

Saber the moment, Masonry is a Force to be reckoned with.

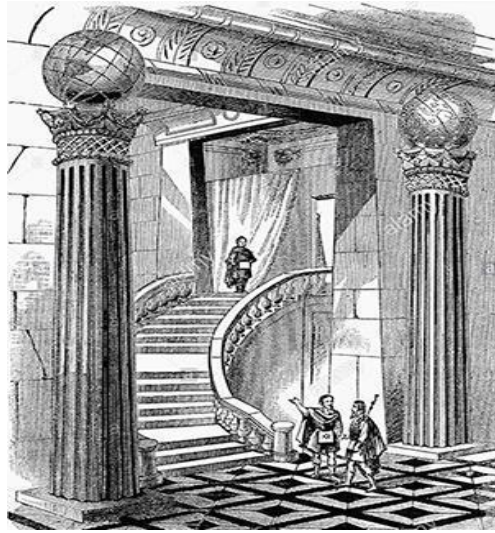
Brethren, it should be no surprise that I was elated when the Worshipful Master asked for a Star Wars themed lecture tonight. Forgoing the obligatory “May the 4th, be with you” pun that lends itself so easily to this topic and has been prevalent in the community for a while. I wanted to delve a little deeper and discuss some correlations and connections that may not always be apparent to those of us that are Masonic nerds.

Some correlations are fairly obvious when we look at this topic. Masonic Blue Lodges have 3 degrees, EA, FC and MM. The Jedi order has 3 levels, Initiate, Padwan (apprentice) and Jedi (Master). The Initiate usually demonstrates an aptitude in the Force which caused them to seek training or may be recognized by a Jedi who asks them to pursue training. While we do not actively recruit Masons, this is no different than seeing the qualities in a man and asking “what lodge do you belong to?” or “Are you mason, why not?” Once training begins, the Jedi becomes an apprentice which is like our Fellowcrafts that have received some knowledge but not completely. The time frames are somewhat different for this level as some remain padawans for years but we as Masons progress more quickly through our catechism and achieving the next goal. Finally, we achieve the level of Jedi Knight/Master which allows us to travel the world and universe on our own with the knowledge we have learned through our training. So, it is with the final degree of the blue lodge where we are raised to MM and shown our proficiency and dedication to the craft. There are many other correlations to the organizational structure including the Jedi Council(past masters), Jedi Grandmasters (Grand Lodge) and various other groups that show how there are similarities if you look deeper.

However, there is another element that both groups hold in common, The FORCE. While some may be inclined to see the Force as an example of Deity for the Jedi, I believe it to correlate with the light of freemasonry. Both are present in the world all around us, it is stronger in some than others and can be used in a variety of ways by those that possess it. The Force here is just a part of the presence of the GAOTU and while it alludes to Deity does not represent it entirely. The three pillars of the Jedi Temple on Coruscant are noted as being: The Force, Knowledge and Self Discipline. Only when all three are together and used properly can we start reaching towards that state of perfect ashlar that brings us closer to deity and being one with the universe.

Just as with any other topic, there is so much more research and deeper investigation into this topic, elements of Masonry can be found in all areas, even in a Galaxy far, far away.

I leave you tonight with another riddle. Why is the Force like Duct Tape? Because they both have a light and dark side and hold the universe together.



‘The Winding Staircase - A path to improving yourself in Masonry’
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