

Encyclopedia Questionnaire

The ignorant Freemason is a drone and an encumbrance in the Order. He who does not study the nature, the design, the history, and character of the Institution, but from the hour of his initiation neither gives nor receives any ideas that could not be shared by a profane, is of no more advantage to Masonry than Masonry is to him. The true Mason seeks Light that darkness may be dispelled, and knowledge that ignorance may be removed. The ignorant aspirant, no matter how loudly he may have asked for Light, is still a blind groper in the dark.

1. What induced you to become a Mason?
2. Are you now, as you were then, in search of "More Light"?
3. Where is the Bible opened on the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Degrees and why?
4. On what day and year did Solomon start erection of the Temple (2nd day of Hebrew month of Zif, or 21st of April, year of the World 2992- and 1012-years B.C.)
5. Why is the Third Degree called "the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason"?
6. What is the meaning of "Substitute Word"?
7. Why in the ballot is unanimous consent required?
8. What is meant by "the almond tree shall flourish"?
9. What is the length of your "Cable Tow"?
10. Has the Mason a creed, if so what is it?
11. What is the definition of Freemasonry?
12. What is the design of Freemasonry?
13. What is the difference between "Esoteric and Exoteric" Masonry?
14. Why is it that the work in each Grand Jurisdiction differs slightly in the wording of "Lodge"?
15. Why did old Lodges meet "in lowest of vales and highest of hills"?
16. Do you know who Hiram Abif was other than the little ceremony you recall?
17. Where is the Lodge of the Sts John?
18. What is the true meaning of the Lost Word?
19. What is the derivation of the word Mason?
20. What is the "Mystic Tie"?
21. Why do Lodges all over the world except on special occasions meet at night? [in some Jurisdictions]
22. What is meant by "Or ever the Silver Cord be loosed"?
23. What are "Perfect Points of Entrance"?
24. What are the Twelve Original points of Freemasonry through which every candidate must pass when taking any Degree?
25. Who are "Unworthy Members"?
26. What is the Legend of the Winding Stairs? V.2, P.850
27. What is the law which excludes women from initiation into Freemasonry?
28. What is meant by "Lion of the Tribe of Judah"?
29. What is the real object of Freemasonry?
30. What is the "Symbol of the Temple"?
31. What is suspension?
32. What is "Making a Mason at Sight"?
33. What are the principal objections that have been urged by opponents of Freemasonry?
34. Acquittal: Can a Mason, having been acquitted by the Courts of an offence with which he has been charged, be tried by his Lodge for the same offense?
35. Who were the Popes that issued the bull against Freemasonry and when?
36. Read the sufferings inflicted upon the Master of a Lodge because he refused to reveal the secrets of Freemasonry? - John Coustos
37. What was the peculiar construction of the "Holy of Holies"?
38. How many Landmarks are there?
39. What are the Laws of Masonry?
40. What do you know of the Morgan excitement?
41. Where did the Negroes [Blacks] get their work?
42. What are the old Hebrew Covenants, from which we get the Four Perfect Points of Entrance?
43. Do you know the difference between a "Cowan" and "Eavesdropper"?

44. Do you know that George Washington was elected to receive the Degrees of Freemasonry at the age of 18 years, or three years before he attained his majority and by what authority?

45. Would you like to receive the key that would unlock to you the mysteries which you believe hidden in the rubbish of the Temple?

Now, my Brother, these are only a few of the many things that are answered within the covers of Mackey's Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, New Revised Edition in two volumes, and we can truthfully say, that if you are still as you were in the beginning, in search of "Light", as you said you were, you can here obtain it without any laborious study. If you will use the Encyclopedia as you should, your efforts will be repaid a million-fold, both with pleasure and profit.

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