



**17°,
Knight of
the East
and West**



What is the lesson of this degree?

- Inspired by the Book of Revelations and Kabbalistic symbolism, we see in this degree that God is One, Immutable, Unchangeable, and Infinitely Just and Good.
 - Light ultimately will overcome darkness, good will conquer evil, and truth be the victor over error.

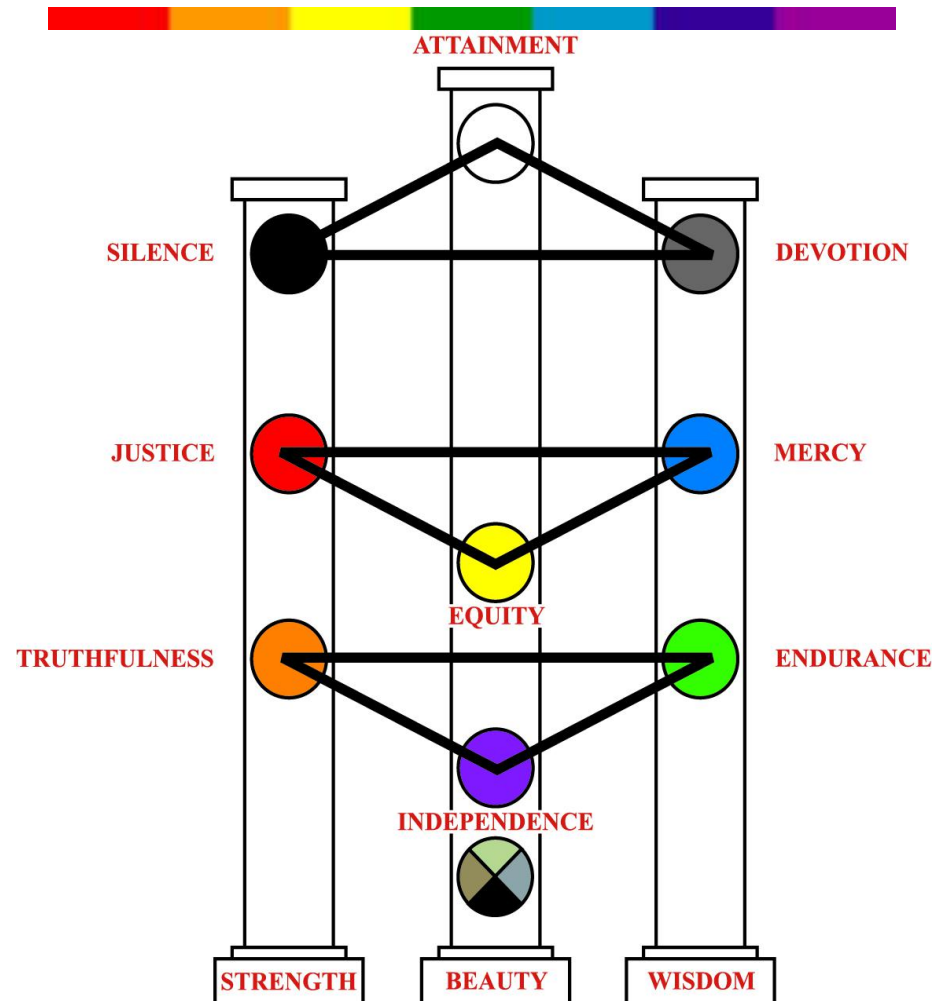


What purpose do Socrates and Daniel serve in this degree?

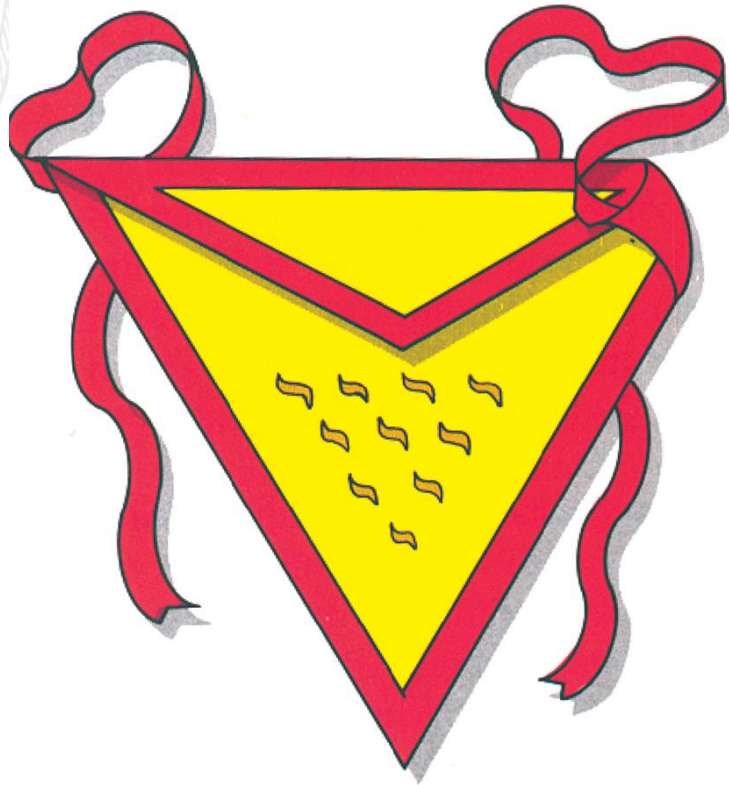
- Socrates and Daniel, both martyrs, are examples of giving oneself completely in service to faith or to better mankind.
- How far would you go to better mankind or serve God? Would you shed blood in military service to protect Constitutional freedoms?

There is a column of different colors in each of the seven corners of the Council Chamber. To what do these elude?

- The colors recall those of a rainbow, which can be made by light passing through a prism.
- Paired with the initials of the names of the last seven Sephiroth, we are re-introduced to the Tree of Life in Kabbalistic theory, which depicts the emanations (outflowings) of the Deity. The emanations are qualities contained in their fullness by the Deity, and with which humankind is blessed to a lesser degree. The true Mason seeks to bring them into personal equilibrium.



What does the apron of this degree symbolize?



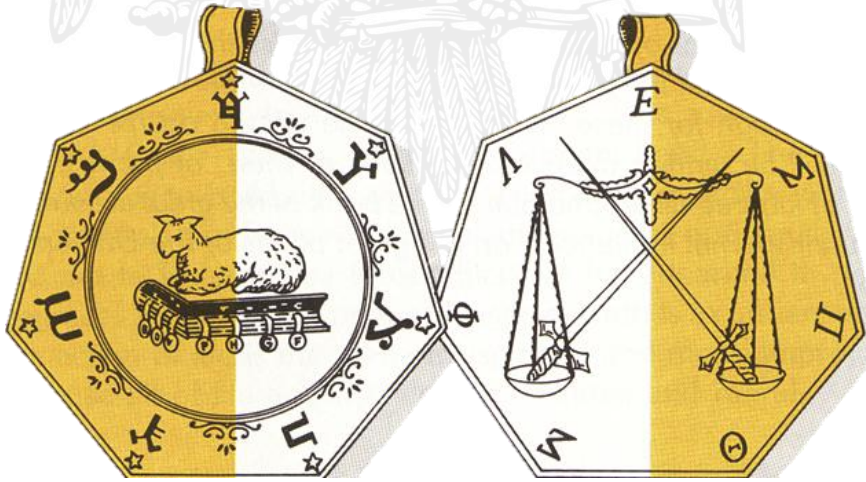
- The triangular form of the apron alludes to Deity by recalling the first three Sephiroth.
- The tetractys represents all ten Sephiroth. It is comprised of ten *yuds*, the initial letter of the Divine Name in Hebrew. Each, being a part of the whole recalls the verse, “Hear, O Israel, the Lord is our God. The Lord is One.”
- Its colors, like those of the 16°, recall the dawn and, more specifically, the dawn of God’s reign after the apocalypse.

What do the cordon, or orders, of the East and West symbolize?

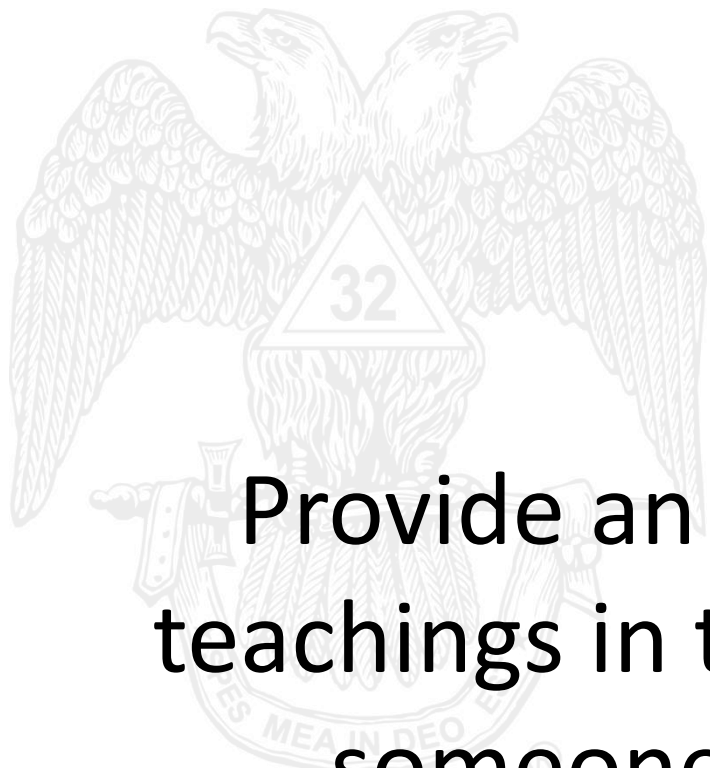
- The white and black cordons of the Knight of the East and West represent dualist principles, as mentioned by Zoroaster and Manes.
- This duality was denoted in the 14° by the interlaced dark and light triangles.



What symbolism is held in the jewel of this degree?



- The jewel likewise depicts the principles of duality as it is half gold and half silver.
- The heptagonal shape recalls the Council Chamber.
- The lamb on the book with seven seals appears in the Book of Revelations as a symbol of He who is worthy to open the book.
- The seven stars and Samaritan letters represent the columns and last seven Sephiroth.
- The Greek letters represent the seven churches mentioned in the Book of Revelations.



Provide an example of how the teachings in this degree might help someone through a time of pain and/or suffering.