



FREE MASONRY TODAY

INTEGRITY - FRIENDSHIP - RESPECT - SERVICE

Freemasonry is one of the world's oldest secular fraternal societies a society that is concerned with moral and spiritual values.

Freemasonry is founded on the four guiding principles of **Integrity, Friendship, Respect** and **Service**.

Membership is open to people from all backgrounds with the aim to empower members to be the best they can be – building character, making new friendships, supporting members as individuals and **helping them make a positive contribution to society**.

Members join for different reasons - they are not invited to join - their reason to join was personal them.

What is Freemasonry - A peculiar system of Morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.

DEGREES IN FREEMASONRY

It is generally known that there are 3 Degrees in Freemasonry

1. First Degree - Entered Apprentice
2. Second Degree - Fellow Craft
3. Third Degree - Master Mason

These Degrees relate to the system of old where Masons had skills that could be used to build many a impressive structure.

Why The Secrets?

Masons would journey for work to a new site. At that new site they would expect a fair pay for the work that they were qualified to do and, obviously the pay would be related to their skills. To enable the employer to know that they were so qualified the Mason would be given the Secrets of their skillset and could Prove their abilities.

Why Does It Matter To Maintain The Secrets?

Well, it is part of the Ritual and there are still Operative Masons (Builders) who likewise have skills. Look, and with little time, you will find them but there is little to be achieved by knowing them unless you are a Mason.

Are Masons Held To Account?

Yes! Masons are held to a **very** high code of conduct and honour - if a Mason breaks the law they are likely to be excluded from their Lodge.

KING SOLOMON'S TEMPLE AND FREEMASONRY: A FRAMEWORK FOR SELF IMPROVEMENT



Masons are committed to a life of Freemasonry, dedicated to self-improvement. The Brotherhood, uses the Tools to seek out light and reflect deeply on attempts to improve the world. While the tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth ground the fraternity, the architecture of King Solomon's Temple represents the path of development for Masons. Narratives and historical documentation of Lodge meetings provides insight into the history and symbolism of King Solomon's Temple and the ways it relates to Freemasonry today. Learning of the history and valuable

symbolism moves a Mason forward in the craft.

Biblical Origins and History - The First Temple, or King Solomon's Temple, was located in Jerusalem and completed in the year 957 BCE under the reign of King Solomon. Before Solomon, the Hebrew Bible describes the story of Solomon's father, David, who united the Israelites and captured Jerusalem. Solomon's father received messages from God to construct a great Temple that would provide a final resting place for the Ark of the Covenant, an elaborate chest encasing the two stone tablets of the Ten Commandments. This chest would be ensconced within the innermost room of the Temple, the Holy of Holies. King Solomon, known as a determined builder, enlisted the support of stonemasons to construct the Temple on behalf of God's message to his father.

The temple was later looted and destroyed in 586-587 BCE by the Babylonians and King Nebuchadnezzar II. The Jews returned to the location of the Temple's ruins to rebuild what was known as the Second Temple, only to find that the Ark of the Covenant was gone.