



LODGE VEGAS # 32

IRON TOOLS

The lectures teach us that at the building of King Solomon's Temple there was not heard the sound of ax, hammer, or other metallic tool. But all the stones were hewn, squared, and numbered in the quarries; and the timbers felled and prepared in the forest of Lebanon, whence they were brought on floats by sea to Joppa, and thence carried by land to Jerusalem, where, on being put up, each part was found to fit with such exact nicety that the whole, when completed, seemed rather the handiwork of the Grand Architect of the Universe than of mere human hands. This can hardly be called a legend, because the same facts are substantially related in the First Book of Kings; but the circumstance has been appropriated in Freemasonry to symbolize the entire peace and harmony which should prevail among Freemasons when laboring on that spiritual temple of which the Solomonic Temple was the archetype.

JAH

In Hebrew M. Maimonides calls it the two-lettered name, and derives it from the Tetragrammaton, of which he says it is an abbreviation. Others have denied this, and assert that Jah is a name independent of Jehovah, but expressing the same idea of the Divine Essence. It is uniformly translated in the authorized version of the Bible by the word Lord, being thus considered as Synonymous with Jehovah, except in Psalm lxxviii, 4, where the original word is preserved: "Extol Him that rideth upon the heavens by His name Jah," upon which the Targum comment is "Extol Him who sitteth on the throne of glory in the ninth heaven; Yah is His name." It seems, also to have been well known to the Gentile nations as the trilateral resume of God; for, although biliteral among the Hebrews, it assumed among the Greeks the trilateral form, as IAO Macrobius, in his Saturnalia, says that this was the sacred name of the Supreme Deity; and the Clarian Oracle being asked which of the gods was Jao, replied, "The initiated are bound to conceal the mysterious secrets. Learn thou that IAQ is the Great God Supreme who ruleth over all".

JERUSALEM

The capital of Judea, and memorable in Masonic history as the place where was erected the Temple of Solomon. It is early mentioned in Scripture, and is supposed to be the Salem of which Melchizedek was King. At the time that the Israelites entered the Promised Land, the city was in possession of the Jebusites, from whom, after the death of Joshua, it was conquered, and afterward inhabited by the tribes of Judah and Benjamin. The Jebusites were not, however, driven out; and we learn that David purchased Mount Moriah from Ornan or Araunah the Jebusite as a site for the Temple. It is only in reference to this Temple that Jerusalem is connected with the legends of Ancient Craft Freemasonry. In the Degrees of Chivalry it is also important, because it was the city where the holy places were situated, and for the possession of which the Crusaders so long and so bravely contested. It was there, too, that the Templars and the Hospitallers were established as Orders of religious and military knighthood. Modern Speculative Freemasonry was introduced into Jerusalem by the establishment of a Lodge in 1872, the Warrant for which, on the application of Brother Rob Morris and others, was granted by the Grand Lodge of Canada. More recently a Lodge has been warranted in England to meet at Chester, but to be in due course removed to Jerusalem, named King Solomon's Temple, No. 3464. A Lodge was consecrated by English authority in Jerusalem in 1924. The Grand Orient of France has also established a Lodge there.

McMason

A derogatory term used by Masons to describe Masons initiated, passed and raised in the same day (One Day Class.) While One Day Classes may be nothing more than a method for Grand Lodges to bolster membership numbers, it is important to remember a Mason is first made a mason in his heart. What is important is how much time he puts into learning the lessons of Masonry after his raising that is important. Sadly, many of the Masons who use such unmasonic epithets have never learned a thing about the principles of the craft, or else McMason would be stricken from their Masonic vocabulary.

McMasons: A Different Perspective On One Day Classes

I read with much interest a couple brothers' comments comparing the one day classes to McDonalds fast paced approach.

Like much that I do, I over think things way too much, but I have to agree. One day Masonry is like Mickey D's.

During college I worked for McDonalds basically for beer money. Upon graduating, a long term job with the company was extended to me, which I took, intending to put my degree in business management to better use down the line. Thirteen years later here I am in a training position with the same company working with countless young people, with a flexible schedule, so that I may also serve my Grand lodge.

McDonalds as a system thoroughly trains its managers, so that every manager in North America has the identical training. What the individuals do with that training is up to them, but it is the same throughout the continent. When I went to Chicago for training, there were people from all over the world attending for the same reason as I. Hours of training are put in before the managers even hit the floor.

When I put on my one day class last fall, the same was true. It takes over 100 brothers to put on a one day class, not counting food. We put in over 65 hours into rehearsals, mentor training, and, in the end, I will put any one of these brothers proficiency up to any candidate out there, through the third degree, including the boys that shipped right out to Iraq.

The return ratio in Vermont is well over the traditional return. When I hear the phrase McMason, I will think of how much energy and time goes into this effort, making it look easy.

-Source: R. W. Brother Errol Hinton

- Source: Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry

-Source: MasonicDictionary.com

Prepare By, Br. Florian for the benefit of the Craft, MAY, 2013