

Brethren the following was submitted after a presentation by WB Quimpo in his Lodge. It has already generated interesting discussion among the committee, it is hoped that it will inspire similar discussion among all of you.

When God Made the Mason

Written By: WB Eduardo B. Quimpo

Let me relate to you when God made the Mason in the silence of Heaven.

The order of creation was envisioned, designed and concretized according to God's divine plans. And there are reasons for everything and all things that existed for all the things that did not. These reasons defy the scrutinizing intellects of the scholars of all ages. Since the world was created to God's program – it is God's and not man's will that shall prevail.

When God made the Mason, He chose a man. The angels wept and inquired why God chose a man over the Woman when is more loving, more tender and more caring. God said that the Mason has to play a definite and trying role. So the Mason has to be a man.

The first thing that God gave the Mason was the volume of the Sacred Law which is to be the rule and guide of his faith. HE instructed the Mason to study it and to live by it, so that he shall be better enabled to help God accomplish HIS designs. After convincing HIMSELF that HIS instructions were properly received, HE gave the Mason the Square and Compass.

The angels knew the reason for the Volume of Sacred Laws, but why the Square? Why the Compass? God replied that the Square and the Compass form part of the working tools of the Mason to help him perform his assignments. The Square, the emblem of morality, reminds a Mason that he has to regulate his life within the bounds of morality and virtue; the Compass, to circumscribe his desires and to keep his passions within due bounds towards all mankind.

To prevent further interference from the inquisitive angels, God explained the uses/meanings of the other tools and paraphernalia as HE gave them to the Mason. To remind him the God gave all his children only 24 hours a day, HE gave the 24 inch gauge which he was taught to divide into three (3) parts – a part for service to God and to his distress worthy brother, a part for his usual vocation and a part for refreshment and repose.

The common gavel was given for the Mason to divest his heart and conscience of all vices and superfluities in life. The plumb line, to remind him to pursue that honest and upright course in life.

God handed him the white and spotless lambskin apron to be the badge of the Mason. Emblematic of purity and all perfections, it is to remind him of the unblemished purity of life and rectitude of conduct. HE then mandated the Mason to have and to practice FAITH, HOPE and CHARITY. BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF and TRUTH shall be the principal tenets of his profession with TEMPERANCE, FORTITUDE, PRUDENCE and JUSTICE as cardinal virtues.

God stayed late into the night for the finishing touches, HE endowed the Mason with a benevolent heart, a firm and authoritative voice, complete physical limbs, and eyes and ears to see and hear everything. And before HE gave HIS final blessings. God reminded him to be calm and tolerant, to adjust himself and progress with the changing time, but never to alter or amend the distinguishing landmarks of his profession.

Lastly, God held lightly the Mason's chin, looked him straight into his face and deep into his eyes and said "Go forth in peace. Be good and faithful. Serve your Father". And like the postscript to a letter, as the Mason was about to depart from home to start his mission, God stopped the Mason by his shoulders and gave him tears.

Smiling with confidence and with a twinkle in HIS eyes for a job well done, God took HIS seat, turned to the angels with raised eyebrows said, "Now are you satisfied that the Mason can love, be tender, and be caring as a woman"?

The angels said no more. They bowed their heads, smiled and replied "AMEN"!

Brother's, the above is a story when God made the Mason. Let us hope that as Craftsmen, we and all our brethren in the Craft shall not fail the plans and designs of the Great Architect of the Universe and be worthy and deserving of all his blessings.

Discussion questions:

1. Are you ready to look God in the eye and take up the challenge?
2. Are you Calm and tolerant?
3. Do you have a benevolent heart?

If you are like me you will find we all have work to do; be tolerant and benevolent with your Brothers we are all working on the Temple.

John Bishop
Chairman