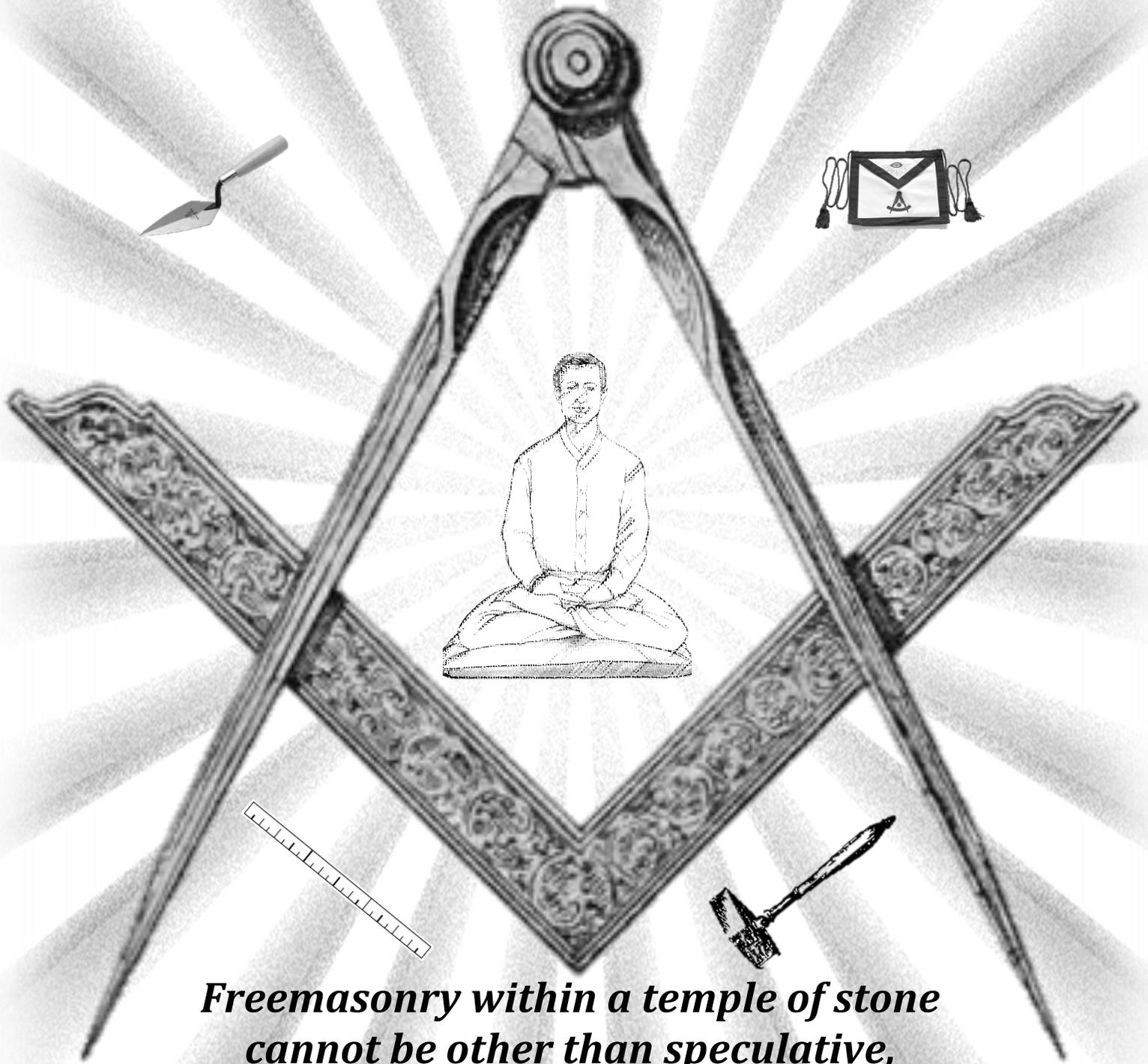


Esoteric Masonry

A Masonic Education Series at SW Hackett Lodge



***Freemasonry within a temple of stone
cannot be other than speculative,
but Freemasonry within the living temple of the body
is operative.***

- Manly P. Hall

“It is not rational knowledge that Freemasons seek. Nor is it accumulation of information, and neither is it theoretical knowledge. What the Mason seeks is insight, or knowledge gained through direct experience. [...] each man must forge his own experiential understanding of the true nature of God, which is the quest for the True Word.” - Robert G. Davis, 33°, G.c.

Freemasonry is rich in symbols. And while we can certainly fill a lifetime with study of Masonic theory, in this series of meetings, we will explore the idea that these symbols are not intended as mere intellectual puzzles. Rather, we will treat them as sign posts; pointing the way towards practices we can incorporate into our daily life, practices that have the potential to transform our lives and our understanding and realization of the “True Word.”

If this inspires your interest, you are invited to join us for a year of Masonic Education hosted at SW Hackett Lodge at the Scottish Rite Center in Mission Valley. We will be offering these sessions once a month, typically on the evening of the 3rd Tuesday of the month and all Masons and those interested in Masonry are invited to attend.

In each session, we will start by exploring an aspect of Masonic symbolism from a traditional point of view. We will then expand our understanding of the same symbol as we explore its meaning in other cultures and spiritual traditions. Then, we will learn actual practices that move the symbol from *speculative* to *operative*. These practices are intended to be tools that you can take home and use on your own as you explore their depth more fully.

In our first session, we will start with the Masonic Gauge and Gavel as they are described in the first degree. From there, we will explore the practice of meditation, one of the simplest and most profound practices a Mason can undertake. It is an ancient practice, recognized and promoted by virtually every esoteric (or mystery) school on the planet and canonized in some form or another within every major religion. It is also broadly recognized by modern science, both physiologically and psychologically as a highly valuable practice that leads to better health and better lives.

In future sessions, we plan to deepen our practice in meditation and expand to other practices including breath practices, walking practices, concentration practices and sound practices. We hope you will join us on this journey.

First Meeting: Dec 18th, 2012 6:30pm
SW Hackett Lodge, Scottish Rite Center,
1895 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley