

“Remember, it is the internal qualifications, not the external, which recommend a man to be a Mason”.

Companions,

Each month during my year in office, I will be highlighting one of the qualities which Masons should possess, and it is important for each of us to examine ourselves to ensure that we continue to possess and display these qualities.

For April, the word is **Truth**: Sincerity in action, character, and utterance.

Truth is the property of being in accord with fact or reality. In everyday language, **truth** is typically ascribed to things that aim to represent reality or otherwise correspond to it, such as beliefs, propositions, and declarative sentences.

Truth is usually held to be the opposite of falsehood. The concept of **truth** is discussed and debated in various contexts, including philosophy, art, theology, and science. Most human activities depend upon the concept, where its nature is assumed rather than being a subject of discussion.

Truth is one of the three tenets of Masonry. So, it should be one of the most important qualities a Mason possesses. It goes hand in hand along with honesty. A mason should always be seeking the **truth** in everything, whether it is in the news, at work, on television with family or friends. It is so easy to just believe what you are told, what you hear and even what you see, but Masonry should be about researching and verifying all things. There are many un-**true** ideas out there, including about Masonry which usually results in misconceptions, bias, and discrimination from those who believe in falsehoods.

There may be times when the **truth** is not easy to speak or hear, and may cause hard feelings or problems between Brothers, Companions or friends and family. But not being **truthful** in the long run causes more issues, more hurt and bigger problems. If a mason is not **truthful**, respect of your companions can be lost which can be difficult or impossible to get back.

Truth is the crowning virtue of Masonry. **Truth** can symbolize divinity and is the foundation of every virtue. As Masons, we should be sincere in all our dealings with others. Society today has a twisted perception of **truth**. People look for ways to pervert what actually occurred or was said to fulfill their own selfish goals. As Masons, we should stand for **truthfulness** and abhor the perversion of **truth**.

M. Ex. Comp. Ken

REF: http://www.themasonictrowel.com/Articles/Freemasonry/philosophy_files/masonic_virtues.htm

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/truth>