

## **Need a Raise? Charge it to your Master Card.**

Brethren, tonight we look into the sublime and review the third charge upon being raised to a Master Mason.

Once again, it starts off acknowledging our dedication and progress we have made to reach this point. There are some that stop at one of the lower degrees. Our greater awareness of the mysteries of our order is also mentioned as a reason for esteem and favor. We have become a Master Mason and are thrice bound now to our obligations and duties by honorable actions and a grateful demeanor. This really means that we should always act with dignity and set an example for others how to adhere to our tenets.

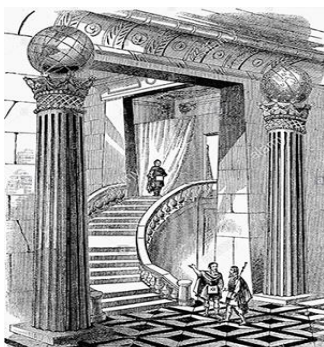
In this current iteration, while fresh to the learnings of our fraternity, we are now authorized to correct errors or irregularities of our less informed brethren and help protect them from a breach in fidelity. This does not mean we know everything are now experts in Freemasonry, I believe that would take a lifetime to achieve as there is always something new to learn. Remember when you started your journey to become a master mason, there are still many things that lie ahead for us to learn, however if you do know information or can steer a brother down a safer path to knowledge or prevent his misstep, you should do so to keep the Masonic reputation clean and unsullied.

As in life during our 24 hours of the day for service, relief, work and refreshment we are counselled to recommend obedience and submission to our inferiors, this could be our children, employees or seekers of knowledge that we possess. While we are all equal in the lodge room, I am sure we can all agree that there are some that are stronger in some areas than others. To our peers or equals, we should be courteous and kind. And to our superiors, in whatever form that takes we should condescend to their authority akin to being good citizens as discussed in previous charges.

Just as the supreme architect is a benevolent entity to his creations, so should we emulate this benevolence always and demonstrate the best behavior to influence and guide the actions of others that are less informed. We are to hold sacred the Ancient Landmarks and ensure adherence to their customs and usages.

Finally, brethren we are again encouraged to be dignified and true, faithful to our duties, vows, and the trust placed within us by each other. We are advised to emulate the Widow's son to maintain the proper strength against adversity which will merit that faith, confidence and honor we have just earned and will hopefully continue to earn for the rest of our days. Thank you.

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



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