



We Need to Pay the Rent Before We Save the World

MWBro Chris E. Batty, PGM, Saskatchewan Lodge No. 92. Presented at Holy City Lodge No. 4 in Jerusalem, 2018.10.29.

There is a saying: “We need to pay the rent before we save the world.” Being a Freemason for over 40 years has taught me that studying our ritual and symbolism can teach us how we can strive to do both!

Preparation of this paper was made difficult because its intended audience is not homogeneous. The task would have been quite simple if the audience consisted of all Past Masters. However, it became increasingly difficult with the possible presence of Master Masons, Fellowcrafts, Entered Apprentices and non-Masons. Consequently, not wanting to be completely inappropriately revealing, this paper is vague or cryptic in places; references to the Holy Bible are made to provide reference points.

In our jurisdiction the Grand Master’s, the Deputy Grand Master’s and the District Deputy Grand Masters’ aprons contain the symbolism of a seven-eared wheat. The meaning of this symbolism is referenced in Genesis 41: 22 which tells of Joseph and his interpretation of God’s message to Pharaoh of the pending seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine. It also speaks to Joseph’s invaluable recommendation to store one-fifth of the annual crop each year so as to have enough food during the time of famine.

An interpretation of Joseph’s dream for today could be that we should save 20 per cent of our gross annual salary for seven years so that we are prepared, by having 1.4 times our gross annual salary in readily available funds for times of possible economic failure when devastation and destruction strikes.

On another note, almost all lodge rooms contain two great pillars. These represent the biblical pillars of fire and cloud that are mentioned in Exodus 13: 21 and in 2 Chronicles 3: 17. These pillars represent the firm guidance by the Most High that led — night and day — the Children of Israel to freedom and prosperity. The analogy of these pillars

promotes the saying: “In strength God will establish stability.”

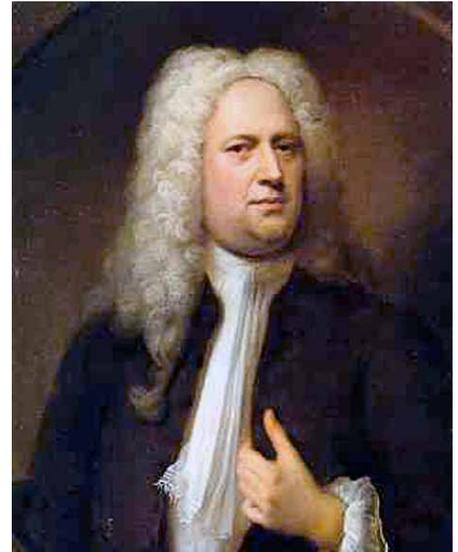
Freemasonry is all about educating young men. In particular, the Senior Warden’s Lecture tells us to pursue the hidden mysteries of nature and of science because when we become more qualified and useful to society, we are also likely to experience an increase in our annual stipend.

In the second degree we are referred to Judges 12: 6 and in the third degree we are referred to Genesis 4: 22. From the import of both, we derive the saying: “Plenty of worldly possessions.” So we are again reminded that as we become more useful members of society, we increase our ability to pay the rent and also to provide for those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

The Installation ties the first three degrees together and brings them to a conclusion. Each of the three degrees has, as a backdrop, the building of King Solomon’s Temple. The annual Installation celebrates the completion of the temple and is the last time the candidate (who has completed each of the three degrees, successfully served in most of the Lodge Officer positions and is now the Immediate Past Master) receives a final lecture on how to build his own temple; and how each member of a team is equally important, regardless of the teams’ purpose, whether it be a Lodge, a football team, a cricket team, or a corporate team.

Through the ages, Freemasons have dedicated themselves to portraying the arrival of the Queen of Sheba at the completed temple and being received by King Solomon. Their artistic contributions include: Georg Friederich Händel’s music and his *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba* from *Solomon*, 1748 and Edward Poynter’s painting of *King Solomon*, 1890.

What is so important about the completion of King Solomon’s Temple to these Freemasons?



The 1733 portrait of Georg Friedrich Händel (1685–1759) by Balthasar Denner (1685–1749).

King Solomon, who lived around 970–931 BCE, held a fortune that dwarfed that of any person who lived before him, making him the wealthiest person in the world at his time. Historical evidence for this wealth varies. Some historians view the principal points of the biblical account of Solomon as generally trustworthy, with Kenneth Kitchen’s view that Solomon ruled over a comparatively wealthy “mini-empire.” Calculating over Solomon’s 39-year reign, such a kingdom might have accumulated 25 tons of gold each year (roughly US\$2.2 Trillion today). [From <https://www.msn.com/en-in/money/photos/the-20-richest-people-of-all-time/ss-BBsg8nX#image=17>]

However, a more important question is: How did King Solomon gain his wealth?

King Solomon established peace and harmony throughout the region by Royal Diplomatic Marriages, thus paving the way to establish international trade with Egypt, Sheba (Yemen), Tyre, and throughout countries bordering the

Mediterranean Sea and south via the Red Sea that included the East Coast of Africa and the West Coast of India. In addition, he provided funding for Infrastructure Spending and the building of ships, roads, and a place of worship for his citizens. In reality, the trade network established by King Solomon was only replaced by the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869. But that is another Masonic story.

Many people think that it was John Maynard Keynes who first advocated Infrastructure Spending to increase prosperity and reduce unemployment — but in reality it was King Solomon.

So Brethren, if we study our Ritual, we will find how each one of us can pay the rent and also save the World:

- We must reduce our consumption and save for the future.
- We must promote educated free societies.
- We must provide for those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

- We must endeavour to pursue peace and harmony.
- Peace and harmony of educated free

- societies permits international trade.
- With international trade comes prosperity and worldly possessions.



“The Visit of the Queen of Sheba to King Solomon” painted in 1890 by Edward Steiner (1836–1919)

From the pages of Vox Lucis

The Object of Meeting in a Lodge Room

RWBro Robert H. Thornton, PDDGM, District 7, 1969–70, presented at Fiat Lux Lodge of Research, 24 January 1981.

There is an old song most of you are familiar with, “We’re here because we’re here, because we’re here... etc.” The song never gets to the purpose of why we’re here. I sometimes wonder if the members attending a Lodge meeting ever have the same feeling when attending Lodge? What, then, is the object of meeting in a Lodge room?

If the object of meeting in a Lodge room is physical, then the Constitution orders it. Meetings were held on high mountains or in deep valleys for security reasons. Our weather and time prohibit such locations, so we are forced to meet in a room of sufficient security, according to the Constitution, and this paper is finished! But there are mental reasons for meeting, be they intellectual, moral, or spiritual reasons, just to name a few.

Freemasonry, as we know it today, is

so complex, so many-sided and so varied in its activities that it may be taken for granted it does not present exactly the same attractions to any two Brethren. Each one has, probably, a slightly different idea of what it is, generally, and what it especially means to him.

To one, the outer aspect is most prominent, most important: the Lodge and its activities take first place in this regard. This member attends degree nights, entertainment events, sport competitions and social gatherings, and sufficient meetings to qualify attendance at these social gatherings.

To another, it is the inner meaning of Freemasonry — the spirit — that underlies all the outward forms and ceremonies, and appeals most strongly and fascinates him intensely enough to attend Lodge meetings. This member

takes part in the degree work, produces papers and, by study and reading, is enlightened by the knowledge of the Craft and lessons therein.

To some, the Lodge is a haven of rest where they may retire for an hour’s quiet from the rush and turmoil of everyday life. There is no better place to restore the body and mind than an orderly, well-regulated and harmonious Masonic Lodge except, perhaps, a sacred edifice or communion with nature, whether field or stream.

To others, Freemasonry offers an opportunity for social intercourse, for making new and strengthening old human friendships. Indeed, no truer friends can



Provided to Freemasons of Alberta and the Northwest Territories west of the 4th Meridian who are members of

The Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M.

Ste 210 2816 11 Street NE, Calgary, AB T2E 7S7
Tel 403-262-1140

www.freemasons.ab.ca

Grand Master	MWBro Kenn Culbertson
Deputy Grand Master	RWBro Ken Cheel
Senior Grand Warden	RWBro Reg Karbonik
Junior Grand Warden	RWBro Terry Murray
Grand Secretary	RWBro Bill Kostenuk

THE ALBERTA Freemason
 Published each month except July and August by
The Grand Lodge of Alberta, A.F. & A.M.

Editor: RWBro Steve Kennard
 5355 Lakeview Dr SW, Calgary, AB T3E 5S1
 Tel 403-701-4071
 e-mail: editor@freemasons.ab.ca

The Alberta Freemason

Editor: RWBro Steve Kennard
Design & Production: VWBro Garth Cochran

Submissions and photos for publication from all Brethren are welcome.

Deadline for copy is the 15th day of the month prior to the month of issue.

The Editor reserves the right to accept, reject and re-write material submitted for publication.

Republication rights are granted to other Masonic Jurisdictions, but acknowledgement is requested.

be found anywhere than those selected as members of the Masonic Fraternity.

To still others it may be the Masonic Ritual and ceremonies where they find ample food for thought and reflection. These encourage them to apply the tenets and principles to the betterment of their lives.

Two hundred years ago, the world population was some 750 million. Today it is approaching 7 billion. So with space travel, communication through various media, assembly lines, mass production, the hordes of humanity are driven to distraction by confusion and noise. Thousands of societies are clamoring for service, all advertising their activities.

But what of the man who wishes to "belong" to a club or society that not only provides outlets for charitable work without advertising, but also affords

a sanctuary in which he can morally improve himself? It may be that he shuns publicity and the limelight, and yet is genuinely not satisfied with his present life form. It is here in the precincts of a Masonic Temple that such men can find retreat. Regardless of social significance he will find the Spirit Of Masonry is the one thing most needful. Size and numbers do not count because without that Spirit, all else is insignificant.

Freemasonry is great because of its profound faith, ideals of morality, sincere friendships, its fruitful and practical service to the common good. Of greater importance is that these virtues of Masonry are intended for use throughout each day, not just for certain occasions. What a man does in his home, in public life or even within the confines of the Temple will reflect

on the extent he has morally advanced to the spiritual goal of Freemasonry.

The object of meeting in a Lodge room must be to enable the seeker to enquire after the Spirit of Freemasonry, to master the art of self-discipline, to show peace in the face of inner conflict, to forgive mistakes and look for the best in men. Hence, he will travel on the road to success after learning to go about an assigned task with the main thought of accomplishing the best results, not with a desire to see what there is in it for him or what promotion he can expect, but to truly live the Spirit of Freemasonry to its fullest, to teach, to help, to do good to all mankind.

To learn how to make good men better must be the object of meeting in a Lodge Room!

The Masonic Lesson of Subduing One's Passions

By bpkcjjgrr, 22 January 2019,

<https://bloguniversalfreemasonry.wordpress.com/author/bpkcjjgrr/>

One of the primary lessons of Freemasonry is to learn to subdue your passions. On the surface, some might think this means to dampen and reduce your emotions — to become a kind of automaton. Quite the opposite is the case, however.

As you proceed down your spiritual growth path, your emotions become more intense and poignant in response to external events. The difference, by result of proper training, is that, on the surface, you appear calmer and in perfect control of your emotions, regardless the circumstance.

An examination of the word Subdue supports this contention. The dictionary definition of subdue is to "bring under mental or emotional control, as by persuasion or intimidation; render submissive." The Latin derivation of the word is of even more interest as subdue originates from *subducere*, which translates into "to withdraw." An inference here is that you are withdrawing your emotions from external view.

On the inside, your emotional reactions to external circumstances become more intense — you are able to pick up more subtle nuances in your personal interactions. On the outside, your demeanour is that of a placid lake in terms of facial expressions and both body and eye language.

In a certain sense, you become detached from your emotions. You are

better able to identify your emotional response to situations, analyze that response, and respond in specific, measured ways without bias. It becomes an internal feedback loop that allows you to improve yourself and learn to subdue your passions. Over time, the situations presented become more intense and you find yourself gracefully addressing situations you would not have imagined just months before. One thing is certain; you will continue to be presented ever increasing challenges throughout your life.

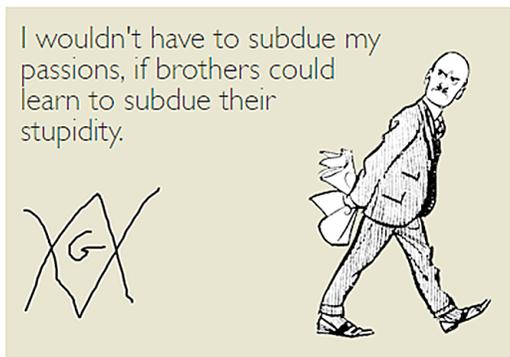
Externally, your measured response to situations helps to accomplish very specific goals of which you may not always be aware. Passions or emotions are a universal language conveyed through body language, eye contact, and the timbre of your voice. You continually affect others through that language, provoking them to specific and systematic response. Your emotions, then, afford a tool for assisting humankind in its endeavours.

As you progress through life and the degrees of Freemasonry, your ability to use your emotions as a tool for good grows. Your ability to turn your externally displayed emotions on and off is enhanced, to the point that you react

instinctively to situations presented in life. Often, you do not recognize the purpose of your reaction to specific events until after the fact and sometimes not even then.

The Gospel of Matthew 5: 39 states, in part: "...whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also..." This biblical passage has, in my opinion, at least three levels of interpretation.

The first, most basic level, encourages the recipient of the smite to ignore the offender. The second, more popular perception inspires the recipient to forgive the offender. The third and most sublime interpretation exhorts the recipient, in the most loving manner possible, to deliberately provoke the offender to hit the other cheek so that the offender might someday come to subdue his own passions.



Masonic Spring Workshop

2019 Theme: Innovation and Change

Masonic Spring Workshop, 12 to 14 April 2019, Pomeroy Lodge in Kananaskis

By W. K. Parkyn

The Masonic Spring Workshop serves three essential needs. Firstly, an atmosphere where the Brethren can truly meet on the level and for three days eat, meet, talk, and drink Freemasonry.

Secondly, incredible papers on a diverse range of Masonic topics that do enlighten the mind!

Thirdly, amidst the shelter of the majestic Rocky Mountains, Brethren of the Craft meet in a spiritual place where there is no rank, no titles, and no aprons. Just Dockers or jeans and the occasional Hawaiian shirt. There is no other opportunity for Masons to meet and to recharge their batteries.

There has been much planning and burning of the midnight oil on the part of the committee, and they are determined to make this workshop a success by involving as many Masons in as many different areas as possible.

Our theme speaker for this year's workshop will be Bro E. Oscar Alleyne, a Past Master of Wappingers Lodge No. 671, NY, and the Past Commander in Chief of the Scottish Rite Valley of the Hudson, NY. He served as the first Grand Superintendent for the State of New York of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees USA.

He is currently the Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of New York.

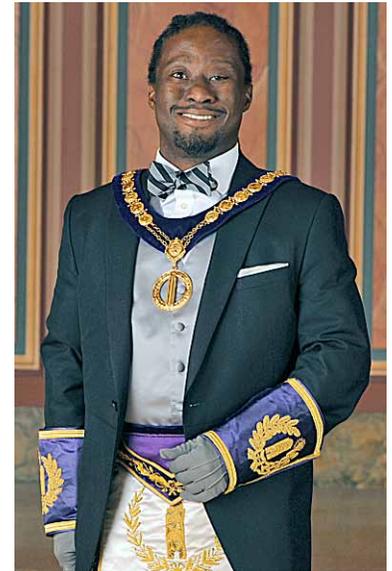
He lectures internationally on historical, ritualistic, philosophical, leadership and other topics of Masonic interest and is a member of several Masonic research and invitational bodies. He is a Fellow of the Pennsylvania Lodge of Research,

the Philaethes and Masonic Societies. He is the 2nd Vice President of the Board of the Masonic Society. He is also the Regional Treasurer for the Operatives USA.

He holds a Doctorate from the New York Medical College and is a Senior Advisor for Public Health programs at the National Association of County and City Health Officials in Washington, DC, where he provides leadership and senior level management of a portfolio covering Infectious Disease and Informatics, Public Health Preparedness, Readiness, Resilience, Pandemic and Catastrophic Preparedness.

The agenda for the weekend's Workshop will go like this:

All 4 concurrent sessions will be held in Gold, Silver, Bronze, or Sinclair Rooms.



Bro E. Oscar Alleyne

54th Annual Masonic Spring Workshop Tentative Agenda

Friday, 12 April 2019

- 14:00 h Registration Table Opens
- 16:00 h Opening — Meet 'n Greet Chairman & Speaker
Bronze Room
- 17:30 h Supper
- 20:00 h Keynote Speaker — Bro Oscar Alleyne
Gold & Silver Room
- 20:00 h Ladies Reception & Mixer — 2nd Floor

Saturday, 13 April 2019

- 07:00 h Breakfast
- 09:00 h Early Morning Sessions
 - Innovation & Change** (Gold)
Bro Mitch Cammidge
 - History & Legend** (Silver)
Bro Steve Kennard
 - Philosophy & Symbolism** (Bronze)
Bro Curtis Laughren
 - Masonic Discussions** (Sinclair)
Bro Bruce Zawalsky
- 10:15 h Coffee Break**
- 10:45 h Late Morning Sessions
 - Innovation and Change**
Bro Sean Tyler Foley — "Growing Awareness About the Craft and Leadership"
 - History & Legend**
Bro Brent Kaleta — "The story of King Solomon from different perspectives"

Philosophy & Symbolism

Bro Darrel Babuk — "Classical Architecture"

Masonic Discussions

Bro Michael Mott — "Forgiveness"

12:00 h Lunch

13:30 h Afternoon Sessions

Innovation and Change

Bro Bob Cooper — "Analyzing the oldest Masonic Ritual — Scottish, of course"

History & Legend

Bro Bill Grattan — "A missing floor of King Solomon's Temple"

Philosophy & Symbolism

Bro Michael Bayrak — "Alchemy in Our Masonry? Part 3/3"

Masonic Discussions

Bro Alodo Trombetta — "Signs, Grips or Tokens"

14:45 h Coffee Break

15:15 h Keynote speaker — Part Two

18:00 h Cash bar

19:00 h Annual Banquet

Sunday, April 14 2019

08:30 h Devotional Service (Gold Room)

09:00 h Breakfast; Checkout; and Farewells

You can see that this is going to be a truly "Masonic Retreat." Won't you become involved? You can be assured that it will be a most meaningful weekend!

Around the Province

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Calgary, Calgary Lodge of Perfection
101st Annual 14th Degree Reunion



On 9 February 2019, The Calgary Lodge of Perfection was pleased to confer the 14th Degree Grand Elect, Perfect and Sublime Mason on eleven zealous Masons providing them with further light in Masonry as they continue their journey through the Scottish Rite Degrees. The Degree was professionally portrayed with much pomp and ceremony by the Thrice Puissant Grand Master, Ill. Bro. Greg Stewart 32° and

his Officers.

The Degree was well attended by many Scottish Rite Masons from all over Alberta including such dignitaries as the Deputy for Alberta and the Northwest Territories, Ill. Bro. Loren Kline 33°, and the Active Member for Alberta and the Northwest Territories, Ill. Bro. Allan Long 33°. Also gracing the Lodge room were the Thrice Puissant Grand Masters from the Central Alberta Valley, Ill. Bro.

Ron “Scottie” Vickers 32°; the Valley of Medicine Hat, Ill. Bro. Peter Devlin 32°; and the Valley of Lethbridge, Ill. Bro. Jeff LePage 32°.

The Degree was followed by a catered banquet that included chamber music featuring Celtic Harpist Jan Pearce. The evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Ill. Bro. Douglas Baine 32°
Grand Secretary

Bro Trevor Morris Honoured

On 21 December 2018, Bro Trevor Morris was presented with his 50-Year Jewel at Bow View Manner in Calgary by his Brethren in Mosaic Lodge, assisted by RWBro Ken Inel, DDGM Phoenix District and RWBro Terry Murray, JGW.

Bro Morris was initiated in St. Stephen Lodge No. 3145 in Bristol, England in April 1968. He moved to Canada several years later, affiliating with Mosaic Lodge No. 176 in 1973. Bro Morris was a Masonic Medal of Merit recipient in 2008.

Of passing interest, Trevor was recruited by RWBro Norm Senn, when he took over as editor of The Grand Lodge Bulletin in June 1985, to read the monthly summons from every Lodge in the jurisdiction and select excerpts for publication. That’s

not to say he always found something interesting (as anyone who reads notices can attest), which at times made the job a bit frustrating. These items began occasionally appearing commencing in September 1985 usually under the heading “From the Notices” and later under “Alberta Miscellany.” In recognition of his work, he became a full member of the Bulletin Committee from September 1991 and remained a member until March 2016.

In recent years, his work yielded fewer and fewer items as notices increasingly were being sent out by email. His last column was published September 2015 at which time he decided he had “accomplished his work” and he expressed the desire to “without pretention... retire into the multitude.”

Shown in the photograph are (l to r): RWBro Ken Inel, DDGM Phoenix District; Bro Trevor Morris; and RWBro Terry Murray, Junior Grand Warden.

Grand Masters Itinerary for March

(Check the calendar on line for any updates)

- 4 **Hanna Lodge No. 78**; Regular Meeting; Hanna; 19 30 h
- 5 **Baseline Lodge No. 198**; Regular Meeting; Spruce Grove; 19 30 h
- 7 **Zetland Lodge No. 83**; Regular Meeting; FMH Cgy; 19 30 h
- 9 **Ye Olde Craft No. 196**; Installation of Officers; Highlands Hall, Edm; 20 00 h
- 11 **Sherwood Lodge No. 183**; Regular Meeting; Highlands Hall, Edm; 19 30 h
- 12 **Patricia Lodge No. 91**; Blarney Night; FMH Edm; 19 30 h
- 14 Board of General Purpose; Red Deer Masonic Hall; 10 00 h
- 16 Taste of the Orient; **Eastgate Lodge No. 192**; Dynasty Restaurant, Edm; 18 00 h
- 17 **Demolay 100th Anniversary**; Al Shamal Shrine Centre, Edm; 13 00 h

