

14°, Perfect Elu

What is the lesson of this degree?

 This degree teaches us that it is our duty to protect the oppressed, relieve want or distress, and to enlighten the people.

What is the symbolism of Enoch's and Solomon's vaults, and what do they remind us to do?

Enoch

- Hidden by a vertical passage below his temple.
- The vertical symbolizes the spiritual dimensions of the universe and Enoch's prophetical vison.
- After completion of his vision, he is taken directly to heaven without suffering death. (Genesis 5:24)

Solomon's Crypt From Jeremy Cross

Solomon

- Hidden by a horizontal passage below his temple.
- The horizontal symbolizes the earthly things, as well as Solomon's wisdom of the earth.
- Because he began to worship strange gods and led a majority of his people to idolatry, he and the Hebrew people were punished with their conquest and captivity in Babylonia.

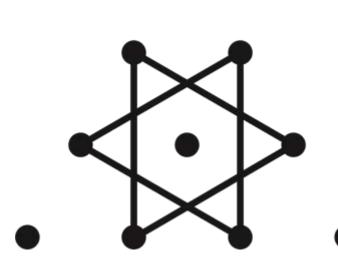
Enoch's Crypt From Jeremy Cross

What does the Tetractys symbolize in this degree?

- The tetractys was first introduced to us when we received the 6°, Intimate Secretary.
- In that degree it was shown with the triple delta as the jewel.

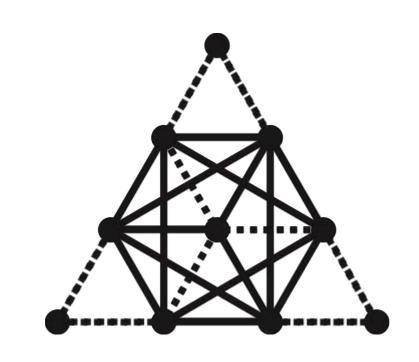
What does the Tetractys symbolize in this degree?

- In this degree it is used as a tool to help illustrate another symbolism of King Solomon's Seal, the six-pointed star.
- As seen in the 12°, with interlaced black and white triangles, the seal hints at duality (good and bad; heaven and earth.).
- The star here is a representation of the 7 planetary (celestial) bodies known to the ancients.
 - Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn all rotating around the Sun (as always representing Deity).
 - This is also seen to the south of the Alter of Obligation where seven candles stand lit.



What does the Tetractys symbolize in this degree?

- The Tetractys also shows us how the Cube from the 13° plays a part in this degree, and further express its link to Deity.
- A perfect cube can be represented in the triangle.
- It also places all 8 corners of the on the 7 planetary representations.



What is the significance of the Crimson colored curtains?

- The crimson corresponds with the term "Red Masonry."
 - Red Masonry was what the Lodge of Perfection was originally called in Europe.

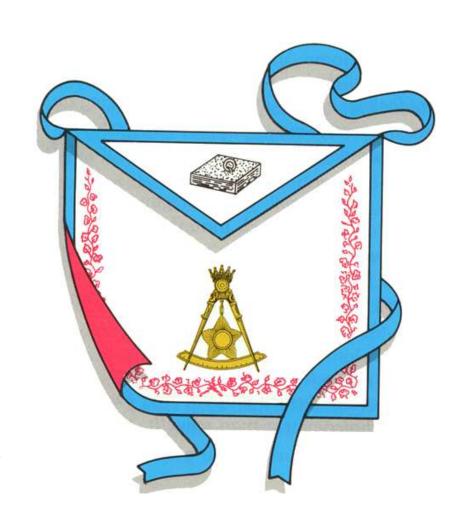
What is the significance of our 14° ring?

- The ring itself, with the inscription "virtus junxit mors non separabit" (virtue has united and death shall not separate), symbolizes the immutable and eternal nature of Masonic virtues and the brotherhood they inspire.
- The yud inside the triangle is a representation of the triangular pedestal the cube was sitting on in Enoch's vault.
- Despite the common belief, the current ritual actually does not specify one hand or finger on which this ring (or the 33°) should be worn, simply that it must be worn or, if given in a pyramid, kept unless superseded by the 33°.



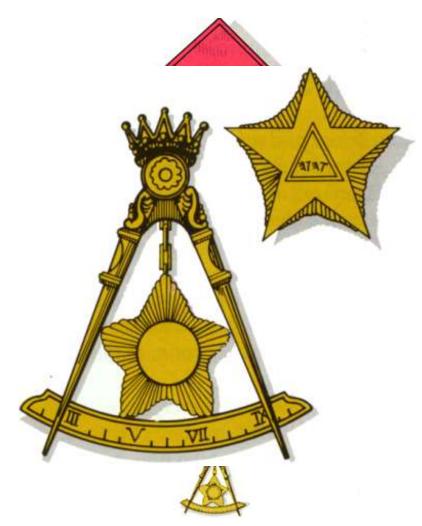
What do the symbols on the Apron represent?

- The three colors white, blue and red – represent Justice, Right and Truth.
- The square stone, attached to a ring, on the flap represents the entrance to the secret vault of the preceding degree.
- The compasses adorned with a crown remind us that science, united to honor and virtue, made the architects of the temple the companions of kings.



What do the cordon and jewel of this degree represent?

- Again the color red, the color of fire which purifies all things, represents Truth.
- The sprig of acacia represents immortality.
- The silver, five-pointed star, symbolizes Masonic light; also the five points of fellowship. The word inscribed in Phoenician is "perfection."
- The Jewel is two sided with the front shown on the apron. on the reverse behind the sun is another five-pointed star with a triangle and the Ineffable name of God symbolizing the star and the Sun as symbols of Deity.



Discuss the search for the "lost word" as an inner quest of the Perfect Elu.