

If You Are - Good

A sincere desire to work, enquire and learn more is essential if you are to continue the long and fruitful journey which you began as an Entered Apprentice Mason.

In your progress through the three degrees of Craft Masonry you were continually encouraged to seek more light and knowledge in order to lead you along the path of greater Masonic and personal knowledge and understanding.

When you were initiated into the craft you learned the duties you owe to God, your neighbour and yourself.

When you were passed to the second Degree you were advised to study the hidden mysteries of nature and science - to develop the intellectual faculties.

When you were ultimately raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master mason you were instructed how to meet death fearlessly and with confidence in the survival of human personality.

The lessons of morality, the scientific instruction and the explanation of the symbols contained in the first three degrees of the Craft all hold promise of a greater development.



From that it is clear that the Master Mason's Degree is obviously not the summit of Freemasonry and you should consider the first three degrees as the foundation of your Masonic career, especially as the Craft instructs us to seek for that which was lost.

Why you should consider taking another step

The Royal Arch Degree is the natural progression in Freemasonry and as well as recovering that which was lost, the teachings of the Royal Arch Degree will give you a whole new awareness and understanding of Freemasonry and will lead you along the path of greater Masonic knowledge and understanding.



What are the Requirements to join the Royal Arch?

- ◆ You should be serious and enthusiastic about your freemasonry and wish to improve your Masonic knowledge.
- ◆ You should be interested in furthering your Masonic career.
- ◆ You must be a Master Mason.
- ◆ You should be a Master Mason for at least fifteen months.

The Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland

Supreme Grand Chapter is autonomous and governs the Order of the Royal Arch Freemasons of Scotland. Although operating independently of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, its Constitution and Laws are broadly similar in many respects, and the two grand Bodies are in amity.

The web site of Supreme Chapter is to be found at www.supgrac.com

Supreme Chapter also controls the associated degrees of the Lodge and Council and Cryptic Council.

Between the Royal Arch and the associated Degrees there are a total of ten ordinary degrees and seven chair degrees.

The Next Step

If you would like to know more about the Royal Arch Degrees, or obtain more brochures, just ask the Brother who handed you this brochure, or write, phone or fax:

District Grand Royal Arch Chapter
Central South Africa
P.O. Box 74288
Turffontein
Johannesburg
2140
Tel: ++27 (11) 683-8314
Fax: ++27 (11) 683-3072



A Brief Historical Background

MARK DEGREE

The Mark Degree provides the link between the Royal Arch and Craft Masonry.

Since 1860 the Mark Degree has been under the jurisdiction of both the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Craft Lodges holding their Charter or Warrant from the Grand Lodge of Scotland are permitted to recognise the Mark Degree as part of the Fellowcraft Degree on condition that they only confer it on Master Masons. The Supreme Grand Chapter works this degree as the first in Royal Arch Masonry but recognises Mark Masters of Craft Lodges which work under the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

A candidate who has not received his Mark Degree within a Craft Lodge has to be advanced in the Mark Lodge held within the Chapter. If already qualified the candidate has only to take an obligation.

EXCELLENT MASTER

Often referred to as the ceremony of Passing the Veils, the story tells of the Hebrew captives descendants of the builders of the

first Temple at Jerusalem setting out from Babylon to Jerusalem for the building of the second Temple.

ROYAL ARCH

The Royal Arch Degree seems to have been introduced to Scotland from both English and Irish sources, often military Lodges towards the middle of the 18th century.

The story tells of the events after Cyrus had liberated the Hebrew captives and given permission for them to return to Jerusalem. When preparing for the rebuilding of the Temple they make an important discovery during their labours.

The purpose of this Degree is to assist the Companions to prepare for that Temple not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.



Interested

In

The

Royal Arch?

