

## Address to the Brethren

*IM (or other PM) from S of WM's ped, facing W*

Brethren, such is the nature of our Constitution that as some must of necessity rule and teach, so others must of course learn, submit, and obey. Humility in each is an essential qualification. The Brethren whom the Worshipful Master has selected to assist him in the ruling and governing of the Lodge are too well acquainted with the principles of Masonry, and the Laws of our Institution, to warrant any mistrust that they will be found wanting in the discharge of the duties of their respective offices, or that they will exceed the powers with which they are entrusted; and you, Brethren, I am sure, are of too generous a disposition to envy their preferment.

I therefore trust that we shall have but one aim in view, to please each other and unite in the grand design of being happy and communicating happiness. And as this association has been formed and perfected with so much unanimity and concord, long may it continue. May brotherly love and affection ever distinguish us as men and as Masons. May the principles and tenets of our profession, which are founded on the basis of religious truth and virtue, teach us to measure our actions by the rule of rectitude, square our conduct by the principles of morality, and guide our inclinations, and even our thoughts, within the compass of propriety.

Hence we learn to be meek, humble and resigned; to be faithful to our God, our Country, and our Laws; to drop a tear of sympathy over the failings of a Brother; and to pour the healing balm of consolation into the bosom of the afflicted. May these principles and tenets be transmitted pure and unpolluted, through this Lodge from generation to generation.