



Nugget

The original and perfect-points in Freemasonry

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Original 'perfect-points'.

Summary

A short explanation of the original 'perfect-points'.

Keywords

First-Degree, Perfect-points

The original and perfect points in Freemasonry

This explanation is derived from a talk given by the masonic sage, W Bro the Revd. George Oliver, Past DPGM of Lincolnshire, to the Witham Lodge in 1863. In which he compares the old Prestonian Ritual with the Union Lectures 'now in use'. It should be borne in mind that the lectures were only finalised 30 years before, and George Oliver was borne in 1782 and probably initiated in 1802, by dispensation required due to his young age.

In the Prestonian Ritual it was asked: '*How many original and perfect points have we in Masonry?*' To which the answer was '*twelve*'. These are: Opening, Preparing, Reporting, Entering, Prayer, Circumambulation, Advancing, Obligation, Intrusting, Investing, Situation and Closing.

They are called the original and perfect points as they constitute the basis of the whole system of Masonry, and without which no one ever was, or ever can be, legally received into the Order. They equally apply to progression through the second and third degrees.

There was a longer explanation of these twelve points, which there is not time to give here, however it is curious to note that they were represented by the twelve tribes of Israel.

##END##

Recommended use of Nuggets

Nuggets offer a short, simple and readily absorbed means of progressing Masonic knowledge and an easy way to introduce learning to Lodges and Chapters. It is hoped that they will become a regular feature of Lodge and Chapter meetings as well as a source for private-study.

Nuggets can be included as an item in the summons and read at most Lodge/Chapter meetings. They can be:

- Read by either a new or an experienced Mason with the minimum of preparation and practice; *though ideally, they need to be read a few times beforehand.*
- Themed with the meeting or activity.
- Used to initiate a discussion within a Lodge/Chapter, LOI/COI, or group.
- Read at home and shared as a topic for a future discussion.
- Used as a focus for an unplanned, informal discussion.

For further nuggets and other learning materials visit 'Solomon' at <http://solomon.ugle.org.uk>

Acknowledgement:

UGLE gratefully acknowledges Dickon Sandbach as the author of this document, which is an extract from 'Interval Talks', and for his permission to publish it in this form.

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