## The York Rite of Freemasonry

- The Symbolic Lodge
  - A Chapter of Royal Arch Masons
  - A Council of Royal & Select Masters
  - A Commandery of Knights Templar

# The Symbolic Lodge is the Foundation



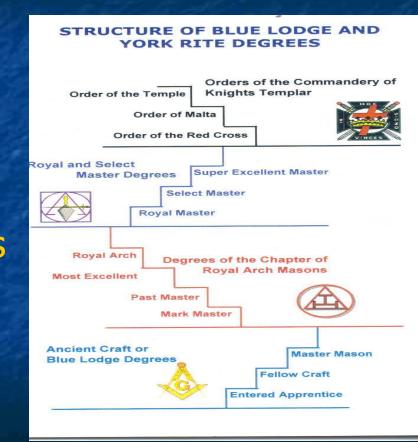






#### A continuation of the Work

- The York Rite is foundational in it's approach
- Many of the questions from the Symbolic Lodge are answered in the Chapter & Council Degrees



#### A Chapter of Royal Arch Masons

- Comprised of Four Degrees
  - Mark Master
  - Past Master
  - Most Excellent Master
  - Royal Arch Degree



Taken as a whole the theme of the Chapter Degrees may be summarized in a single word

#### The Mark Masters Degree

 Considered by many to be one of the oldest degrees in Masonry

The Candidate represents a Fellow Craft Mason

The Degree teaches us to look for the value in all things and to be mindful of the importance of the contributions of others

#### The Past Master's Degree

Originally, the Royal Arch degree could only be conferred upon those who served as Masters of their Symbolic Lodge

The Degree now confers the symbolic title of Past Master

First conformed in England in 1769

## The Most Excellent Masters Degree

Here we see the completion and dedication of the Temple



#### The Royal Arch Degree

The Royal Arch Degree compliments the Master Masons Degree

The Climax of Ancient Craft Masonry

Without the Royal Arch Degree the Master's Degree Is

A song that is half sung, a tale partly told or a promise unfulfilled

Holiness to the Lord

#### Council of Royal & Select Masters

- Comprised of Two Degrees
  - Royal Master
  - Select Master
    - Based on events that occurred before the Royal Arch Degree and after the Third Degree of the symbolic Lodge



Taken as a whole the theme of the Council Degrees may be summarized in a single word

## Royal Masters Degree

 A young Craftsman named Adoniram is the central character

How the word will be preserved

This degree takes place prior to and shortly following the Master Mason's Degree

## Select Master's Degree

We must set a good watch over our words and actions and attachment to duty thus the principles of Masonry will result in advancement in life and Masonry

The heart of this degree is FIDELITY

# The Orders of a Commandery of Knights Templar

- The Illustrious Order of the Red Cross
- The Order of Malta
- The Order of the Temple



nese Orders may be summarized as CONTINUATION

#### The Illustrious Order of the Red Cross

- The First of the Commandery Orders
  - Founded upon Truth
  - Dramatizes the freeing of the Jewish captives after 70 years of slavery

Truth a Divine Attribute and the foundation and virtues

#### The Order of Malta

- The first of the Masonic Degrees to apply the precepts of Christianity
- Traces the history of the Knights Hospitaller

Also known as
Knights of St. John Thoades, and of Cyprus

# The Order of the Temple

The Crowning Glory of the York Rite

"The most solemn and impressive experience in Masonry"

# The Order of the Temple

- The way of Jesus of Nazareth through
  - His Life
  - His Death
  - His Resurrection
  - His Ascension



"Every Christian Mason, should be a Knight

#### York Rite Charities

- Royal Arch Research Assistance
  - Research into Central Auditory Problems



- Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundat
  - Cardiovascular & Arteriolosclerosis Research

- Knights Templar Eye Foundation
  - Research Grants
  - Endowed Professorships
  - Senior Eye Care Program
  - One Network Pediatric Educational Center



# The York Rite of Freemasonry A journey waiting to begin

For more information please visit www.knightstemplar.org

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"Grand Pecorders"