

How far have you travelled on your **Personal Masonic Journey**



How long is the journey?

Some suggest 3 “degrees” or “steps”:

- Initiation as an **Entered Apprentice Freemason**
- Passing to become a **Fellowcraft Freemason**
- Raising to the status of a **Master Mason**

Some – including The Grand Lodge of New Zealand – list 6 and include in that number the three pivotal ceremonies administered by the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Zealand:

- **Advancement as a Mark Master Mason**
- **Acknowledgement as an Excellent Master**
- **Exaltation to the Sublime Degree of a Companion of the Holy Royal Arch**

And... Others, depending on their personal experiences, may say 22 or 33 or more “Degrees” or “Steps”. The length of the Journey is, of course, purely personal and indeed YOU can make it as interesting and rewarding as YOU wish...

So... In Summary, the “Navigation Points” of your Journey so far have of necessity been:

1. **Initiation** – emphasising the importance of a sincere faith in a Supreme Being who permits entry to mortal existence and teaches us the duties we owe to others.
2. **Passing** – stressing your duty to develop your talents in the Liberal Arts and Sciences so that you may perform a useful role in life
3. **Raising** – the provision of the opportunity to contemplate our current existence and subsequent renewal.

But...

- **Is that journey complete?**
- **Does anything remain unexplained?**
- **Are those substitutions permanent?**
- **Is “Raising” the Journey’s end... or simply the mid-point?**

Royal Arch Masonry continues the Journey from that mid-point with its 3 principal “Degrees” or “Steps” and will both answer those questions and complete a large part of the Masonic Journey for you!

Follow the Hiramic Legend as...

- 1. A Mark Master** – discovering who the really skilled Master Overseer was,
- 2. An Excellent Master** – set in Babylon and contemplating the proposed symbolic future journey from Babylon to Jerusalem,
- 3. A Royal Arch Companion** – symbolically in Jerusalem and by Exaltation through the sublime Degree of the Holy Royal Arch in its colourful and impressive ceremony as the culmination of your journey of discovery

Thereafter... You can journey still further within Royal Arch Masonry and the Hiram story and complete that experience by choosing to learn of Cryptic Masonry and the story of the Crypt or Vault beneath King Solomon’s Temple.

The length of the journey is, of course, purely personal

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