

The Columns (I King 7:15-22)

When you enter a Masonic Temple, one of the things that are mostly noticeable is the columns. The first columns were raised to express religious beliefs, isolated as a monolithic block, found virtually in all cultures and times. The ancient architectonic columns were - Doric, Ionic, Corinthian, Composite, and Tuscan. In the world there are various monuments composed by columns. For example, Trajan's column in Rome, the column of Don Pedro IV in Lisbon, Nelson's column in London, the Doric columns at the Park Guell in Barcelona, and the many buildings with columns in Washington, DC.

In numerous Masonic temples, in addition to B and J, there are twelve other columns - six on the north side and six on the south side. Each one of them matches a different sign of the zodiac. They serve as support to the Celestial Dome. You can also say they represent the months of the year. And, if you divide them by three; you will have the four seasons.

Additionally, there are invisible columns - the Worshipful Master represents the Doric column, the Senior Warden, the Ionic Column and the Junior Warden, the Corinthian column. Each member will be considered as a column including all the Entered Apprentices, Fellowcrafts and Master Masons. That is why in some organizations you say a column was broken when a brother passes to the Eternal Orient. Death is seen as a normal process natural to the human essence. A mason knows that death is just a change of clothing as he reflects on the Acacia that is a symbol of immortality, the never-ending work.

You know, my brother, there are times when we think our "columns" cannot stand the weight of our problems and the "roof" of our lives might collapse over our heads. That is when brethren come together and act as a column by giving you the support you need. And even when you can find no brothers, you will discover a hidden column inside you, which is indestructible and that can resist any amount of weight. That column is called faith. Faith is greatest gift ever given to men.

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