

Did you know that ...

The ark of the covenant was the sacred chest, or coffer, which Moses constructed by command of God, wherein were deposited the two tables of stone on which were graven the Ten Commandments, Aaron's rod, and a pot of manna and that the ark was a symbol of Divine presence, and a protection to the people, so long as they adhered to the articles of the covenant, which the ark contained?

Aaron, the brother of Moses, was the first High Priest of the Hebrew Church?

The highest historical importance of Jerusalem dates from the time of David, who transported to it the ark of the covenant, and built in it an altar to the Lord?

Construction of the Temple of Solomon began on a date corresponding with April 21, 1012 B.C. and was completed a little more than seven years later, on a date corresponding with October 23, 1005 B.C.?

In 536 B.C. the Jews were liberated from Babylonian captivity by Cyrus, king of Persia and that forty-two thousand three hundred and sixty of the exiled Jews repaired from Babylon and the neighboring cities to Jerusalem and that their leaders were Zerubbabel, Joshua, and Haggai, who perform an important part of the Royal Arch degree?

During the reign of the Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius the Christian Masons in Rome transformed the catacombs into churches, ornamented with sarcophagi and encaustic paintings?

Knighthood in the time of the Crusades possessed some features of similarity to Freemasonry?

The Romans and Scandinavians, and Masons, contributed equal parts in the creation of the institution of Chivalry and that the Rite of Induction was in the Masonic form?

The first lodge founded in France was at Dunkirk, October 13, 1721 and was called "Friendship and Fraternity"?

The constitution of the Metropolitan Grand Lodge in Ireland dates from 1729?

Freemasonry was introduced into Prussia by Frederick II, having been secretly initiated at Brunswick while crown prince?

The French or Modern rite was established by the Grand Orient of France about the year 1786?

By 1850 Freemasonry had spread all over the surface of the entire globe and that the number of lodges were computed as 5,000, of which 3,000 were in Europe, 1,400 in America and 600 in other parts of the world?

In Freemasonry the color blue is an emblem of universal friendship and benevolence?

The number Three is a sacred number in Freemasonry?

Source: Macoy, Robert, A Dictionary of Freemasonry (Gramercy Books, New York), 2000. (originally published in the late nineteenth century).

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