

Two Corinthians Walk into a Theater.

The first says, 'I have never seen it rain like this before, I think maybe I need to get an ark'. The second says, 'Don't worry, I Noah guy.' After the evenings performance the first Corinthian says he thought it was a really good show, to which the second replies that it was nowhere near as funny as Samson's act which brought the house down.

Ascending another stair we come to the fourth order of architecture, the Corinthian. This column is more slender and decorative than its Ionic predecessor and for this reason is the column of the Junior Warden in the South who represents the beauty of the sun at meridian. Meridian here could have multiple meanings since we are referring to the sun. One definition is that meridian simply means happening at noon which could certainly apply to our use of it. However, a second definition seems more accurate and appropriate and it defines meridian as the highest level or degree attainable or highest stage of development. I believe this meaning to have more relevance if we consider the sun Masonically as the supreme architect representing the highest stage of development we should all aspire to.

The Corinthian order originally was part of the Ionic order and its origin is distinctly vague since it uses so many elements of design found in a multitude of buildings. A popular myth or legend of its origin is when the famous sculptor, Callimachus, walked past a grave of a young maiden from Corinth which had a basket atop it overgrown with Acanthus leaves and took inspiration from the visual and established the Corinthian order.

The Acanthus mollis or Bear's Breeches is native to Greece and was traditionally used as a treatment for dislocated joints or burns. A paste from the plant itself helps a dislocated joint normalize by causing muscles and ligaments to simultaneously relax and tighten. The leaves when crushed can be used as poultice to sooth burns and scalds. Thus proving helpful in more ways than just adding to Grecian designs.

Next month we make scents of the Composite Order of Architecture



'The Winding Staircase - A 15 step path to improving yourself in Masonry'

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