

Closing a Royal Arch Chapter

H P: Excellent King, have you anything to bring before this Chapter?

E K: Nothing, Most Excellent.

H P: Excellent Scribe, have you anything?

E S: Nothing, Most Excellent.

H P: Companion Secretary, is there anything on your desk requiring attention?

Secretary: Nothing, Most Excellent.

H P: Has any Companion present anything to bring before the Chapter? If not, we will now proceed to close.

H P: ** / Companion Royal Arch Captain,

R A C: (*Rises, Gives sign*)

H P: when about to close a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, your duty?

R A C: To see that the outer avenues leading to the Tabernacle are duly guarded, Most Excellent.

H P: You will attend to that duty and inform the Guard, that we are about to close this Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and direct him to guard accordingly.

R A C: (*At door, gives battery*) ** ** ** *

Guard: ** ** ** *

R A C: *

Guard: *

R A C: (*Opens door*) Companion Guard, we are about to close this Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and you are directed to guard accordingly.

(Closes door, returns to station, on square, sign)

We are guarded, Most Excellent.

H P: Thank you Companion, be seated. ** / Companion Captain of the Host,

C O H: (*Rises, Gives sign*)

H P: it is my order that you assemble the Companions around the Altar to assist in closing this Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in due and ancient form.

C O H: (*Faces right, marches West past Altar, marches South to center of Altar, faces East*)

(Battery) ** ** ** *

Companions, it is the order of the Most Excellent High Priest in Council that you assemble around the Altar to assist in closing this Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in due and ancient form.

(Companions Principal Sojourner and Royal Arch Captain do not go to Altar until after the Captain of the Hosts gives his order)

C O H: (*When all are locked*) Most Excellent High Priest, the Companions await the Council.

H P: The Council will advance.

H P, E K and E S: *(Uncover, leave hats in the East, advance to Companions and hook up)*

All: *(Balance three times)*

Peace be with us.

(If kneeling, all must kneel and recite Lord's Prayer)

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME. THY KINGDOM COME. THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN. GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD. AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES, AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US. AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION; BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL; FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER, AND THE GLORY, FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN.

(Balance three times)

Peace be with us.

(If kneeling, all arise, balance three times)

Peace be with us

(Unhook, step back one pace with left foot)

H P: Companions, you will attend to giving the signs.

All: *(Ra [2], Mem [2], Pm, Mark {3}, Mm, Fc, and Ea)*

H P: Companions, you will form in trios {TRY-OHS}, commencing with the Principal Sojourner on the left and deposit the word.

(Proceed as in Opening, wording as follows:)

First Companion: A_ w_ t____ d_ a____, i_ p____, l____
a__ u____, t__ s____ w____ t_ s____.

Second Companion: S_ w_ t____ d_ a____, i_ p____, l____
a__ u____, t__ s____ w____ t_ k____.

Third Companion: U____ w_ t____ o_ t____ s____ a_ w_,
d_ a____, i_ p____ l____ a__ u____, t_ r____ t_ l____ a____.

H P: Companions, has the word been safely deposited?

P S: (*Takes half step forward with left foot, sign*) I vouch for my trio {TRY-OH}, Most Excellent.

Right hand Companion of each tri-o except the northmost:

(*Take half step forward with left foot, sign*)

I vouch for my trio {TRY-OH}, Most Excellent.

R A C: (*Takes half step forward with his left foot, sign*)

I vouch for my trio {TRY-OH}, Most Excellent.

H P: And I vouch for the Council, the Council will reassemble in the East.

HP: ** **EK:** ** **ES:** **

HP: ** **EK:** ** **ES:** **

HP: ** **EK:** ** **ES:** **

HP: * **EK:** * **ES:** *

H P: (*Uncovers*) In the name of God and our ancient and worthy patron Zerubbabel, I now declare this Chapter of Royal Arch Masons closed in due and ancient form.

Companion Royal Arch Captain, you will inform the Guard. *

R A C: (*Opens door*) Companion Guard, the Chapter has been closed in due and ancient form.