

5 Has he made suitable proficiency in the preceding degrees?  
6 — He has.

7 Is he properly vouched for? — He is.

8 By what further right or benefit does he expect to gain  
9 admission? — By the benefit of the pass.

10 Has he the pass? — He has not; I have it for him.  
11 Advance and give it. — ( @ ) T-B-C.  
(The Sr Deacon steps forward and gives the pass. He does  
not have to whisper the pass.)

12 Go to the Senior Warden in the West.

13 ( : : : : )

14 ( \* \* \* )

15 (Senior Warden) Who comes here? — Brother \_\_\_\_\_ , who  
16 has been regularly initiated an Entered Apprentice, passed  
17 to the degree of Fellowcraft, and now wishes to receive  
18 further light in Masonry by being raised to the Sublime  
19 Degree of a Master Mason.

20 Brother \_\_\_\_\_ , is it of your own free-will and accord? — It  
21 is.

22 Brother Senior Deacon, is he worthy and well qualified,  
23 duly and truly prepared? — He is.

24 Has he made suitable proficiency in the preceding degrees?  
25 — He has.

26 Is he properly vouched for? — He is.

27 By what further right or benefit does he expect to gain  
28 admission? — By the benefit of the pass.

29 Has he the pass? — He has not; I have it for him.

30 Advance and give it. — ( @ ) T-B-C.  
(The Sr Deacon steps forward and gives the pass. He does  
not have to whisper the pass.)

31 Go to the Worshipful Master in the East.

32 ( : : : : )

33 ( \* \* \* )

34 (Worshipful Master) Who comes here? — Brother \_\_\_\_\_ ,  
35 who has been regularly initiated an Entered Apprentice,  
36 passed to the degree of Fellowcraft, and now wishes to  
37 receive further light in Masonry by being raised to the  
38 sublime degree of a Master Mason.

1 Brother \_\_\_\_\_ , is it of your own free-will and accord? — It  
2 is.

3 Brother Senior Deacon, is he worthy and well qualified,  
4 duly and truly prepared? — He is.

5 Has he made suitable proficiency in the preceding degrees?  
6 — He has.

7 Is he properly vouched for? — He is.

8 By what further right or benefit does he expect to gain  
9 admission? — By the benefit of the pass.

10 Has he the pass? — He has not; I have it for him.  
11 Advance and give it.

(The Sr Deacon steps forward and gives the pass. He does not have to whisper the pass.)

12 ( . . . . . ) ( @ ) T-B-C ( . . . . . )

13 Reconduct him to the Senior Warden in the West, who will  
14 teach him to approach the East by three upright regular  
15 steps, his feet forming the angle of a perfect square, his  
16 body erect at the altar before the Worshipful Master in the  
17 East. ( \* )

(The Candidate must be conducted all the way to the West)

18 ( : : : : : )

19 Brother Senior Warden. — Brother Senior Deacon.

20 It is the order of the Worshipful Master that you teach this  
21 Brother to approach the East by three upright regular  
22 steps, his feet forming the angle of a perfect square, his  
23 body erect at the altar before the Worshipful Master in the  
24 East.

25 ( . . . . . )

(The SW should conduct the candidate close to the altar before instructing him.)

26 Brother \_\_\_\_\_ face the East. ( @ ) ( : : : : : ) Step off with  
27 your left foot. Bring the heel of the right to the hollow of the  
28 left. Step off with your right foot. Bring the heel of the left  
29 to the hollow of the right. Step off with your left foot. Bring  
30 heel to heel forming the angle of a perfect square, body  
31 erect at the altar before the Worshipful Master in the East.

(The SW returns to the West to report)

32 ( . . . . . ) Worshipful Master, ( % - # ) the Brother is  
33 instructed.

34 Brother \_\_\_\_\_, you are again at the altar of Masonry. Before  
35 you can proceed further it is necessary that you take an  
36 obligation appertaining to this degree. It becomes my duty,  
37 as well as pleasure, to inform you that there is nothing  
38 contained in this obligation that conflicts with the duty you  
39 owe to God, your country, neighbor, family or yourself. With  
40 this assurance on my part are you willing to proceed? — I  
41 am.

1 ( \* ) Brother Senior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. —

2 Place the Brother in due form.

(The Sr. Deacon should have the Candidate place both hands on the Altar)

3 Kneel on both naked knees ( @ ), both hands resting on the

4 Holy Bible [or Volume of the Sacred Law etc. (see Preface)],

5 square and compasses.

6 Worshipful Master, the Brother is in due form.

7 ( \* \* \* )

8 (: : : : Worshipful Master and Chaplain to Altar)

(The lights are turned completely off once the WM is on the level . The pauses in the obligation are suggestions only. The WM may adjust the pauses based on the candidates ability to return the obligation.)

9 Brother \_\_\_\_\_ , say I, pronounce your name and repeat after

10 me:

11 I, \_\_\_\_\_ , of my own free-will and accord,— in the presence of

12 Almighty God and this Worshipful Lodge,— erected to Him

13 and dedicated to — the Holy Saints John,— do hereby and

14 hereon — most solemnly and sincerely — promise and swear — that

15 I will always hele,— ever conceal — and never reveal — any of the

16 secret arts,— parts or points — of the Master Mason's Degree — to

17 any person or persons — whomsoever, — except it be — to a true

18 and lawful brother of this degree, — or in a regularly

19 constituted Lodge — of Master Masons,— nor unto him nor them —

20 until by strict trial, — due examination — or legal information — I

21 shall have found — him or them — as lawfully entitled to the

22 same — as I am myself.—

23 I further promise and swear — that I will stand to and abide

24 by — all the laws, — rules and regulations — of the Master Mason's

25 Degree — and of the Lodge of which I shall become a member,—

26 as far as the same — shall come to my knowledge, — and that I

27 will ever maintain and support — the constitution, — laws and

28 edicts — of the Grand Lodge — under which the same shall be

29 holden.—

30 Further,— that I will answer and obey — all due signs and

31 summons — sent to me — from a Master Mason's Lodge, — or given

32 me — by a brother of this degree, — if within the length of my

33 cable-tow.—

34 Further,— that I will aid and assist — all poor distressed Master

35 Masons,— their widows and orphans,— knowing them to be

36 such, — as far as their necessities may require — and my ability

37 permit — without material injury to myself or family.—

38 Further,— that I will keep — a Brother Master Mason's secret —

39 inviolate,— when communicated to — and received by me — as

40 such,— murder and treason excepted.—

41 Further, — that I will not aid nor be present — at the initiating,—

42 passing or raising — of a woman,— an old man in dotage,— a

1 young man in his non-age,— an atheist,— a madman — nor a fool,—  
2 knowing them to be such.—

3 Further,— that I will not sit — in a Lodge of clandestine  
4 Masons,— nor converse upon the secrets of Masonry — with a  
5 clandestine Mason,— nor with one — who has been expelled or  
6 suspended — from a Lodge — while under that sentence,—  
7 knowing him or them to be such — .

8 Further — , that I will not cheat,— wrong nor defraud — a Master  
9 Mason's Lodge — nor a brother of this degree — knowingly,— nor  
10 supplant him — in any of his laudable undertakings,— but will  
11 give him due and timely notice — that he may ward off —  
12 approaching danger.—

13 Further,— that I will not knowingly strike — a brother Master  
14 Mason, — nor otherwise — do him personal violence in anger,—  
15 except in the necessary defense — of myself,— family or  
16 property.—

17 Further,— that I will not have — illicit carnal intercourse — with a  
18 Master Mason's wife, — his mother,— sister or daughter,— nor  
19 suffer the same to be done by others,— if in my power to  
20 prevent.—

21 Further,— that I will not give — the Grand Masonic Word — in  
22 any other manner or form — than that — in which I shall receive  
23 it,— and then in low breath.—

24 Further,— that I will not give — the Grand Hailing Sign of  
25 distress — except in cases — of the most imminent danger,— in a  
26 just and legal Lodge — or for the purpose of instruction — and,  
27 should I ever see or hear it given — by a brother in distress,— I  
28 will immediately — go to his relief,— should there be a greater  
29 probability — of saving his life — than of losing my own.

30 All this,— I most solemnly and sincerely — promise and swear —  
31 with a firm and steadfast resolution — to perform the same —  
32 without any hesitation,— mental reservation, — or secret  
33 evasion of mind whatsoever — and should I ever knowingly —  
34 violate this, — my Master Mason obligation,— may I be  
35 degraded and suspended — or expelled from Masonry.— So help  
36 me God — and keep me steadfast — in the due performance of  
37 the same.

38 Disengage your hands and, in token of your sincerity, kiss  
39 the book before you, which is the Holy Bible[or Volume of  
40 the Sacred Law etc. (see Preface)]. — ( @ )

41 Brother Senior Deacon. — Worshipful Master.

42 Remove the cable-tow. — ( @ )

43 Brother, \_\_\_\_\_, in your present condition what do you most desire?

1 (Prompted by Senior Deacon) Further light in Masonry.

2 Brethren, stretch forth your hands and assist me in giving  
3 this Brother further light in Masonry. (All on step and due-  
4 guard except Stewards and Senior Deacon.)

5 (Chaplain) In the beginning God created the heaven and  
6 the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and  
7 darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of  
8 God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let  
9 there be light: and there was light. (@) (Genesis 1; 1-3)

(The Sr. Deacon removes the hoodwink at this time)

10 Brother, on being brought to light you discover more than  
11 you have heretofore done: both points of the Compasses  
12 elevated above the square, which is to teach you never to  
13 lose sight of the moral application of these useful and  
14 valuable instruments which teach Friendship, Morality and  
15 Brotherly love.

(The lights are turned on at this time)

16 (: : : : : Worshipful Master and Chaplain return to East)

17 ( \* )

(The Worshipful Master should start talking as he starts walking)

18 You now discover me as Worshipful Master approaching  
19 you from the East on the step ( % - % - % ), and under the  
20 due-guard ( / ) and sign ( # ) of a Master Mason.

21 This is the due-guard ( % - / ) of a Master Mason; it alludes to  
22 the position your hands were in when you took your  
23 obligation.

24 This ( % - # ) is the sign of a Master Mason; it alludes to the  
25 ancient and symbolic penalty of a Master Mason, which was  
26 that of having your body severed in twain, your bowels taken  
27 from thence and burned to ashes, and the ashes scattered to  
28 the four winds of Heaven, that no more remembrance might  
29 be had of so vile a wretch as you should be.

30 This sign ( % - # ) you are  
31 always to give when you enter or retire from a Lodge of  
32 Master Masons, also on arising to address the Worshipful  
33 Master.

34 ( . . . . . to altar)

35 In token of the further continuance of my Brotherly love  
36 and Friendship, I present you with my right hand and with  
37 it the pass and token of the pass of a Master Mason. As you  
38 are uninstructed your conductor will answer for you. What  
39 is this? — The pass-grip of a Master Mason.

40 Has it a name? — It has.

41 Will you give it me? — I did not so receive it, neither will  
42 I so impart it.

43 How will you dispose of it? — I will letter it or syllable it.

- 1 Syllable it and begin. — No, you begin.
- 2 Begin you. — T — B — C — T-B —  
3 T-B-C.
- 4 Arise, go and salute the Junior and Senior Wardens.
- 5 ( . . . . . ) ( \* )
- 6 ( : : : : : )  
7 ( \* \* \* )  
(The Jr Warden should look at the candidate)
- 8 (Junior Warden) Who comes here? — A Master Mason.
- 9 How shall I know him to be such? — By a certain sign  
10 and token.
- 11 Give me a sign. — ( @ ) ( % - # )
- 12 Has that an allusion? — It has to the ancient and  
13 symbolic penalty of a Master Mason.
- 14 Give me a token. — ( 0 )
- 15 What is this? — The pass-grip of a Master Mason  
16 Has it a name? — It has.
- 17 Will you give it me? — I did not so receive it, neither will I  
18 I so impart it.
- 19 How will you dispose of it? — I will letter it or syllable it.
- 20 Syllable it and begin. — No, you begin.
- 21 Begin you. — T — B — C — T-B —  
22 T-B-C.
- 23 The sign and token are right, Brother.
- 24 ( : : : : : ) ( \* \* \* )  
25 (Senior Warden) Who comes here? — A Master Mason.  
(The Sr Warden should look at the candidate)
- 26 How shall I know him to be such? — By a certain sign  
27 and token.
- 28 Give me a sign. — ( @ ) ( % - # )
- 29 Has that an allusion? — It has to the ancient and  
30 symbolic penalty of a Master Mason.
- 31 Give me a token. — ( 0 )  
32 What is this? — The pass-grip of a Master Mason.
- 33 Has it a name? — It has.
- 33 Will you give it me? — I did not so receive it, neither will  
35 I so impart it.



- 1 How will you dispose of it? — I will letter it or syllable it.
- 2 Syllable it and begin. — No, you begin.
- 3 Begin you. — T — B — C — T-B —  
4 T-B-C.
- 5 The sign and token are right, Brother.
- 6 ( : : : : to north of altar. )
- 7 ( \* ) Brother Senior Deacon. — Worshipful Master.  
(When the procession is in the North, The Worshipful Master states)
- 8 Reconduct the Brother to the Senior Warden in the West,  
9 who will teach him how to wear his apron as a Master  
10 Mason.
- 11 ( : : : : )
- 12 Brother Senior Warden. — Brother Senior Deacon.
- 13 It is the order of the Worshipful Master that you teach this  
14 Brother how to wear his apron as a Master Mason.
- 15 ( . . . . ) (Senior Warden. ) Brother, face the East. ( @ )
- 16 In ancient times Master Mason's wore their  
17 aprons with the right corner turned up in the form of a  
18 triangle to distinguish them as Master Masons, and as  
19 overseers of the work, but in modern times we work in  
20 speculative Masonry only and a Master Mason should wear  
21 his apron with the right corner and flap turned down..  
22 ( . . . . ) ( @ )  
(At this time the Sr Warden approaches the candidate and turns the  
Right corner and the flap down  
( . . . . )  
(The Sr Warden returns to the West)
- 23 Worshipful Master, ( % - # ) the Brother is instructed.  
24 ( \* )  
25 ( : : : : to the East )  
(The Working Tools should be presented from the East)
- 26 I now present you with the working tools of a Master  
27 Mason, which are all the implements of Masonry  
28 indiscriminately, but more especially the trowel.
- 29 The trowel is an instrument made use of by operative  
30 Masons to spread the cement which unites a building into  
31 one common mass, but we as Free and Accepted Masons are  
32 taught to make use of it for the more noble and glorious  
33 purpose of spreading the cement of brotherly love and  
34 affection, that cement which unites us into one sacred band  
35 or society of friends and Brothers, among whom no  
36 contention should ever exist but that noble contention or,  
37 rather, emulation of who best can work or best agree.  
38 Brother Senior Deacon. — Worshipful Master.

1 Return the brother to the place from whence he came,  
2 reinvest him with what he has been divested and let him  
3 wait my further will and pleasure. ( \* )

4 ( ::::: ) ( ..... )  
(The Sr. Deacon does not go out with the Candidate)

2 ( \* ) Brother Junior Warden. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )

3 Erect your column and call the craft from labor to  
4 refreshment and to labor again at the sound of the gavel in  
5 the East. (Junior Warden erects column) (Senior Warden  
6 lowers column)

7 ( @ ) (Junior Warden) ( \* \* \* ) Brethren, it is the order of the  
8 Worshipful Master that you come from labor to refreshment  
9 and to labor again at the sound of the gavel in the East.  
10 Agreeably to his order so let it be done.

11 Brother Senior Deacon. — Brother Junior Warden. (% - # )

12 Attend the altar.

13 ( . . . . . ) (Instructions: The Senior Deacon proceeds to the  
14 north side of the altar, kneels, turns the great lights one-  
15 quarter turn to the right, spreads the square and  
16 compasses. He then salutes the Junior Warden with the  
17 sign of a Master Mason and returns to his place.) (% - # )( . . . . . )

18 Brother Junior Deacon. — Brother Junior Warden. (% - # )

19 Inform the Tiler.

20 ( . . . . . ) ( \* \* \* ) Brother Tiler. — Brother Junior  
21 Deacon. — This Lodge is called from labor to  
22 refreshment.

23 ( . . . . . ) Brother Junior Warden. (% - # ) — Brother Junior  
24 Deacon.

25 The Tiler is informed.

26 (Junior Warden) ( \* )

1 FROM REFRESHMENT TO LABOR

2 ( \* In the East)

3 (Junior Warden) Brother Senior Warden. — Brother  
4 Junior Warden.

5 Are you sure that all present are Master Masons? —  
6 Brother Junior Warden, (#) I am sure that all present are  
7 Master Masons. — (or if not sure) Brother Junior  
8 Warden, I am not sure but will ascertain through the  
9 proper officers and report.

10 ( \* ) Brother Senior and Junior Deacons. — Brother  
11 Senior Warden. — Approach the West.

12 ( . . . . . ) — ( . . . . . )

13 Pass right and left through the Lodge and see if all present  
14 are Master Masons.

15 ( . . . . . ) — ( . . . . . )

16 (Please note the instructions to the Deacons as outlined in  
17 the E.A. Degree opening. Also, note that the pass is not  
18 collected in calling from refreshment to labor.)

19 Brother Senior Warden, a stranger. — Is there a Brother  
20 present who can vouch for the stranger?

21 Brother Senior Warden, I will vouch for the Brother.

22 Brother Senior (or Junior) Deacon, the Brother is vouched  
23 for.

24 (If no one present responds, the Senior Warden says:)  
25 Brother it will be necessary for you to retire and be  
26 examined.

27 ( : : : : : ) (When purged, the Deacons return to Senior  
28 Warden and report.) ( . . . . . ) — ( . . . . . )

29 (Senior Deacon) Brother Senior Warden, I am sure that all  
30 on the right are Master Masons.

31 (Junior Deacon) Brother Senior Warden, I am sure that all  
32 of the left are Master Masons.

33 ( : : : : : )

34 (Senior Warden) Brother Junior Warden, (% - #) I am now  
35 sure that all present are Master Masons.

36 (Junior Warden) ( \* \* \* ) Brethren, it is the order of the  
37 Worshipful Master that you come from refreshment to  
38 labor. Agreeably to his order, so let it be done.

1 Brother Senior Deacon. — Brother Junior Warden. (% - # )  
2 — Attend the Altar.

3 (Instructions to the Senior Deacon: The Senior Deacon  
4 proceeds to the west side of the altar, kneels, turns the  
5 great lights back to their original position, rearranges the  
6 square and compasses, then moves to the north side of the  
7 altar and salutes the Junior Warden with the sign of a  
8 Master Mason. He returns to his place.) ( . . . . . )

9 Brother Junior Deacon. — Brother Junior Warden. (% - # )  
10 — Inform the Tiler.

11 ( . . . . . ) ( \* \* \* ) Brother Tiler. — Brother Junior  
12 Deacon.

13 This Lodge has come from refreshment to labor.

14 ( . . . . . ) Brother Junior Warden. (% - # ) — Brother Junior  
15 Deacon. — The Tiler is informed.

16 ( \* )

17 (Junior Warden lowers column — Senior Warden erects  
18 column)

1 MASTER MASON DEGREE  
2 SECOND SECTION

3 ADMONITION TO BRETHREN

4 (Must be read by the Worshipful Master presiding in the  
5 East immediately before the Candidate is conducted into  
6 the Lodge room at the beginning of the Second Section of  
7 the Master Mason Degree. If more than one Candidate is  
8 raised, it may be read only one time.)

9 My Brethren, you are about to witness the raising of a  
10 Brother to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

11 The drama of the Second Section of this degree is rich in  
12 beautiful symbolism. It is indeed the impressive climax of  
13 the Brother's progress in Freemasonry.

14 As the important lesson of immortality of the soul is  
15 unfolded in the ritual of the degree, there must be no levity  
16 in the lodge room. This is a solemn, serious ceremony, and  
17 it is imperative that the highest level of dignity and  
18 decorum prevail while the work is being conferred.

19 You must remember that, for this Section of the Master  
20 Mason Degree, the Temple is supposed to be silent and  
21 unoccupied. There must be no whispering, no laughing, no  
22 scuffling or stomping of feet.

23 Only the participants in the drama are to speak, and they  
24 have been instructed not to use any gestures or facial  
25 expressions that might induce levity.

26 At the conclusion of the drama let there be no applause.  
27 Bear in mind that the candidate, and only the candidate is  
28 the audience. For him, and for all of us, the moment should  
29 be too sublime to allow expressions of approval. What you  
30 are about to witness may well be one of the richest  
31 experiences in a mans life. We ask your full cooperation in  
32 helping to impress upon the Brother's mind the beautiful  
33 symbolism and the dignified solemnity of this occasion.

34 (six bells)

35 ( : . : . : . : . ) (Fellowcrafts enter and go to work.)

36 (twelve bells)

37 ( : . : . : . : . ) (Fellowcrafts exit.)

38 ( : : : : : ) (Senior Deacon and the Candidate enter and  
39 proceed to the South. The Candidate sits in the Junior  
40 Warden's chair which must be left vacant for him!)

1 (Worshipful Master) ( \* ) Brother \_\_\_\_\_ Step forward to  
2 the altar.

3 ( : : : : Senior Deacon and Candidate)

4 (Worshipful Master to Altar) You now perhaps  
5 consider yourself a Master Mason and, as such, entitled to  
6 all the rights and benefits appertaining to this degree. I  
7 presume you do from the jewel you now wear as a Warden  
8 of this Lodge. It becomes my duty however to inform you  
9 that you are not, but far from it. You have yet to undergo  
10 one of the most trying scenes that human nature ever  
11 endured. You have a rough and rugged path to travel, beset  
12 with ruffians, if not with murderers. The instance has been  
13 known and should you lose your life in the conflict, you will  
14 not be the first. You must remember in whom you put your  
15 trust, and that he who endureth to the end the same shall  
16 be saved.

17 You had on a former degree someone to pray for you; now  
18 you have none. You must pray for yourself. You will  
19 therefore suffer yourself again to be hood-winked. Kneel  
20 and pray either mentally or orally as you prefer. To signify  
21 when you have done, say Amen, and make your progress.

22 ( . . . . . )

23 (Senior Deacon) Kneel where you are and pray, mentally or  
24 orally as you prefer. When you have done say Amen and  
25 arise.

26 ( \* \* \* ) Amen. So mote it be.

27 ( \* )

28 ( : : : : Go to trestle board)

29 ( : : : : ) (South)

30 (1R) Grand Master Hiram Abif, I am glad to meet you  
31 alone. I have long sought this opportunity. You will  
32 remember that you promised us that when the temple was  
33 completed, we would receive the secrets of a Master Mason,  
34 whereby we might travel in foreign countries, work and  
35 receive Master's wages. Behold, the temple is now about  
36 completed and we have not obtained that which we have so  
37 long sought. At first I did not doubt your veracity, but now I  
38 do. I therefore now demand of you the secrets of a Master  
39 Mason.

40 (Senior Deacon) Brother, this is an unusual way of asking  
41 for them. It is neither a proper time nor place. Be true to  
42 your engagement and I will be to mine. Wait until the  
43 Temple is completed and then, if you are found worthy and

1 well qualified, you will undoubtedly received them, but  
2 until then you cannot.

3 (1R) This does not satisfy me. Talk not to me of time or  
4 place, but give me the secrets of a Master Mason or I will  
5 take your life.

6 (S.D.) I cannot, neither can they be given except in the  
7 presence of three: Solomon, King of Israel; Hiram, King of  
8 Tyre and myself. ( @ )

9 (1R) This does not satisfy me. I will hear no more of your  
10 caviling. Give me the Master's word, or I will take your life  
11 in a moment.

12 (S.D.) I will not! — ( @ )

13 ( : : : : to West)

14 (2R) Give me the secrets of a Master Mason.

15 (S.D.) I can not.

16 (2R) Give me the secrets of a Master Mason or I will take  
17 your life.

18 (S.D.) I shall not.

19 (2R) Give me the Master's word or I will take your life in a  
20 moment.

21 (S.D.) I will not. ( @ )

22 ( : : : : to East)

23 (3R) Give me the secrets of a Master Mason.

24 (S.D.) I can not.

25 (3R) Give me the secrets of a Master Mason or I will take  
26 your life.

27 (S.D.) I shall not.

28 (3R) You have escaped Jubela and Jubelo, but me you  
29 cannot escape. My name is Jubelum. What I purpose that I  
30 perform. I hold in my hand an instrument of death,  
31 therefore, give me the Master's word or I will take your life  
32 in a moment.

33 (S.D.) I will not.

34 (3R) Then die. ( @ )

35 (3R) Is he dead?

36 (2R) He is; his skull is broken.



1 (1R) What horrid deed is this we have done? We have  
 2 murdered our Grand Master Hiram Abif and have not  
 3 obtained that which we sought.

4 (3R) This is no time for reflection. The question now is:  
 5 what shall we do with the body?

6 (2R) We will bury it in the rubbish of the temple until low  
 7 twelve and then we will meet and give it a decent burial.

8 (1R) Agreed.

9 (one bell)

10 ( : : : : : ) (Fellowcrafts return to work.)

11 (six bells)

12 ( : : : : : ) (Fellowcrafts exit.)

13 ( : : : : : ) (1R and 2R proceed to the West to dig a grave.)

14 (lights down)

15 (twelve bells)

16 (1R and 2R return to Southeast) ( : : : : : ) — ( . . . . . )

17 (3R) Hail, is that you?  
 18 (1R and 2R) Yes.  
 19 (3R) Well, we have met according to agreement and now  
 20 what shall we do with the body?  
 21 (2R) We will carry it a westerly course from the temple to  
 22 the brow of the hill west of Mt. Moriah, where we have been  
 23 and dug a grave due east and west, six feet perpendicular.  
 24 (3R) Agreed.  
 25 ( : : : : : to West)  
 26 (3R) Now let us plant an acacia in the head of the grave in  
 27 order to conceal it and that the place may be known should  
 28 occasion ever require. ( @ )  
 29 (2R) Now let us make our escape out of the country.  
 30 ( : : : : : )

31 (lights up)

32 ( : : : : : S.C. and S.F.M.)

33 (1R) Hail, friend. Are you a sea captain?  
 34 (S.C.) I am.  
 35 (3R) Are you going to put to sea soon?

- 1 (S.C.) Immediately.
- 2 (2R) Whither are you bound?
- 3 (S.C.) To Ethiopia.
- 4 (1R) The very place we wish to go. We should like to gain a  
5 passage with you, three of us.
- 6 (S.C.) Very well, you can have a passage, I suppose. You  
7 appear to be workmen from the temple at Jerusalem, are  
8 you not?
- 9 (All) We are.
- 10 (S.C.) I shall be glad of your company. You have a pass  
11 from King Solomon, I suppose?
- 12 (3R) No, we have no pass. We did not know that it was  
13 necessary. We were sent out in a hurry and on urgent  
14 business. There was nothing said about giving us a pass.  
15 Presumably, it was forgotten or not deemed necessary.
- 16 (S.C.) What, no pass?  
17 (2R) We have none.
- 18 (S.C.) If this is the fact you will not gain a passage with me,  
19 I assure you. This is explicitly forbidden, so you may set  
20 your hearts at rest.
- 21 (1R) We must go back and get a pass if this is the  
22 regulation.  
23 ( : : : : : )
- 24 (S.C. to S.F.M.) They seem to be suspicious characters.
- 25 ( : : : : : )
- 26 (3R) Well, what shall we do in this case?
- 27 (2R) We will go to some other port.
- 28 (1R) But it is as well known in other ports as in this, and if  
29 such are the regulations, we shall not gain a passage from  
30 any port and what will become of us?
- 31 (3R) We shall surely be taken and put to death.
- 32 (2R) We will secrete ourselves until nightfall, steal a small  
33 boat and put to sea.
- 34 (1R) We can never make our escape in this way. It is a  
35 dangerous coast and we shall surely be cast away if not  
36 taken, but the fact is we shall be taken, for by this time or  
37 soon hereafter the sea coast will be lined with our pursuers.

1 (3R) Then let us flee into the interior part of the country  
2 and avoid being taken as long as possible.

3 (1R and 2R) Agreed.

4 ( : : : : : )

5 (six bells)

6 ( : : : : ) (Fellowcraft enter —examination of trestle  
7 board.)

8 (4th FC) Well Brothers, nothing to do today. No work laid  
9 out, no designs drawn on the Trestle Board.

10 (Confusion) (King Solomon and King of Tyre enter and go  
11 towards East)

12 (K.S.) What means all this confusion among the workmen.  
13 Why are you not at work as usual?

14 (5th FC) Most Worshipful King Solomon, (FC /) there is no  
15 work laid out for us and it is said we can have none at  
16 present, owing to there being no designs drawn on the  
17 trestle board. For this reason many of us are idle.

18 (K.S.) No work laid out? No designs on the trestle board?  
19 — What is the meaning of this? Where is our Grand  
20 Master Hiram Abif?

21 (6th FC) We do not know, Most Worshipful King Solomon;  
22 (FC /) he has not been seen since high twelve yesterday.

23 (K.S.) Not been seen since high twelve yesterday? — I fear  
24 that he is indisposed. It is my order that strict search be  
25 made for him through the several apartments of the temple  
26 and diligent inquiry made. Let him be found if possible.  
27 (All go outside)

28 (ALL FC) Have you seen anything of our Grand Master  
29 Hiram Abif? — Not since high twelve yesterday.

30 ( : : : : : to East)

31 (7th FC) Most Worshipful King Solomon, (FC /) diligent  
32 search has been made; he cannot be found in, nor about the  
33 temple nor heard of. ( : : : : : )

34 (K.S.) I fear some accident has befallen him. — Brother  
35 Grand Secretary, — (FC /) — go out and see the craft  
36 assembled and the several rolls called and reports made as  
37 soon as possible.

38 (Grand Secretary to outer door) Hail craftsmen, it is  
39 King Solomon's order that the several rolls be called and  
40 reports made as soon as possible. (delivers rolls)

1 ( . . . . . )

2 ( . . . . . ) rolls called outside

3 ( . . . . . )

4 (4th FC) Brother Grand Secretary, this roll has been called  
5 and it appears that Fellowcraft Jubela is missing.

6 (5th FC) Brother Grand Secretary, this roll has been called  
7 and it appears that Fellowcraft Jubelo is missing.

8 (6th FC) Brother Grand Secretary, this roll has been called  
9 and it appears that Fellowcraft Jubelum is missing.

10 (center of room)

11 (G.S.) Most Worshipful King Solomon, (FC / ) the several  
12 rolls have been called and reports received, by which it  
13 appears that three Fellowcrafts are missing, Jubela, Jubelo  
14 and Jubelum, who, from the similarity of their names, I  
15 presume are brothers and men from Tyre. ( . . . . . )

16 ( \* \* \* ) (the Junior Deacon opens the door)

17 (Tiler) Brother Junior Deacon, twelve Fellowcrafts wish to  
18 be admitted; they say they come with important tidings.  
19 (J.D.) Most Worshipful King Solomon, (FC / ) there are at  
20 the gate, twelve Fellowcrafts who wish to be admitted; they  
21 say they come with important tidings.

22 (KS) Let them be admitted.

23 (Junior Deacon opens door) Come in you twelve  
24 Fellowcrafts.

25 ( : . : . : . : 12 FC to East)

26 (8th FC) Most Worshipful King Solomon. (FC / ) We come  
27 to inform you that fifteen of us Fellowcrafts seeing the  
28 temple about completed and being desirous of obtaining the  
29 secrets of a Master Mason, whereby we might travel in  
30 foreign countries and receive Master's wages, entered into a  
31 horrible conspiracy to extort them from our Grand Master  
32 Hiram Abif or take his life, but reflecting with horror on the  
33 atrocity of the crime, twelve of us recanted. The other three  
34 seemed to persist in their murderous designs and we fear  
35 they have taken his life. We therefore now appear before  
36 your majesty clothed in white gloves and aprons, in token of  
37 our innocence, acknowledging our premeditated guilt and  
38 humbly implore your pardon.

39 (KS) Arise, divide yourselves in parties and travel, three  
40 east, three west, three north and three south with others

1 whom I may appoint in pursuit of the ruffians and return  
2 not without tidings.

3 ( : : : : : East)

4 ( : : : : : West)

5 ( : : : : : North)

6 ( : : : : : South)

7 (10th, 11th and 12th Fellowcraft meet Seafaring man)

8 (10th FC) Hail friend, have you seen any strangers pass this  
9 way?

10 (S.F.M.) I have, three.

11 (11th FC) Describe them if you please.

12 (S.F.M.) They appeared to be workmen from the temple,  
13 seeking a passage into Ethiopia but not having King  
14 Solomon's pass, were not able to obtain one, and returned  
15 back into the country.

16 (12th FC) The very fellows we are in pursuit of. — You say  
17 they returned back into the country?

18 (S.F.M.) Yes.

19 (12th FC) Well, we must report being in possession of  
20 tidings.

21 ( : : : : : to East)

22 (10th FC) (FC 1 ) Tidings from the West.

23 (KS) Well, relate.

24 (10th FC) I, being one who pursued a westerly course  
25 coming down near the port of Joppa, met a Seafaring man  
26 of whom I inquired if he had seen any strangers pass that  
27 way. He informed me that he had, three, who, from their  
28 appearance were workmen from the temple, seeking a  
29 passage into Ethiopia, but not having King Solomon's pass,  
30 were not able to obtain one and returned back into the  
31 country.

32 (KS) Disguise yourselves and travel as before, with positive  
33 injunctions to find the ruffians and with as positive  
34 assurance that if you do not, the twelve shall be deemed the  
35 murderers and severally suffer for the crime committed.

36 ( : : : : : 10th, 11th and 12th FC exit)

37 ( : : : : : 1st, 2nd and 3rd FC to grave)

1 (3rd FC) Well brothers, I am tired; I must sit down and rest  
2 ( @ ) before I can go any further.

3 (2nd FC) Well, I am tired.

4 (1st FC) What course shall we pursue now?

5 (3rd FC) We must not go and report, if we do the twelve  
6 will be put to death. Here are three (: : : : :. 10th, 11th  
7 and 12th FC) of the poor fellows with us. We must not go  
8 and give them up to be put to death.

9 (2nd FC) We must take a northwesterly or a southwesterly  
10 course and be off.

11 (1st FC) Agreed, and what way shall we go?

12 (3rd FC) We will go a southwesterly course.

13 (2nd FC) Well, come on, brothers; we must be going.

14 (3rd FC) Hail, what means this acacia coming up so easily?

15 (1st FC) The ground has been newly broken.

16 ( 2nd FC) This has the appearance of a grave.

17 (Outside) (The imprecation of Jubela) Oh that my throat  
18 had been cut across, my tongue torn out by its roots and  
19 buried in the rough sands of the sea at low-water mark,  
20 where the tide ebbs and flows twice in twenty-four hours,  
21 ere I had been accessory to the death of so good a man as  
22 our Grand Master Hiram Abif.

23 (4th FC) The voice of Jubela.

24 (Outside) (The imprecation of Jubelo) Oh that my breast  
25 had been torn open, my heart plucked out and placed on the  
26 highest pinnacle of the temple to be devoured by the  
27 vultures of the air, ere I had consented to the death of so  
28 good a man as our Grand Master Hiram Abif.

29 (5th FC) The voice of Jubelo.

30 (Outside) (The imprecation of Jubelum) It was I that gave  
31 the fatal blow, it was I that killed him. Oh that my body  
32 had been severed in twain, my bowels taken from thence  
33 and burned to ashes and the ashes scattered to the four  
34 winds of heaven, that no more remembrance might be had  
35 of so vile a wretch as I am, ere I had caused the death of so  
36 good a man as our Grand Master Hiram Abif.

37 (6th FC) The voice of Jubelum! They are all there; rush in  
38 and seize them.

39 ( : : : : : )

1 ( : : : : : 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th 8th and 9th FC enter with  
2 ruffians)

3 ( : : : : : )

4 (At grave) (4th FC) Hail, craftsmen. While sitting down to  
5 rest we heard the horrid imprecations of these three  
6 ruffians from the clefts of an adjacent rock, wherein they  
7 made a full confession of their guilt, upon which we rushed  
8 in, seized, bound and now have them here with us.

9 (5th FC) Let us go and report.

10 ( : : : : : )

11 ( : : : : : )

12 ( : : : : : )

13 ( : : : : : )

14 ( : : : : : )

15 (1st FC) Most Worshipful King Solomon, (FC /) I, being  
16 one who pursued a westerly course and, on my return after  
17 several days spent in fruitless search, being more weary  
18 than the rest, sat down on the brow of a hill to rest and  
19 refresh myself, and on arising accidentally caught hold of  
20 an acacia, which easily giving way excited my curiosity. I  
21 hailed my companions and on examination we found it to be  
22 a grave.

23 About this time a party arrived with these ruffians, who  
24 related that while sitting down to rest they heard the  
25 following horrid imprecations from the cleft of an adjacent  
26 rock:

27 (6th FC) The first was the voice of Jubela, exclaiming: "Oh  
28 that my throat had been cut across, my tongue torn out by  
29 its roots and buried in the rough sands of the sea at low-  
30 water mark, where the tide ebbs and flows twice in twenty-  
31 four hours, ere I had been accessory to the death of so good  
32 a man as our Grand Master Hiram Abif."

33 (7th FC) The second was the voice of Jubelo exclaiming: "Oh  
34 that my breast had been torn open, my heart plucked out  
35 and placed on the highest pinnacle of the temple to be  
36 devoured by the vultures of the air, ere I had consented to  
37 the death of so good a man as our Grand Master Hiram  
38 Abif."

39 (9th FC) The third was the voice of Jubelum exclaiming,  
40 more horrid than the rest: "It was I that gave the fatal blow,  
41 it was I that killed him. Oh that my body had been severed  
42 in twain, my bowels taken from thence and burned to ashes

1 and the ashes scattered to the four winds of heaven, that no  
2 more remembrance might be had of so vile a wretch as  
3 am, ere I had caused the death of so good a man as our  
4 Grand Master Hiram Abif" upon which they rushed in,  
5 seized, bound and now have them before your Majesty.

6 (K.S.) Jubela, Jubelo, and Jubelum, are you guilty or not  
7 guilty?

8 (All) Guilty.

9 (K.S.) Vile impious wretches, despicable villains. Reflect on  
10 the atrocity of your crime and on the amiable character of  
11 your Grand Master whom you have basely assassinated.  
12 Hold up your heads and hear your sentences. It is my order  
13 that you be taken without the gates of the city and executed  
14 agreeably to your several imprecations in the cleft of the  
15 rock.

16 (Fifteen march out :: :: :: :: )

17 (Twelve Fellowcrafts return before King Solomon :: :: :: :: )

18 (11th FC) Most Worshipful King Solomon. (FC /) Your  
19 order has been duly executed. (@)

20 (K.S.) You twelve Fellowcrafts will now go in search of the  
21 body, and if found, observe whether the Master's Word, a  
22 key to it, or anything appertaining to the Master's Degree is  
23 on or about it.

24 (Twelve repair to the grave :: :: :: :: )

25 (11th FC) Can we find the place where our weary brother  
26 sat down to rest and refresh himself?

27 (12th FC) It was a westerly course from the temple and near  
28 this mound.

29 (11th FC) Perhaps we can find the place where the acacia  
30 was pulled up.

31 (12th FC) Ah, here it lies, a withered branch, a sad  
32 memento of the fate of man.

33 (11th FC) Let us dig here and see what discoveries we can  
34 make. (@ /)

35 (ALL) Here lies the mortal remains of our Grand Master  
36 Hiram Abif.

37 (4th FC) Shall we report this?

38 (5th FC) Yes. (all start toward East)

39 (7th FC) But stay, it was King Solomon's order if the body  
40 was found, to observe whether the Master's Word, a key to



1 it or anything appertaining to the Master's Degree was on  
2 or about it.

3 (2nd FC) (@) Here is the jewel of his office, shall we  
4 remove this?

5 (11th FC) Yes.

6 (4th FC @ removes Jewel)

7 (all return to the East :: :: :: ::)

8 (4th FC) (FC / ) Tidings of the body.

9 (K.S.) Where was it found?

10 (5th FC) A westerly course, where our weary brother sat  
11 down to rest and refresh himself.

12 (K.S.) Was the Master's Word, a key to it or anything  
13 appertaining to the Master's Degree on or about it?

14 (2nd FC) (FC / ) Most Worshipful King Solomon, we are only  
15 Fellowcrafts. We therefore know nothing about the Master's  
16 Word or the Master's Degree. There was discovered nothing  
17 on nor about the body, except this jewel of his office  
18 whereby his body was designated.

19 (presents jewel)

20 (K.S.) You twelve will now go and assist in raising the  
21 body, and

22 My Worthy Brother of Tyre, as the Master's Word is now  
23 lost, the first sign given at the grave and the first word  
24 spoken after the body shall be raised shall be adopted for  
25 the regulation of all Master's Lodges until future  
26 generations shall find out the right.

27 (K.T.) Agreed.

28 (All repair to the grave :::: :: :: ::)

29 ( / - # - \$ Given by all)

30 (All) Oh Lord, my God, is there no help for the widow's son?

31 Solemn strikes the funeral chime,  
32 Notes of our departing time,  
33 As we journey here below,  
34 Through a pilgrimage of woe.

35 Mortals, now indulge a tear,  
36 For mortality is here,  
37 See how wide her trophies wave,  
38 O'er the slumbers of the grave.

39 Here another guest we bring,

1 Seraphs of celestial wing,  
 2 To our funeral altar come,  
 3 Waft our friend and Brother home.

4 Lord of all below, above  
 5 Fill our souls with Truth and Love,  
 6 As dissolves our earthly tie,  
 7 Take us to Thy Lodge on high.

8 (K.S.) Oh Lord, My God, ( \$ ) I fear the Master's Word is  
 9 forever lost. You will take the body by the Entered  
 10 Apprentice grip and see if it can be raised.

11 (12th FC) ( @ ) Most Worshipful King Solomon (FC / )  
 12 Owing to the high state of putrefaction, it having been dead  
 13 already fifteen days, the skin slips and it cannot be raised.

14 (K.S.) Oh Lord, My God, ( \$ ) I fear the Master's Word is  
 15 forever lost. My Worthy Brother of Tyre I will thank you to  
 16 endeavor to raise the body by the Fellowcraft grip.

17 (K.T.) (@) My Worthy Brother, owing to the reasons  
 18 before given, the flesh cleaves from the bones and it cannot  
 19 be so raised.

20 (K.S.) Oh Lord, My God. ( \$ ) Oh Lord, My God. ( \$ ) Oh  
 21 Lord, My God, ( \$ ) I fear the Master's Word is forever lost  
 22 and my Worthy Brother of Tyre, what shall we do?

23 (K.T.) Let us Pray.

24 (KS) Agreed.

25 ( \* \* \* ) (King of Tyre)

26 Thou, Oh God, knowest our downsitteing and our uprising  
 27 and understandeth our thoughts afar off. Shield and defend  
 28 us from the evil intentions of our enemies and support us  
 29 under the trials and afflictions we are destined to endure  
 30 while traveling through this vale of tears. Man that is born  
 31 of a woman is of few days and full of trouble. He cometh  
 32 forth as a flower and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow  
 33 and continueth not. Seeing his days are determined, the  
 34 number of his months is with Thee. Thou has appointed his  
 35 bounds that he cannot pass. Turn from him that he may  
 36 rest till he shall accomplish his day. For there is hope of a  
 37 tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again and that the  
 38 tender branch thereof will not cease; but man dieth, and  
 39 wasteth away, yea, man giveth up the ghost and where is  
 40 he? As the waters fail from the sea, and the flood decayeth  
 41 and drieth up, so man lieth down, and riseth not, till the  
 42 heavens be no more. Yet, Oh Lord, have compassion on the  
 43 children of Thy Creation; administer them comfort in time

1 of trouble and save them with an everlasting salvation.  
2 Amen.

3 (Response) So mote it be.

4 ( \* )

5 (K.S.) My Worthy Brother of Tyre, I shall now endeavor  
6 with your assistance to raise the body by the strong grip of  
7 the Lion's Paw of the tribe of Judah.

8 (@) M-H-B-A

9 (K.S.) You have now received that Grand Masonic Word,  
10 which you have solemnly sworn never to give in any other  
11 manner or form than that in which you have now received  
12 it, namely on the five points of Fellowship and then in low  
13 breath.

14 The five points of fellowship are: foot to foot, knee to knee,  
15 breast to breast, hand to back, cheek to cheek or mouth to  
16 ear.

17 Foot to foot, that you will never hesitate to go on foot and  
18 out of your way to aid and serve a needy Brother. Knee to  
19 knee, that you will ever remember a Brother's welfare as  
20 well as your own in all your addresses to the Deity.

21 Breast to breast, that you will ever keep in your breast a  
22 Brother's secret, when communicated to and received by  
23 you as such, murder and treason excepted.

24 Hand to back, that you will ever be ready to stretch forth  
25 your hand to aid and support a fallen Brother, and that you  
26 will vindicate his character behind his back, as well as  
27 before his face.

28 Cheek to cheek or mouth to ear, that you will ever caution  
29 and whisper good counsel in the ear of a Brother, and in the  
30 most friendly manner remind him of his errors and aid his  
31 reformation, giving him due and timely notice that he may  
32 ward off approaching danger.

33 Repair to the East and receive an historical account of this  
34 degree.

35 ( : : : : : ) (Senior Deacon acts as conductor)

36 ( \* \* \* )

37 Now brethren, let us see to it, and so regulate our lives by  
38 the plumb line of justice, ever squaring our actions by the  
39 square of virtue, that when the Grand Warden of Heaven  
40 shall call for us we may be found ready. Let us cultivate  
41 assiduously the noble tenets of our profession, Brotherly  
42 Love, Relief and Truth, and from the square learn morality,

1 from the level equality, and from the plumb rectitude of life.  
2 Let us imitate in all his varied perfection him, who when  
3 assailed by the murderous hand of rebellious craftsmen,  
4 maintained his integrity even in death and sealed his  
5 pledge with his vital blood.

6 Let us emulate his amiable and virtuous conduct, his  
7 unfeigned piety to his God and his inflexible fidelity to his  
8 trust. As the evergreen which bloomed at the head of his  
9 grave designated the place of his interment, so may virtue  
10 by its everblooming loveliness designate us as Free and  
11 Accepted Masons. With the trowel spread liberally the  
12 cement of brotherly love and affection. Circumscribed by the  
13 compasses, let us ponder well our words and actions and let  
14 all the energies of our minds and the affections of our souls  
15 be employed in the attainment of our Supreme Grand  
16 Master's approbation. Then, when our dissolution draws  
17 nigh and the cold winds of death come sighing around us  
18 and his chill dew glistens on our brow, with joy will we obey  
19 the summons of the Grand Warden of Heaven, and go from  
20 our labors on earth to everlasting refreshment in the  
21 Paradise of God.

22 Then, by the benefit of a pass, a pure and blameless life,  
23 with a firm reliance on Divine Providence shall we gain  
24 ready admission into that Celestial Lodge above where the  
25 Supreme Architect of the Universe presides, where  
26 standing at the right hand of our Supreme Grand Master,  
27 He will be pleased to pronounce us just and upright  
28 Masons. Then will we be fitly prepared as living stones for  
29 that spiritual building, that house not made with hands,  
30 eternal in the Heavens, where no discordant voice shall be  
31 heard, but all the soul shall experience shall be perfect  
32 bliss, and all it shall express will be perfect praise, and love  
33 divine will ennoble every heart, and hosannas exalted  
34 employ every tongue.

35 ( \* )

36 (Team retires)

1 MASTER MASON DEGR  
2 SECOND SECTION  
3 OPTIONAL SHORT FORM

4 (The "Admonition to Brethren" (Lines 9-33, Page 90) must  
5 be read before beginning the Second Section. If more than  
6 one Candidate is raised, it may be read only once prior to  
7 the first Candidate being raised. Note also that each  
8 Brother shall, during the course of the meeting in which he  
9 is raised, see or experience the Master Mason Degree in its  
10 entirety.)

11 (The optional short form proceeds as follows:)

- 12 \* begin with Line 38, Page 90,
- 13 \* continue through Line 8, Page 93,
- 14 \* begin again with Line 13, Page 93,
- 15 \* continue through Line 30, Page 93,
- 16 \* begin again with Line 22, Page 101,
- 17 \* continue through Line 30, Page 101,
- 18 \* begin again with Line 8, Page 102,
- 19 \* continue through Line 34, Page 103.

20 (Lines 14 and 15 on page 93 are not performed in the  
21 optional short form.)

# MASTER MASON DEGREE HISTORY

3 Brother, the second section of this degree exemplifies an  
4 instance of virtue, fortitude and integrity seldom equaled if  
5 ever excelled in the history of man. You have this evening  
6 represented one of the greatest Masons the world has ever  
7 known, our Grand Master Hiram Abif, who was slain just  
8 before the completion of King Solomon's Temple. His death  
9 was premeditated by fifteen Fellowcrafts, who seeing the  
10 temple about completed and being desirous of obtaining the  
11 secrets of a Master Mason, whereby they might travel in  
12 foreign countries and receive Master's wages, entered into a  
13 horrible conspiracy to extort them from our Grand Master  
14 Hiram Abif or take his life; but, reflecting with horror on  
15 the atrocity of the crime, twelve of them recanted. The other  
16 three persisted in their murderous designs.

17 Our Grand Master Hiram Abif was slain at high twelve. It  
18 was his usual practice at high twelve, when the craft were  
19 called from labor to refreshment, to enter into the  
20 unfinished Sanctum Sanctorum or Holy of Holies of the  
21 Temple and there to offer up his adoration to the Deity and  
22 draw his designs on the trestle board. The three  
23 Fellowcrafts who persisted in their murderous designs,  
24 knowing this to be his usual practice, placed themselves at  
25 the south, west and east gates of the inner court of the  
26 temple and there awaited his return.

27 Our Grand Master Hiram Abif having finished his usual  
28 exercises, attempted to retire by the south gate, where he  
29 was accosted by Jubela, who thrice demanded of him the  
30 secrets of a Master Mason or the Master's Word, and on  
31 being refused gave him a blow with a twenty-four inch  
32 gauge across his throat, upon which he fled and attempted  
33 to pass out at the west gate, where he was accosted by  
34 Jubelo, who in like manner thrice demanded of him the  
35 secrets of a Master Mason or the Master's Word and on his  
36 like refusal gave him a blow with a square across his  
37 breast, upon which he fled and attempted to make his  
38 escape out of the east gate, where he was accosted by  
39 Jubelum, who in like manner thrice demanded of him the  
40 secrets of a Master Mason or the Master's Word and on his  
41 like refusal gave him a violent blow with a setting-maul on  
42 his forehead, which felled him dead on the spot.

43 They buried the body in the rubbish of the Temple until low  
44 twelve or twelve at night when they met by agreement and  
45 carried it a westerly course from the temple, to the brow of  
46 a hill west of Mount Moriah, where they buried it in a grave

1 dug due east and west, six feet perpendicular, in the head of  
2 which they planted an acacia, in order to conceal it and that  
3 the place might be known should occasion ever require and  
4 made their escape.

5 Our Grand Master Hiram Abif was found to be missing the  
6 day following this, there being no designs drawn on the  
7 trestle board. King Solomon being informed thereof,  
8 supposed him to be indisposed and ordered strict search to  
9 be made for him throughout the several apartments of the  
10 temple and diligent inquiry made. Search and inquiry were  
11 accordingly made but he could not be found. King Solomon,  
12 then fearing that some accident had befallen him, ordered  
13 the several rolls of the workmen to be called and after roll  
14 call it was found that three Fellowcrafts were missing,  
15 Jubela, Jubelo and Jubelum, who from the similarity of  
16 their names were supposed to be brothers and men from  
17 Tyre.

18 About this time, the twelve Fellowcrafts who had recanted  
19 from their murderous designs appeared before King  
20 Solomon, clothed in white gloves and aprons, in token of  
21 their innocence, acknowledging their premeditated guilt  
22 and humbly implored his pardon. King Solomon ordered  
23 them to divide themselves in parties and travel, three east,  
24 three west, three north and three south with others whom  
25 he might appoint in pursuit of the ruffians.

26 They traveled and those who pursued a westerly course  
27 coming down near the Port of Joppa met a seafaring man, of  
28 whom they inquired if he had seen any strangers pass that  
29 way. He informed them that he had, three, who from their  
30 appearance were workmen from the temple seeking a  
31 passage into Ethiopia, but not having King Solomon's pass  
32 were not able to obtain one and had returned back into the  
33 country.

34 They returned and brought this information to King  
35 Solomon, who ordered them to disguise themselves and  
36 travel as before, with positive injunctions to find the '  
37 ruffians and with as positive assurance that if they did not  
38 the twelve would be deemed the murderers and severally  
39 suffer for the crime committed.

40 They traveled as before, and as those who had pursued a  
41 westerly course were returning, one of them being more  
42 weary than the rest sat down on the brow of a hill to rest  
43 and refresh himself and on arising accidentally caught hold  
44 of an acacia which easily giving way excited his curiosity,  
45 upon which he hailed his companions and on examination  
46 they found it to be a grave.

1 About this time a party arrived with the ruffians and  
2 related that while sitting down to rest they heard the horrid  
3 imprecations of Jubela, Jubelo and Jubelum, upon which  
4 they rushed in seized, bound and brought them before King  
5 Solomon, who after a due confession of their guilt ordered  
6 them to be taken without the gates of the city and executed  
7 agreeably to their several imprecations in the cleft of the  
8 rock. They were taken out and executed accordingly.

9 King Solomon then ordered the twelve Fellowcrafts to go in  
10 search of the body and if found to observe whether the  
11 Master's Word, a key to it or anything appertaining to the  
12 Master's Degree was on or about it.

13 The body of our Grand Master Hiram Abif was found a  
14 westerly course from the temple, where our weary brother  
15 sat down to rest and refresh himself. There was nothing  
16 found on nor about the body except the jewel of his office,  
17 whereby his body was designated. King Solomon then  
18 ordered them to go and assist in raising the body and it was  
19 agreed between him and Hiram, King of Tyre that as the  
20 Master's Word was then lost, the first sign given at the  
21 grave and the first word spoken after the body should be  
22 raised, should be adopted for the regulation of all Master's  
23 Lodges until future generations should find out the right.

24 They repaired to the grave where they raised their hands  
25 above their heads and exclaimed "Oh Lord, My God, is there  
26 no help for the widow's son?"

27 King Solomon then ordered one of the Fellowcrafts to take  
28 the body by the Entered Apprentice grip and see if it could  
29 be raised, but owing to the high state of putrefaction, it  
30 having been dead already fifteen days, the skin slipped and  
31 the body could not be raised. He then requested the King of  
32 Tyre to take it by the Fellowcraft grip, but owing to the  
33 reasons before given, the flesh cleaved from the bones and  
34 the body could not be so raised.

35 King Solomon then exclaimed "Oh Lord, My God, I fear the  
36 Master's Word is forever lost and my Worthy Brother of  
37 Tyre, what shall we do?"

38 He said, "Let us pray." After prayer King Solomon took the  
39 body by the strong grip of a Master Mason or Lion's Paw  
40 and raised it on the five points of fellowship which have  
41 been explained to you.

42 They carried the body to the temple from whence they  
43 buried it in due form.

44 The body of our Grand Master Hiram Abif was buried three  
45 times, first in the rubbish of the temple, second on the brow



1 of a hill west of Mount Moriah, and third and last as near  
2 the Sanctum Sanctorum as the Jewish law would permit,  
3 and Masonic tradition informs us that there was erected to  
4 his memory a marble monument, consisting of a beautiful  
5 Virgin weeping over a broken column, before her was a book  
6 open, in her right hand a sprig of acacia, in her left an urn,  
7 behind her stands Time unfolding her ringlets and counting  
8 her hair.

9 The beautiful virgin weeping over the broken column  
10 denotes the unfinished temple, likewise the untimely death  
11 of our Grand Master Hiram Abif. The book open before her  
12 that his virtues therein lie on perpetual record. The sprig of  
13 acacia in her right hand the timely discovery of the body.  
14 The urn in her left, that his ashes were therein safely  
15 deposited to perpetuate the remembrance of that amiable,  
16 discreet and exemplary craftsmen. Time unfolding her  
17 ringlets and counting her hair denotes that time, patience  
18 and perseverance accomplish all things.

1 MASTER MASON DEGREE  
2 LECTURE

3 I shall now proceed to give and explain to you the several  
4 signs and tokens belonging to this degree. This ( / ) you  
5 will remember is the due-guard of a Master Mason; it  
6 alludes to the position your hands were in when you took  
7 your obligation, both resting on the Holy Bible square and  
8 compasses.

9 This ( # ) you will remember is the sign of a Master Mason;  
10 it alludes to the ancient and symbolic penalty of a Master  
11 Mason.

12 Also when our ancient brethren repaired to the grave of our  
13 Grand Master Hiram Abif, they found their hands  
14 involuntarily placed in this position ( / ) or in this ( # ) to  
15 guard their nostrils from the deathly effluvia that assailed  
16 them from the grave.

17 This ( \$ ) is called the Grand Hailing sign; this also has an  
18 allusion. At the raising of the body of our Grand Master  
19 Hiram Abif, our ancient brethren, in token of horror and  
20 surprise at the mortified state of the body, thus raised their  
21 hands above their heads and exclaimed "Oh Lord, My God,  
22 is there no help for the Widow's son?" Giving this three  
23 times and at the same time exclaiming "Oh Lord, My God!"  
24 constitutes the Grand Hailing sign of distress, which you  
25 have solemnly sworn never to give except in cases of the  
26 most imminent danger, in a just and legal Lodge, or for the  
27 purpose of instruction and if ever you see or hear it given by  
28 a brother in distress, you are to go to his relief if there is a  
29 greater probability of saving his life than of losing your  
30 own. The words to be given in the dark or in other  
31 circumstances when the sign cannot be seen or cannot be  
32 given are, "Oh Lord, My God, is there no help for the  
33 Widow's son?" On hearing this you are equally bound to go  
34 to the relief of the Brother who gives it.

35 This ( @ ) you will remember, is the pass-grip of a Master  
36 Mason, the name of which is T-B-C who was the first  
37 known artificer and cunning workman in metals.  
38 Pass — T-B-C.

39 This ( @ ) is called the strong grip of a Master Mason or  
40 Lion's Paw. This also has a name, it being that which you  
41 have solemnly sworn never to give except on the five points  
42 of fellowship and then in low breath as you received it.

43 I shall now proceed to note the several grips by which you  
44 were raised to this sublime degree: they being the same

1 that were used at the raising of the body of our Grand  
2 Master Hiram Abif and serve to remind us and are said to  
3 allude to the three principal dispensations or conditions  
4 under which mankind has existed since the creation of the  
5 world, namely: mankind by nature, the Jewish Hierarchy  
6 and the Christian Dispensation. The Entered Apprentice  
7 grip which could not prevail to raise the body owing to the  
8 high state of putrefaction, reminds us of mankind in a state  
9 of nature, since by the efforts of his own reason, unaided by  
10 revelations, he has never been able to prove the immortality  
11 of the soul. The Fellowcraft grip which could not prevail to  
12 raise the body for similar reasons, reminds us of the Jewish  
13 Hierarchy, since after searching the book of the law and the  
14 prophets, but few passages are to be found which prove in a  
15 clear and undoubted manner the resurrection of the body  
16 from the grave. But the strong grip of a Master Mason or  
17 Lion's Paw, which did prevail to raise the body, reminds us  
18 of the Christian Dispensation which has brought life and  
19 immortality to light, and teaches mankind that through the  
20 merits of the Lion of the tribe of Judah, their bodies shall at  
21 last be raised and become as incorruptible as their souls.

22 There are three Grand Masonic pillars called wisdom,  
23 strength and beauty. These are represented by Solomon,  
24 King of Israel; Hiram, King of Tyre and Hiram Abif, who  
25 were our first three Most Excellent Grand Masters.  
26 Solomon, King of Israel, represents the pillar of wisdom,  
27 because by his wisdom he erected that stupendous model of  
28 excellence which immortalized his name. Hiram, King of  
29 Tyre, represents the pillar of strength, because he  
30 strengthened King Solomon in that great and glorious  
31 undertaking. Hiram Abif represents the pillar of beauty,  
32 because by his cunning workmanship the temple was  
33 beautified and adorned.

34 The temple was supported by fourteen hundred and fifty-  
35 three columns, two thousand, nine hundred and six  
36 pilasters, all hewn from the finest Parian marble.

37 There were employed in building the temple: three Grand  
38 Masters - illustrious artisans; three thousand three  
39 hundred Masters or overseers of the work; eighty thousand  
40 Fellowcrafts in the mountains and in the quarries, who  
41 were engaged during the building of the temple; a levy out  
42 of Israel consisting of thirty thousand who wrought in the  
43 quarries one month in three, besides Entered Apprentices  
44 and bearers of burden. These were all classed and arranged  
45 in such a manner by the wisdom of Solomon, that envy,  
46 discord and confusion were not suffered to interrupt the  
47 universal peace and tranquility which pervaded the world  
48 at that important period.

1 You now behold before you the Master's carpet. Every  
2 figure delineated thereon teaches a lesson of the strictest  
3 morality.

4 THE THREE STEPS usually delineated upon the Master's  
5 carpet are emblematic of the three principal stages of  
6 human life: youth, manhood and age. In youth, as Entered  
7 Apprentices, we ought industriously to occupy our minds in  
8 the attainment of useful knowledge. In manhood, as  
9 Fellowcrafts, we should apply our knowledge to the  
10 discharge of our respective duties to God, our neighbor and  
11 ourselves, so that in age, as Master Masons, we may enjoy  
12 the happy reflections consequent upon a well-spent life and  
13 die in the hope of a glorious immortality.

14 THE POT OF INCENSE is an emblem of a pure heart,  
15 which is always an acceptable sacrifice to the Deity, and as  
16 this glows with fervent heat, so should our hearts  
17 continually glow with gratitude to the great and beneficent  
18 Author of our existence, for the many blessings and  
19 comforts we enjoy.

20 THE BEE HIVE is an emblem of industry and recommends  
21 the practice of that virtue to all created beings from the  
22 highest seraph in heaven to the lowest reptile of the dust. It  
23 teaches us that, as we came into the world rational and  
24 intelligent beings, so we should ever be industrious ones,  
25 never sitting down contented while our fellow-creatures  
26 around us are in want, when it is in our power to relieve  
27 them without injury to ourselves.

28 When we take a survey of nature, we view man in his  
29 infancy, more helpless and indigent than the brute creation.  
30 He lies languishing for days, months and years, totally  
31 incapable of providing sustenance for himself, or guarding  
32 against the attacks of the wild beasts of the field, or  
33 sheltering himself from the inclemencies of the weather.

34 It might have pleased the Great Creator of Heaven and  
35 earth to have made man independent of all other beings,  
36 but as dependency is one of the strongest bonds of society,  
37 mankind were made dependent on one another for  
38 protection and security, as they thereby enjoy better  
39 opportunities for fulfilling the duties of reciprocal love and  
40 friendship. Thus was man formed for social and active life,  
41 the noblest part of the work of God, and he who will so  
42 demean himself as not to be endeavoring to add to the  
43 common stock of knowledge and understanding, may be  
44 deemed a drone in the hive of nature, a useless member of  
45 society, and unworthy of our protection as Masons.

1 THE BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS guarded by the Tiler's  
2 sword reminds us that we should ever be watchful and  
3 guarded in our thoughts, words and actions, particularly  
4 when before the enemies of Masonry, ever bearing in  
5 remembrance those truly Masonic virtues, silence and  
6 circumspection.

7 THE SWORD pointing to a naked heart demonstrates that  
8 justice will sooner or later overtake us, and although our  
9 thoughts, words and actions may be hidden from the eyes of  
10 man, yet that all seeing eye, whom the sun, moon and stars  
11 obey and under whose watchful care even comets perform  
12 their stupendous revolutions, pervades the inmost recesses  
13 of the human heart and will reward us according to our  
14 merits.

15 THE ANCHOR AND ARK are emblems of a well-grounded  
16 hope and a well spent life. They are emblematic of that  
17 Divine ark which safely bears us over this tempestuous sea  
18 of troubles, and that anchor which shall safely moor us in a  
19 peaceful harbor, where the wicked cease from troubling and  
20 the weary shall find rest.

21 THE FORTY-SEVENTH PROBLEM OF EUCLID was an  
22 invention of our ancient friend and brother, the great  
23 Pythagoras, who, in his travels through Asia, Africa and  
24 Europe, was initiated into several orders of priesthood, and  
25 raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

26 This wise philosopher enriched his mind abundantly in a  
27 general knowledge of things, and more especially in  
28 geometry or Masonry. On this subject he drew out many  
29 problems and theorems, and among the most distinguished  
30 he erected this, which in the joy of his heart he called  
31 Eureka, signifying in the Greek language, I have found it,  
32 and upon the discovery of which he is said to have sacrificed  
33 a hecatomb, which was a hundred head of oxen. It teaches  
34 Masons to be general lovers of the arts and sciences.

35 THE HOUR GLASS is an emblem of human life. Behold,  
36 how swiftly the sands run, and how rapidly our lives are  
37 drawing to a close. We can not without astonishment behold  
38 the tiny particles which are contained in this machine, how  
39 they pass away almost imperceptibly, and yet, in the short  
40 space of an hour, they are all exhausted. Thus wastes man.  
41 Today he puts forth the tender leaves of hope, tomorrow  
42 blossoms, and bears his blushing honors thick upon him;  
43 the next day comes a frost, which nips the shoot, and while  
44 he thinks his greatness still aspiring, he falls like autumn  
45 leaves, to enrich our mother earth.

1 THE SCYTHE is an emblem of time, which cuts the brittle  
2 thread of life and launches us into eternity. Behold, what  
3 havoc the scythe of Time makes among the human race. If  
4 we should escape the numerous evils incident to childhood  
5 and youth, and with health and vigor arrive at the years of  
6 manhood, yet withal we must soon be cut down by the all-  
7 devouring scythe of Time, and be gathered into the land  
8 whither our fathers have gone before us.

9 The last three to which I call your attention are the setting-  
10 maul, spade and coffin: the setting-maul with which our  
11 Grand Master Hiram Abif was slain, and which is an  
12 emblem of the casualties or diseases by which our existence  
13 may be terminated; the spade which dug his and may ere  
14 long dig our grave; the coffin which received his and may  
15 ere long receive our remains. These are striking emblems  
16 of mortality and afford a serious reflection to a thinking  
17 mind. But the acacia or evergreen which bloomed in the  
18 head of his grave, reminds us of that immortal part which  
19 survives the grave and bears the nearest affinity to that  
20 Supreme Intelligence which pervades and animates all  
21 nature and can never, no, never die.

1           MASTER MASON DEGREE  
2           CHARGE

3 Brother, your zeal for the institution of Masonry, the  
4 progress you have made in its mysteries and your  
5 conformity to our regulations have pointed you out as a  
6 proper object of our favor and esteem.

7 You are now bound by duty, honor and gratitude to be  
8 faithful to your trust, to support the dignity of your  
9 character on every occasion and to enforce, by precept and  
10 example, obedience to the tenets of the institution.

11 In the character of a Master Mason you are authorized to  
12 correct the errors and irregularities of your uninformed  
13 brethren, and to guard them against a breach of fidelity.  
14 To preserve the reputation of the Fraternity unsullied must  
15 be your constant care, and for this purpose it is your  
16 province to recommend to your inferiors in rank, obedience  
17 and submission, to your equals, courtesy and affability, to  
18 your superiors, kindness and condescension.

19 Universal benevolence you are always to inculcate, and by  
20 the regularity of your own behavior afford the best example  
21 for the conduct of others less informed. The ancient  
22 landmarks of Masonry entrusted to your care you are  
23 carefully to preserve, and never allow them to be infringed,  
24 or countenance a deviation from the established usages and  
25 customs of the Fraternity.

26 Your virtue, honor and reputation are concerned in  
27 supporting with dignity the character you now bear. Let no  
28 motive, therefore, make you swerve from your duty, violate  
29 your vows, or betray your trust, but be true and faithful,  
30 and imitate the example of that celebrated artist whom you,  
31 this evening, have represented. Thus you will render  
32 yourself deserving of the honor that we have conferred and  
33 merit the confidence we have reposed.

34 Brother, repair to the Secretary's desk, sign the roll of  
35 membership and you will then become entitled to all the  
36 rights and benefits which this Lodge can confer upon you.

1           MASTER MASON CLASS  
2           INSTRUCTIONS  
3           NON-PUBLIC INFORMATION

- 4   For a better understanding of Freemasonry and your new  
5   roll as a Master Mason, we suggest that you take some time  
6   to meet with other Masons and discuss the following terms  
7   and phrases. Each one of them relates to a part of your  
8   degree. These are the things that may be asked of you in  
9   the future in order to prove your membership in the  
10  Fraternity.
- 11  How were you prepared?
- 12  How was the Cable-Tow placed differently than in the  
13  FC Degree? Why?
- 14  How did you gain admission into the Lodge?
- 15  How many knocks upon the door? To what does this  
16  allude?
- 17  How were you received? Why?
- 18  What is the step of a MM?
- 19  What was your position at the altar?
- 20  What was the Obligation?
- 21  How were the Great Lights of Masonry arranged  
22  differently that in the previous Degree? Why?
- 23  What is the Due Guard of a Master Mason?
- 24  What is the Sign of a Master Mason?
- 25  What is the Symbolic Penalty of a Master Mason?
- 26  What is meant by “the Pass and Token of the Pass” of a  
27  Master Mason?
- 28  What is the Grip and Word of a Master Mason? How is  
29  it given?
- 30  What is the Grand Hailing Sign and the Grand Hailing  
31  Sign of Distress?
- 32  How is the apron worn as a Master Mason?
- 33  What are the working tools of a Master Mason?
- 34  What is meant by the Master’s Carpet?  
35  (EXPLAIN) The Five Points of Fellowship and the Grand Masonic Word



1 MASTER MASON EXAMINATION  
2 IN OPEN LODGE

3 When you were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master  
4 Mason, after you were brought to light following your  
5 obligation, you discovered the Worshipful Master  
6 approaching you from the East, on the Step and under the  
7 due-guard and sign of a Master Mason.

8 Give me the due-guard of a Master Mason. — (Done)

9 This alludes to the position your hands were in while taking  
10 your obligation: both hands resting on the Holy Bible,  
11 Square and Compasses.

12 Give me the sign of a Master Mason. — (Done)

13 This Sign alludes to the ancient and symbolic penalty of a  
14 Master Mason.

15 Give me the Grand Hailing Sign. — (Done)  
16 This Sign also has an allusion. At the raising of the body of  
17 our Grand Master Hiram Abif our Ancient Brethren in  
18 token of horror and surprise at the mortified state of the  
19 body thus raised their hands above their heads and  
20 exclaimed, "Oh Lord, My God, is there no help for the  
21 Widow's son?"

22 Give me a token. — (@ - 0 )

23 What is this? — The pass-grip of a Master Mason.

24 Has it a name? — It has.

25 Will you give it me? — I did not so receive it, neither will  
26 I so impart it.

27 How will you dispose of it? — I will letter it or syllable it.  
28 Syllable it and begin. — No, you begin.

29 Begin you. — T — B — C — T-B —  
30 T-B-C.

31 What is this called? — (Strong Grip) The strong grip of a  
32 Master Mason or Lion's Paw.

33 Has this a name? — It has.

34 Will you give it me? — I cannot, neither can it be given,  
35 except in a proper form.

36 What is that proper form? — On the five points of  
37 fellowship and then in low breath.

38 Advance and give it. — ) ( @ ) M - H - B - A.

1 The word is right.

2 During your obligation, you agreed to always hele, ever  
3 conceal, and never reveal any of the secret arts, parts or  
4 points of the Master Mason's Degree to any person or  
5 persons whomsoever, except it be to a true and lawful  
6 Brother of this degree or in a regularly constituted Lodge of  
7 Master Masons.

8 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

9 You further promised and swore that you would stand to  
10 and abide by, all the laws, rules and regulations of the  
11 Master Mason's degree, and of the Lodge of which you shall  
12 become a member, as far as the same shall come to your  
13 knowledge, and that you will ever maintain and support the  
14 constitution, laws and edicts of the Grand Lodge, under  
15 which the same shall be holden.

16 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

17 Further, that you would answer and obey all due signs and  
18 summons sent to you from a Master Mason's Lodge, or  
19 given you by a Brother of this degree, if within the length of  
20 your cable-tow.

21 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

22 Further, that you would aid and assist all poor distressed  
23 Master Masons, their widows and orphans, knowing them  
24 to be such, as far as their necessities may require and your  
25 ability permit, without material injury to yourself or family

26 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

27 Further, that you would keep a Brother Master Mason's  
28 secret, inviolate, when communicated to and received by  
29 you as such, murder and treason excepted.

30 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

31 Further, that you would not aid, nor be present at, the  
32 initiating, passing or raising of a women, an old man in  
33 dotage, a young man in his non-age, an atheist, a madman  
34 nor a fool, knowing them to be such.

35 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

36 Further, that you would not sit in a Lodge of clandestine  
37 Masons, nor converse upon the secrets of Masonry with a  
38 clandestine Mason, nor with one who has been expelled or  
39 suspended from a Lodge while under that sentence,  
40 knowing him or them to be such.

41 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

1 Further, that you would not cheat, wrong nor defraud a  
2 Master Mason's Lodge, nor a Brother of this degree  
3 knowingly, nor supplant him in any of his laudable  
4 undertakings, but would give him due and timely notice  
5 that he might ward off approaching danger.

6 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

7 Further, that you would not knowingly strike a Brother  
8 Master Mason, nor otherwise do him personal violence in  
9 anger, except in the necessary defense of yourself, family or  
10 property.

11 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

12 Further, that you would not have illicit carnal intercourse  
13 with a Master Mason's wife, his mother, sister or daughter,  
14 nor suffer the same to be done by others, if in your power to  
15 prevent.

16 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

17 Further, that you would not give the Grand Masonic Word  
18 in any other manner or form than that in which you shall  
19 received it, and then in low breath.

20 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

21 Further, that you would not give the Grand Hailing Sign of  
22 distress, except in cases of the most imminent danger, in a  
23 just and legal Lodge or for the purpose of instruction, and  
24 should you ever see or hear it given by a Brother in distress,  
25 you would immediately go to his relief, should there be a  
26 greater probability of saving his life than of losing your  
27 own.

28 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

29 And should you ever knowingly violate this, your Master  
30 Mason obligation, may you be degraded and suspended or  
31 expelled from Masonry.

32 Do you confirm this promise? — (Assent)

33 Worshipful Master, ( % - # ) this concludes the  
34 examination of the Brother (s).

## 2 CLOSING

3 ( \* ) Brother Junior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. ( % - # )  
4 The last great care of Master Masons when convened? —  
5 To see that the Lodge is duly tiled.

6 Attend to that duty and inform the Tiler that this Lodge is  
7 about to be closed and direct him to tile accordingly.

8 ( . . . . . ) ( \* \* \* ) Brother Tiler. — Brother Junior  
9 Deacon.

10 This Lodge is about to be closed. You are directed to tile  
11 accordingly.

12 ( . . . . . ) Worshipful Master, ( % - # ) this Lodge is tiled.  
13 How is it tiled? — By a Brother Master Mason without  
14 the door, armed with the proper implement of his office.

15 His duty there? — To keep off all cowans or  
16 eavesdroppers and allow none to pass or repass but such as  
17 are duly qualified and have the Worshipful Master's  
18 permission.

19 ( \* ) Brother Senior Warden. — Worshipful Master. ( % - # )  
20 Will you be off or from? — From.  
21 From what and to what? — From a Fellowcraft to a  
22 Master Mason.  
23 Are you a Master Mason? — I am.

24 What induced you to become a Master Mason? — In  
25 order that I might travel in foreign countries, work and  
26 receive Master's wages, the better to enable me to support  
27 myself and family, and contribute to the relief of distressed  
28 Master Masons, their widows and orphans.

29 What makes you a Master Mason? — My obligation.

30 Where were you made a Master Mason? — In a regularly  
31 constituted Lodge of Masters.

32 What number constitutes a Lodge of Masters? — Three  
33 or more, consisting of a Worshipful Master, Senior and  
34 Junior Wardens.

35 The Junior Warden's station in the Lodge? — In the  
36 South, Worshipful. ( % - # )

37 ( \* \* ) Brother Junior Warden. — Worshipful Master.  
38 ( % - # )

1 Why in the South and your duty there? — As the sun in  
2 the South at high meridian is the glory and beauty of the  
3 day, so stands the Junior Warden in the South to call the  
4 craft from labor to refreshment, superintend in the hour  
5 thereof, and see that none convert the means of  
6 refreshment into intemperance or excess, to call them to  
7 labor again at the Worshipful Master's order, that he may  
8 have pleasure and they profit thereby.

9 The Senior Warden's station? — In the West, Worshipful.  
10 (% - # )

11 Brother Senior Warden. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )

12 Why in the West and your duty there? — As the sun is in  
13 the West at the close of the day, so stands the Senior  
14 Warden in the West, to assist the Worshipful Master in  
15 opening and closing his Lodge, pay the craft their wages if  
16 any be their due and see that none go away dissatisfied if in  
17 my power to prevent, harmony being the strength and  
18 support of all institutions, but more especially this of ours.

19 The Worshipful Master's station? — In the East,  
20 Worshipful. (% - # )

21 Why in the East and his duty there? — As the sun rises  
22 in the East to open and govern the day, so rises ( @ ) the  
23 Worshipful Master to open and govern his Lodge, set the  
24 craft at work and give them proper instruction.

25 ( \* \* \* ) Brother Senior Warden. — Worshipful Master.  
26 (% - # )

27 It is my order that this Lodge be now closed and stand  
28 closed until our next regular communication unless  
29 specially convened, in which case the brethren shall have  
30 due and timely notice. In the meantime it is hoped and  
31 expected that each brother will demean himself as becomes  
32 a man and a Mason. This you will announce to the Junior  
33 Warden in the South and he to the brethren around the  
34 Lodge that they, having due and timely notice thereof, may  
35 govern themselves accordingly.

36 Brother Junior Warden. — Brother Senior Warden.  
37 It is the order of the Worshipful Master that this Lodge be  
38 now closed and stand closed until our next regular  
39 communication unless specially convened, in which case the  
40 brethren shall have due and timely notice. In the meantime  
41 it is hoped and expected that each brother will demean  
42 himself as becomes a man and a Mason. This you will  
43 announce to the brethren around the Lodge that they,

1 having due and timely notice thereof, may govern  
2 themselves accordingly.

3 (Junior Warden) Brethren, you hear the order of the  
4 Worshipful Master as communicated to me by the Senior  
5 Warden in the West. Agreeably to his order, so let it be  
6 done.

7 Together brethren attend the signs. ( % - / - # ) ( % - / - # )  
8 ( % - / - # - \$ )

9 \* (East) \* (West) \* (South)

10 \* (East) \* (West) \* (South)

11 \* (East) \* (West) \* (South)

12 Brother Senior Warden. — Worshipful Master. ( % - # )

13 How should Masons meet? — On the level. (@ - all)

14 Brother Junior Warden. — Worshipful Master. ( % - # )

15 How should they act? — By the plumb.

16 And part on the square. So should we ever meet, act and  
17 part in the name of the Lord.

18 (Chaplain) And now may the blessing of Heaven rest upon  
19 us and all regular Masons, may Brotherly love prevail and  
20 every moral and social virtue cement us. Amen.

21 (Response) So mote it be.

22 Brother Senior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. ( % - # )  
23 Attend the altar.

24 ( . . . . . ) (The Senior Deacon should approach the altar  
25 reverently. Kneels at the altar, removes the square and  
26 compasses from the open page and slowly closes the Bible  
27 and any other Volumes of the Sacred Law. He then rises  
28 and extinguishes the lesser lights (South -West -East)  
29 and returns to a position immediately back of the altar and  
30 gives the penal sign of a Master Mason.)

31 Brother Senior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. ( % - # ) —  
32 Return the flag to the East.

33 (The Senior Deacon approaches the flag and comes to  
34 salute, accompanied by all the Brethren, who take their  
35 time from him. The Senior Deacon carries the flag as  
36 outlined in the Entered Apprentice Degree and places the  
37 staff in its support in the East. Steps back two or three  
38 paces and comes to salute. All the brethren remain at  
39 salute during this entire time until the Senior Deacon

1 completes his salute, taking their time from him. The  
2 Senior Deacon then returns to his place.)

3 (Worshipful Master) I now declare this Lodge closed.  
4 (Senior Warden lowers column.)

5 Brother Junior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. (% - # ) —  
6 Inform the Tiler that this Lodge is closed.

7 ( . . . . . ) ( \* \* \* ) Brother Tiler. — Brother Junior  
8 Deacon.

9 This Lodge is closed.

10 ( . . . . . ) Worshipful Master. The Tiler is informed.

(The Jr Deacon does not give the penal at this point)

11 (Worshipful Master) This Lodge is closed. ( \* )

1                    MASTER MASON DEGREE  
2                    OPTIONAL SHORT FORM CLOSING

3                    The Master Mason Degree Closing may be amended by  
4                    replacing Line 12 of Page 120 with the following:

5                    ( . . . . . ) Worshipful Master, (% - # ) the Tiler is informed.

6                    and then by deleting Lines 13 through 38 of Page 120 and  
7                    deleting Lines 1 through 24 of Page 121.



1 ( \* ) Brother Junior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )

2 Inform the Tiler that this Lodge is about to be closed in the  
3 Master Mason degree and opened in the Fellowcraft degree  
4 for the dispatch of business, and direct him to tile  
5 accordingly.  
6

7 ( . . . . . ) ( \* \* \* ) Brother Tiler. — Brother Junior  
8 Deacon.

9 This Lodge is about to be closed in the Master Mason  
10 degree and opened in the Fellowcraft degree for the  
11 dispatch of business. You are directed to tile accordingly.

12 ( . . . . . ) ) Worshipful Master, (% - # ) the Tiler is informed.  
13 ( \* \* \* ) Brother Senior Warden. — Worshipful Master.  
14 (% - # )

15 We will close this Lodge in the Master Mason degree by  
16 signs, and open this Lodge in the Fellowcraft degree by  
17 signs. Together brethren, attend the signs for closing this  
18 Lodge in the Master Mason Degree.

19 ( % - / - # ) ( % - / - # ) ( % - / - # - \$ )

20 I now declare this Lodge closed in the Master Mason  
21 degree. Together Brethren attend the signs for opening this  
22 Lodge in the Fellowcraft Degree.

23 ( % - / - # ) ( % - / - # )

24 I now declare this Lodge opened in the Fellowcraft Degree  
25 for the dispatch of business.

26 Brother Senior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )  
27 Attend the altar.

28 ( . . . . . ) (The Senior Deacon approaches the altar as in the  
29 Lodge opening, and changes the open Bible from the  
30 Ecclesiasties, Chapter XII, to Amos, Chapter VII. He then  
31 gives the sign of a Fellowcraft and returns to his place.)

32 ( . . . . . )

33 Brother Junior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. (% - # ) —  
34 Inform the Tiler.

35 ( . . . . . ) ( \* \* \* ) Brother Tiler. — Brother Junior  
36 Deacon.

37 This Lodge is now open in the Fellowcraft degree for the  
38 dispatch of business.

1 ( . . . . . ) Worshipful Master, (% - # ) the Tiler is informed.

2 ( \* )

1                    OPTIONAL FORM FOR CHANGING  
2                    DEGREES

3    *Michigan Lodges may use, at the discretion of the*  
4    *Worshipful Master, an alternate form for changing degrees.*

5    ( \* ) Brother Junior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )

6    Inform the Tiler that this Lodge is about to be closed in the  
7    Master Mason Degree and opened in the Fellowcraft Degree  
8    for the dispatch of business, and direct him to tile  
9    accordingly.

10   ( . . . . . ) ( \* \* \* ) Brother Tiler. — Brother Junior  
11   Deacon.

12   This Lodge is about to be closed in the Master Mason  
13   Degree, and opened in the Fellowcraft Degree for the  
14   dispatch of business. You are directed to tile accordingly.

15   ( . . . . . ) Worshipful Master, (% - # ) the Tiler is informed.

16   ( \* \* \* ) Brother Senior Warden. — Worshipful Master.

17   ( % - # )

18   I now declare this Lodge closed in the Master Mason Degree  
19   and open in the Fellowcraft Degree for the dispatch of  
20   business. (Sign changes here)

21   Brother Senior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. (% - # )

22   Attend the altar.

23   ( . . . . . ) (The Senior Deacon approaches the altar as in the  
24   Lodge opening and changes the open Bible to the proper  
25   place and the square and compasses to their proper  
26   position. Gives the sign and returns to his place.) ( . . . . . )

27   Brother Junior Deacon. — Worshipful Master. (% - # ) —  
28   Inform the Tiler.

29   ( . . . . . ) ( \* \* \* ) Brother Tiler. — Brother Junior  
30   Deacon.

31   This Lodge is now open in the Fellowcraft Degree for the  
32   dispatch of business.

33   ( . . . . . ) Worshipful Master, (% - # ) the Tiler is informed.

34   ( \* )

35   (The same form is used in changing from the Fellowcraft  
36   degree to the Entered Apprentice Degree or from the  
37   Entered Apprentice or Fellowcraft degree to the Master  
38   Mason degree.)

1  
2 (The following is the phraseology which is desirable to use  
3 in spreading the ballot)

4 *(On voting on a petition for the degrees)*

5 (Worshipful Master) — Brethren, you are about to cast  
6 your ballot on the petition of Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ to receive the  
7 Entered Apprentice degree in Masonry. A white ball elects,  
8 a black cube rejects. Be careful when voting, and make no  
9 mistakes.

10 *(on voting for advancement)*

11 (Worshipful Master) — Brethren, you are about to cast  
12 your ballot on the continued worthiness of Brother \_\_\_\_\_ to  
13 receive the Fellowcraft (or Master Mason) degree in  
14 Masonry.

15 A white ball elects, a black cube rejects. Be careful when  
16 voting and make no mistakes.

17 *(On voting for transfer of membership)*

18 (Worshipful Master) — Brethren, you are about to cast I  
19 your ballot on the petition of Brother \_\_\_\_\_ for membership  
20 in this Lodge. A white ball elects, a black cube rejects. Be  
21 careful when voting and make no mistakes.

22

23 *When a rejection occurs after a secret ballot, the*  
24 *Worshipful Master shall have read aloud in open lodge Key*  
25 *4-20 SECTION 17.*

# TEST OATH

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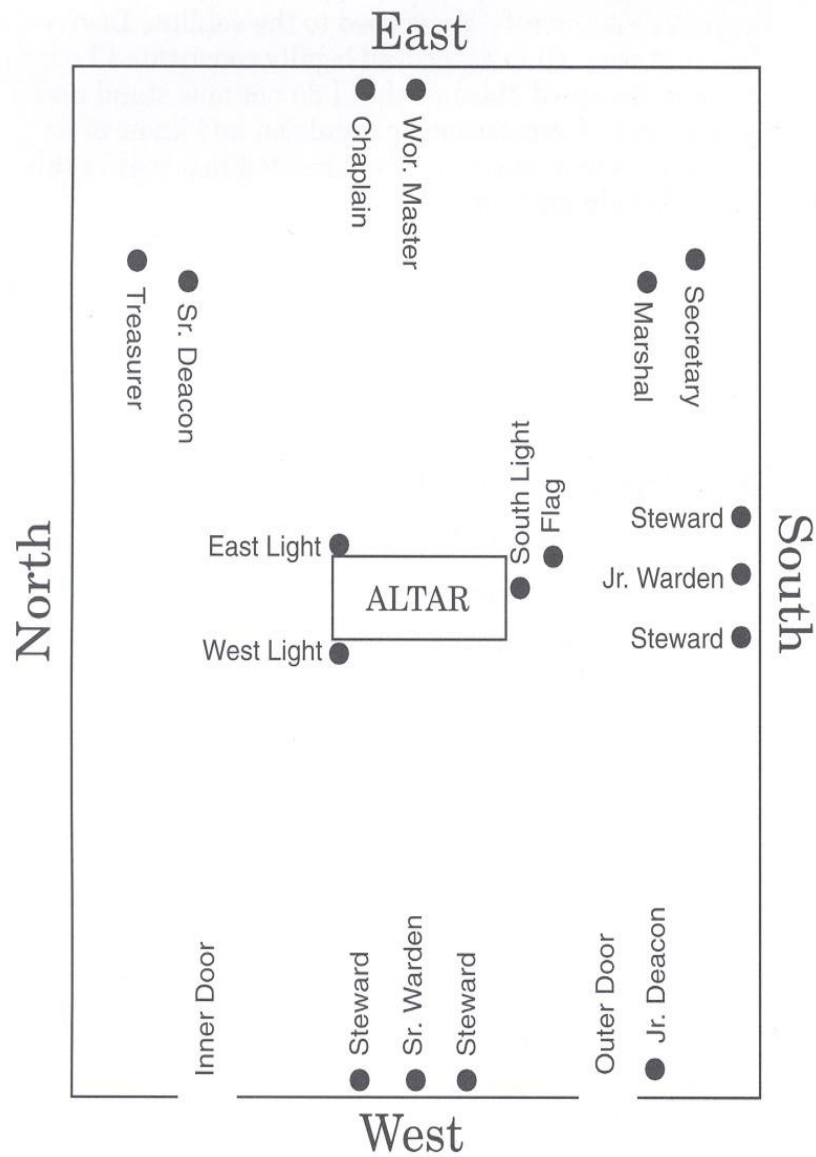
I, \_\_\_\_\_, of my own free-will and accord, in the presence of Almighty God and these witnesses, do hereby and hereon most solemnly and sincerely swear that I have been regularly initiated an Entered Apprentice, passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft, and raised to the sublime Degree of a Master Mason, all in a just and legally constituted Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, that I do not now stand under the sentence of suspension or expulsion and know of no good cause why I should not be admitted to a seat in this Lodge. So help me God.

## KEY TO SYMBOLS USED

- ( \* )                    One Knock
- ( \* \* )                Two Knocks
- ( \* \* \* )              Three Knocks
- ( % )                  Step
- ( / )                  Due-guard
- ( # )                  Sign
- ( \$ )                  Grand Hailing Sign
- ( 0 )                  Token
- ( @ )                  Action
- ( . . . . . )            One person moving
- ( : : : : : )            Two persons moving
- ( : . : . : . : . )    Three or more persons moving
- other person responding
- pause

Diagram showing the proper,  
setup of the Lodge Room.

Where a cluster of three lights is used as the  
lesser lights, it should be placed in the same  
position as the East light in this diagram.



DEGREE PARTS CHECKLIST

*Master Mason Degree*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*First Section*

- Master \_\_\_\_\_
- Senior Warden \_\_\_\_\_
- Junior Warden \_\_\_\_\_
- Secretary \_\_\_\_\_
- Chaplain \_\_\_\_\_
- Senior Deacon \_\_\_\_\_
- Junior Deacon \_\_\_\_\_
- Senior Steward \_\_\_\_\_
- Junior Steward \_\_\_\_\_
- Marshal \_\_\_\_\_

*Second Section*

- Master \_\_\_\_\_
- Senior Deacon \_\_\_\_\_
- King Solomon \_\_\_\_\_
- King Hiram \_\_\_\_\_
- Grand Secretary \_\_\_\_\_
- Ja \_\_\_\_\_
- Jo \_\_\_\_\_
- Jm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sea Captain \_\_\_\_\_
- Seafaring Man \_\_\_\_\_
- Fellowcrafts \_\_\_\_\_

*Lectures*

- Second Section — Historical Lecture \_\_\_\_\_
- Virgin \_\_\_\_\_
- Temple \_\_\_\_\_
- Carpet \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Steps \_\_\_\_\_
- Pot of Incense \_\_\_\_\_
- Beehive \_\_\_\_\_
- Book of Constitutions \_\_\_\_\_
- Sword and All-Seeing Eye \_\_\_\_\_
- Anchor and Ark \_\_\_\_\_
- 47th Problem \_\_\_\_\_
- Hour Glass and Scythe \_\_\_\_\_
- Setting Maul, Spade, Coffin \_\_\_\_\_
- Charge \_\_\_\_\_