

## **Nebraska Masonic Education Course**

### **MASTER MASON**

This manual does not disclose any of the esoteric portions of the ritual. The contents of this manual therefore may be discussed with, and read by, any person interested in acquiring knowledge about Freemasonry. This manual has been produced for use in the "Nebraska Masonic Education Course".

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## INTRODUCTION

Congratulations, brother, on your preferment and upon your joining the ranks of Master Masons the world over. The third degree of Master Mason is the crown jewel of the ancient craft blue lodge. It is the culmination of all that has been taught and revealed to you, the candidate, in the two preceding degrees. As you began your Masonic journey, you were initiated into a new and unique philosophical life via the Entered Apprentice degree. After working to subdue your passions and learning silence and obedience and demonstrating your proficiency, you were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. After having symbolically mastered the intellectual and philosophical arts and sciences and crossing the threshold from the outer to the inner, from the material to the intellectual and spiritual, you were considered by your brethren ready to be raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

Regardless of your pace through the degrees of Masonry, as a newly raised Master Mason, you should continually review your personal progress and take appropriate and positive action to improve yourself in Masonry. You should never be satisfied with simply taking the three degrees and then considering yourself to be a whole and complete Master Mason. Both operative and speculative Masonry are active, not passive activities.

Just as the master stonemasons of old continually searched for improved designs to put on their trestleboards, which resulted in the erection of some of the most beautiful buildings in the history of the world, so also must we, as speculative Masons, continually look for ways in our daily lives where we can positively apply the lessons taught us within Masonry and seek always to add to our knowledge of the craft.