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 The Men’s House

One wonders how the world of “Brotherhood” took form. In the early times we see man moving from his home in a cave to a second generation where families became tribes, and eventually where the tribes merged into nations. In primitive society there were four institutions. All symbols of the need and destiny which holds us together.

First, the most basic was the home, the cornerstone that satisfies more human needs than any other fellowship known to man. It was, and still is the basic fact that makes each family unit unique to all others.

Secondly, there was the Temple of prayer. At first, it probably was an uncut stone or altar which eventually led to the building of the great cathedrals. There was the “ gleam of light” that was, and still is endless.

Then there was the “State”, which grew out of the tribe, to the nation, and later into huge empires. Which, as we know did, not always agree. The state too, was imperfect and still is to this day.

But, there was another institution quite as old as the other three and equal in value to the others, in which we are more thankful than we realize. It was called the Men’s House. When a young man reached maturity and was initiated into the center of early tribal learning, he received a new language, consisting of signs, grips and tokens. Resulting ,in his being recognized by the other men. In the dark ,as well as in the light. A sense of kinship and loyalty was developed, resulting with the Men’s House being associated with the art of building. Using the laws and tools of the builder, as emblems of the truths of faith and morality.

This is the basis of our gentle Craft of Freemasonry. It perpetuates the purpose of the Men’s House of primitive society, to the noble Fraternity we have today.

Fraternally,

Bob