

United Supreme Council, 33°

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Prince Hall Affiliation, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

# Councils of Kadosh

# Councils of Kadosh has full right and authority over the following Degrees of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite:

- 19° - Grand Pontiffs
- 20° - Grand Master of All Symbolic Lodges of Master Ad Vitam
- 21° - Noachite or Prussian Knight
- 22° - Knight of the Royal Axe, of Prince of Libanus
- 23° - Chief of Tabernacle
- 24° - Prince of Tabernacle
- 25° - Knight of the Brazen Serpent
- 26° - Prince of Mercy
- 27° - Knight Commander of the Temple
- 28° - Knight of the Sun
- 29° - Knight of St. Andrew
- 30° - Knight Kadosh

# Checklist and Periods of Instruction Councils of Kadosh

- Explain the following before the start of the meeting.
  1. During the opening and closing you are to use the title "Grand Commander", not "Thrice Potent Grand Master" as stated within the "Book of the Scottish Rite, 4° - 32°"
  2. Explain how to give signs and when to give them.
  3. Explain when officers rise and when members rise.
  4. "Book of the Scottish Rite 4° - 32°, Prince Hall Affiliation" does reference 3 Guards. They have parts within the degree work.
  5. The Holy Bible will be opened to Isaiah, Chapter 6:8
  6. The "Engraved Tablets" (minutes) should be read before closing for accuracy.
  7. A minimum of XI lights and XI swords, and mallets to bear are required for the reception of A.A.S.R. , PHA Members.
  8. Knocks: \*\*\*\*\* \*



# Five Chambers within the Councils of Kadosh

1. The first chamber is termed "Judges Hall" - Pg. 346
2. The second chamber is termed "Chamber of Reflection" - Pg. 343
3. The third chamber is termed "Forum" - Pg. 350
4. The fourth chamber is termed "Senate Chamber" - Pg. 359
5. The fifth chamber is termed "The Road to the Holy Land" - Pg. 357

Every Councils of Kadosh shall meet at least four times each year. Its election shall take place annually at a stated meeting on or before December 27th.

# 19° - Grand Pontiff

- Origin - This degree describes the consecration and ordination of a Pontiff, or Priest of the Order of Melchizedek. A Pontiff must be virtuous, sincere, equitable, true and temperate.
- Lesson - As Pontiffs, we are sworn enemies of the evils. All our energies must be summoned, and by the aid of the all-powerful Intelligence, we must again drive into the pit of darkness the foul fiends that blight this else happy earth.
- Password - Emmanuel
- Sacred Word - Alleluia (Praise the Lord)

# 20° - Grand Master of all Symbolic Lodges; or, Master Ad Vitam

- Origin – This degree is divided into two separate sections. The first deals with the ability of a Master to govern a Lodge. The second portion is an interpolation or an appendix to the degree. It is called the Light of Patriotism and concerns itself with our brother Prince Hall's efforts to convince General George Washington to enlist colored troops into his army.
- Lesson – The lesson of the first section is that of Toleration, Justice and Truth. The lesson taught in the second section is that Masonry is a system of morality and that it can no more be the possession of one race or group of men than can be the multiplication table.
- Password - Jekson
- Sacred Word - Stolkin



# 21° - Noachite or Prussian Knight

- Origin – This degree represents a meeting of a Grand Chapter in a free city of Westphalia in the 12th Century. A trial of one of the Chief Knights was conducted who was found guilty, punished and another is chosen and installed in his stead.
- Lesson - Freemasonry is not a shield for evil doing and that a Mason who commits a crime is not protected by his brethren.
- Password - Peleg
- Sacred Word – Shem, Hem, Japhet

## 22° - Knights of the Royal Axe; or, Prince of Libanus

- Origin - The bodies of this degree are styled Colleges. There are two apartments. The first represents a carpenter's workshop on Mount Lebanon. The second represents the Council Room of the Round Table. The basis of this degree requires the candidate, or Prussian Knight, to lay aside his insignia, sword and jewel, and join the sons of labor to join the toiling millions.
- Lesson - The honest laboring man, upright and independent is, in nature's heraldry, the peer of kings, and that not labor, but idleness is disgraceful.
- Password – Japhet, Aholiab, Lebanon
- Sacred Words – Noah, Bezaleel, Sardonias



## 23° - Chief of the Tabernacle

- Origin – The origin of this degree is in consequence of the sin and punishment of Nadab and Abihu, two sons of Aaron who forgot their religious duty and quarreled over who should be first.
- Lesson – This degree teaches that a leader must be pure, righteous and just to be qualified to lead others.
- Password - Uriel

# 24° - Prince of the Tabernacle

- Origin – In this degree, the Tabernacle of Moses is succeeded by the magnificent Temple of Solomon, who has invited ambassadors from many nations to witness the splendor of its dedication. A discussion arises as to the nature of God and how best He may be served.
- Lesson – The candidate representing Phinehas, the son of Eleazar and is of the House of Aaron seeks another title, Prince of the Tabernacle and Prince of Masonry. It is therefore taught that in order to become such one must serve God, his country and his fellow man.
- Password - Uriel

# 25° - Knight of the Brazen Serpent

- Origin – This degree is based upon an incident which occurred while the Israelites were wandering in the wilderness. Wearied and disheartened by the hardships of the journey, they lost faith in the leadership of Moses and forgot the promise of God.
- Lesson – The degree emphasizes unquestionable obedience to the commands of God and trust of His mercy. The Lord is long-suffering and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgressions.
- Password – I.N.R.I. (to be lettered only)
- Sacred Word - Moses



# 26° - Prince of Mercy

- Origin – The purpose of this degree is obvious from its name. Its drama is from the Biblical story of Joseph and his brethren.
- Lesson – We are taught the quality of Mercy; that it is a spirit of compassion and tenderness of heart which dispose us to overlook injuries and to treat an offender better than he deserves.
- Password – Gomel
- Sacred Word – Jehovah, Jachin

# 27° - Knight Commander of the Temple

- Origin – This is the first of the truly chivalric degrees. It depicts two incidents, one of which we may term chivalric and the other historical. A chapter of Teutonic Knights have been assembled for a convocation in which Emperor Fredrick II is noticeably absent. Upon his arrival the Pope charges him with negligence and failure to carry out his vow to furnish men and means for the proposed Crusade. Fredrick responds with vehemence and the purpose of the convocation is almost defeated by the quarrel.
- Lesson – It teaches us that harmony and unity of action are necessary to the accomplishment of any joint effort, and that such harmony is possible only on the basis of patience, good will and mutual respect.
- Password - Solomon

# 28° - Knight of the Sun

- Origin – This is a speculative and deeply philosophical degree. It follows the traditional Masonic pattern of lectures and mystic symbols. The discussions deal with the abstract views of God and of human destiny, and introduce the unique contributions of many religions to the sum total of human thought.
- Lesson – The degree teaches that there is but one God, infinite and eternal; that the soul of man is immortal; that nature is the primary revelation of God; and that from the known we reason to the unknown. As Freemasons we must be prepared to receive instructions with humility, to overcome prejudices and wrong opinions by reason, and to listen with open minds to the lessons of ages.
- Password - Stibium



## 29° - Knight of St. Andrew

- Origin – This degree represents an incident of the long wars between the Turks and the Christians. The story relates that a group of Knights of St. Andrew, a Scottish Order of Chivalry, became captives of the sultan.
- Lesson – Masonry is the handmaid of religion and that men of all religions may retain the faith and yet be Masons. We are reminded that no one man, no one church, or one religion has a monopoly of Truth; that while we must be true and faithful to our own convictions, we must respect the opinions of others.
- Password – Ardriel (Angel of Fire)

# 30° - Knight Kadosh

- Origin – This degree portrays the tests and ceremonies through which a Scottish Rite Freemason must pass in order to become a Knight Kadosh. The word “Kadosh” means holy, consecrated and set apart.
- Lesson – The candidate is required to present himself before five judges who will test his past conduct and his future judged by his works. Upon successful completion he is given the secrets and mysteries of the degree and made a Knight Kadosh. The symbolism of the mysterious ladder of seven steps teach Justice, Uprightness, Meekness, Fidelity, Steadiness, Great Labor, Burden, Generosity, Intelligence and Prudence. The other side of the ladder alludes to the seven arts and sciences of the second degree of Freemasonry.
- Password - Nekam

# This concludes an overview of the Councils of Kadosh, 19° - 30°

- Sources
  1. Councils of Kadosh – Guide for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and Other Information. United Supreme Council, 33° Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Prince Hall Affiliation, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.
  2. A Study Guide of Scottish Rite Degrees 4° - 32° by Michael A. Delgado 33°
  3. Book of the Scottish Rite 4° - 32° (Revision of 1946) Adopted and Authorized by the United Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry (Prince Hall Affiliation) for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America
  4. The Syllabus A.A.S.R. 4° - 32° (Revision of 1946) the United Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry (Prince Hall Affiliation) for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America