

# **Grand Chapter State of New York**

## **Royal Arch Masons**

### **Most Excellent Master Degree Introduction Lecture**



My Brother:

That you may full understand the completeness of the Degree you are receiving, it is fitting at this time that you know the origins of the Degree of Most Excellent Master as a unit of the Chapter Degrees. The former degrees you have received have dealt with the structural features of the Temple. This Degree was founded on the interior and the completion of the building. Masonry is a progressive science. Likewise, among the Fellowcrafts presenting their work, history records, these workmen to have been the finest stone masons, sculptors, polished and setters of that time. Also chosen were those of highest skills in carving of wood for overlay of gold.

The laborers produced marvels of excellence. Luxury and splendor everywhere prevailed. A temple erected to God, with a generous display of the finest, richest products God had given to man. King Solomon then arranged a most magnificent ceremony of Dedication and Consecration of the Temple. He invited all his Rulers and Members of His Royal Households, and all the High Priests and Prophets of his Realm to participate in the grandeur of that momentous occasion.

Then in the presence of all this great assembly he summoned before him all the skilled workmen that had wrought physical glory to the finished edifice, and as a reward for their zeal and fidelity to the Craft, he greeted them “Most Excellent Masters,” the highest honor then to be conferred upon an artisan.

Enjoy the degree!

Produced by the Masonic Education Committee  
R.:E.: Richard J. Kessler, Chairman

Special thanks to: E.: Alan Troland