

# LDS (MORMON) TEMPLE CEREMONY EXPLAINED

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## PRE-REQUIREMENTS

Participants go through **multiple interviews with male leaders** and be deemed worthy often including detailed questions about their sexual activities. They need to be a **full-time payer**, meaning they actively pay **10% of their income to the Church**.

At this point, most participants have nearly **zero idea what is going to happen** to them in the temple and what they're going to covenant. This document would be an utter shock to them. The church has gotten better about this recently and has implemented more preparation.

## WASHING AND ANOINTING

This ceremony is also known as "The Initiatory." A participant sits in a chair in a tiny room that has curtains around it. Over a century ago, they were fully nude and fully bathed. In past decades, the person wore **only** a very open white clothed poncho called a "shield." More recently they wear their garments under the shield.

Men and women are fully separated to keep some level of privacy.

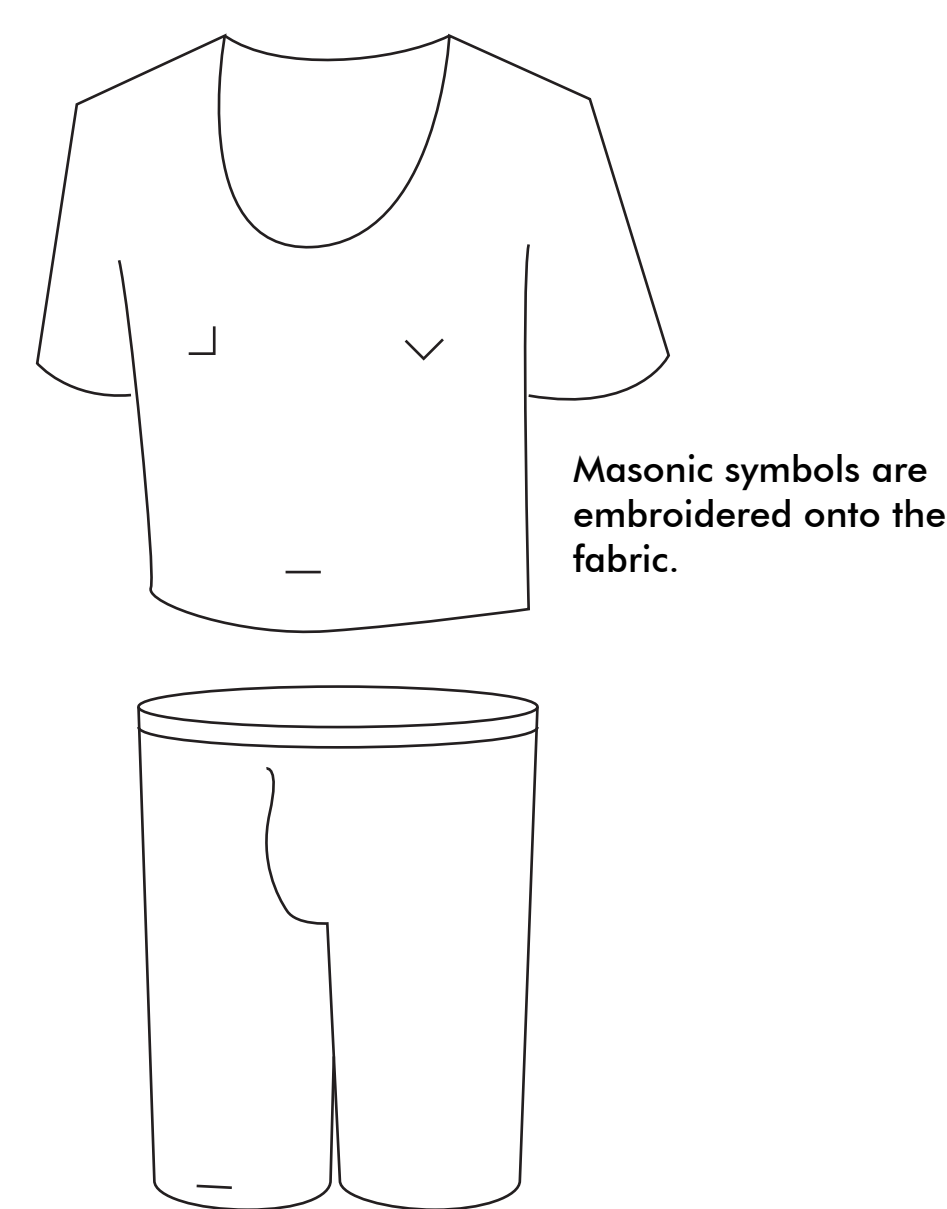
A **drop of water** is placed on their head and they are blessed to be clean from "the blood and sins of this generation."

This blessing mentions their head, brain, ears, eyes, nose, lips, neck, shoulders, back, breasts, vitals and bowels, arms and hands, loins, legs and feet. The officiator touches near each place while it is mentioned.

Next, a **drop of olive oil** is put on the head and the participant is blessed "becoming a king/queen and a priest/priestess unto the most high God, hereafter to rule and reign in the house of Israel forever."

The blessing repeats all of the body parts and the touching of those areas.

They are then given permission to wear the **white undergarments** and are charged to **wear them throughout their lives**. This is taught to be **all day and night**.



## GET A NEW NAME

The participant is taken to a small room through a curtain and told "with this garment, I give you a new name, which you should always remember and which you must keep sacred and never reveal."

Names are typically scriptural names and are systematically given per day of the month, so everyone who gets a new name on the 15th has the same.

## NOTABLE CHANGES

**OATH OF VENGEANCE** (Prior to 1930s)  
"You and each of you do covenant and promise that you will pray and never cease to pray to Almighty **God to avenge the blood of the prophets** (Joseph and Hyrum Smith) **upon this nation (the USA)**, and that you will teach the same to your children and to your children's children unto the third and fourth generation."

**BLOOD OATH** (Prior to 1990)  
In 1990 many changes were enacted which included the elimination of the penalties, the Masonic five points of fellowship, the role of the preacher, and all reference to Lucifer's "popes and priests."

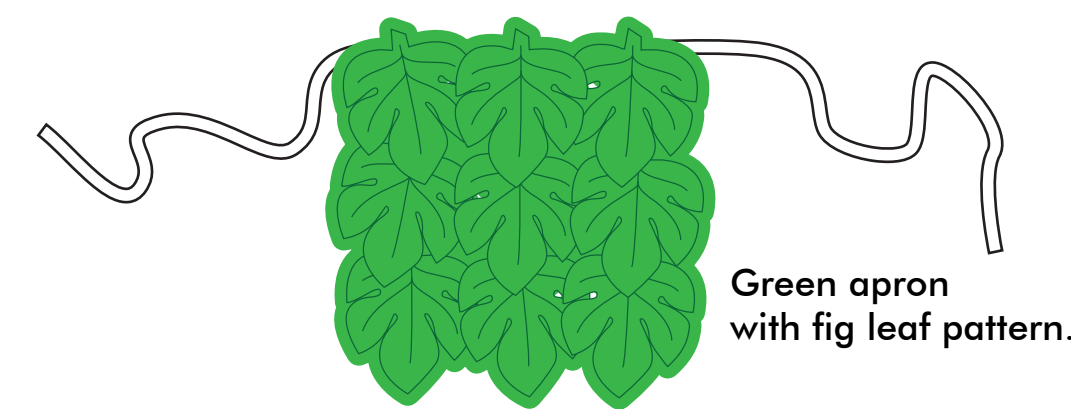
Within the 2010s, changes have mostly removed some levels of misogyny.

## ENTER THE GARDEN OF EDEN

Participants go into a room that can seat between 20 to 100 people. Men on the right, women on the left. You watch a video starring Adam, Eve, Jehovah (Jesus), Elohim (God), Lucifer (Satan).

The 6 days of creation are covered, Adam and Eve are created and Eve causes the Fall of Man by eating fruit of the tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Participants put on a fig leaf decorated green apron at the direction of Lucifer.

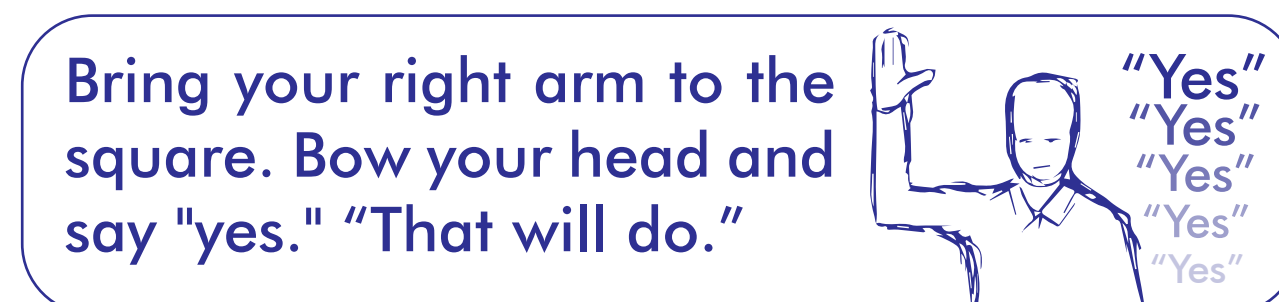


### GIVEN THE LAW OF OBEDIENCE

Reference that you're wearing garments previously given to you that symbolize the ones Adam and Eve made out of skins.

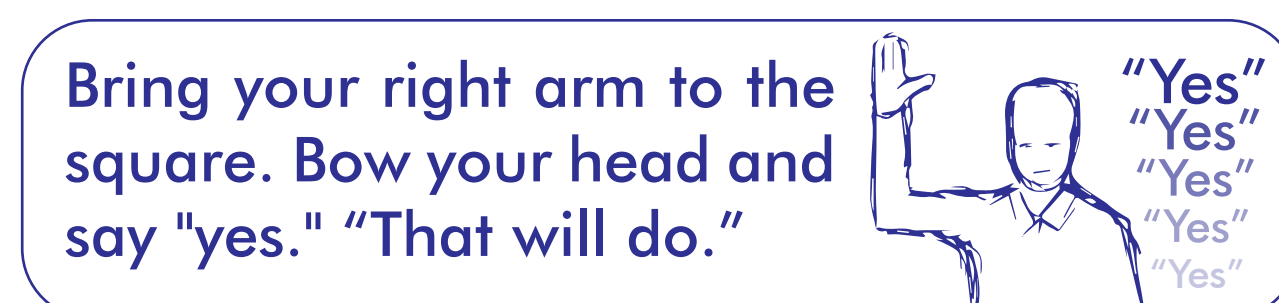
**Women covenant:**  
"You will each observe and keep the law of the Lord, and **obey your husband** as he hearkens to the counsel of the Father." The wording of this was softened in 1990 and again in recent years.

**Men covenant:**  
"You will obey the law of God, and keep his commandments."



### GIVEN THE LAW OF SACRIFICE

Covenant to **sacrifice all that we possess, even our own lives** if necessary, in sustaining and **defending the Kingdom** of God.



### 1 FIRST TOKEN of the AARONIC PRIESTHOOD



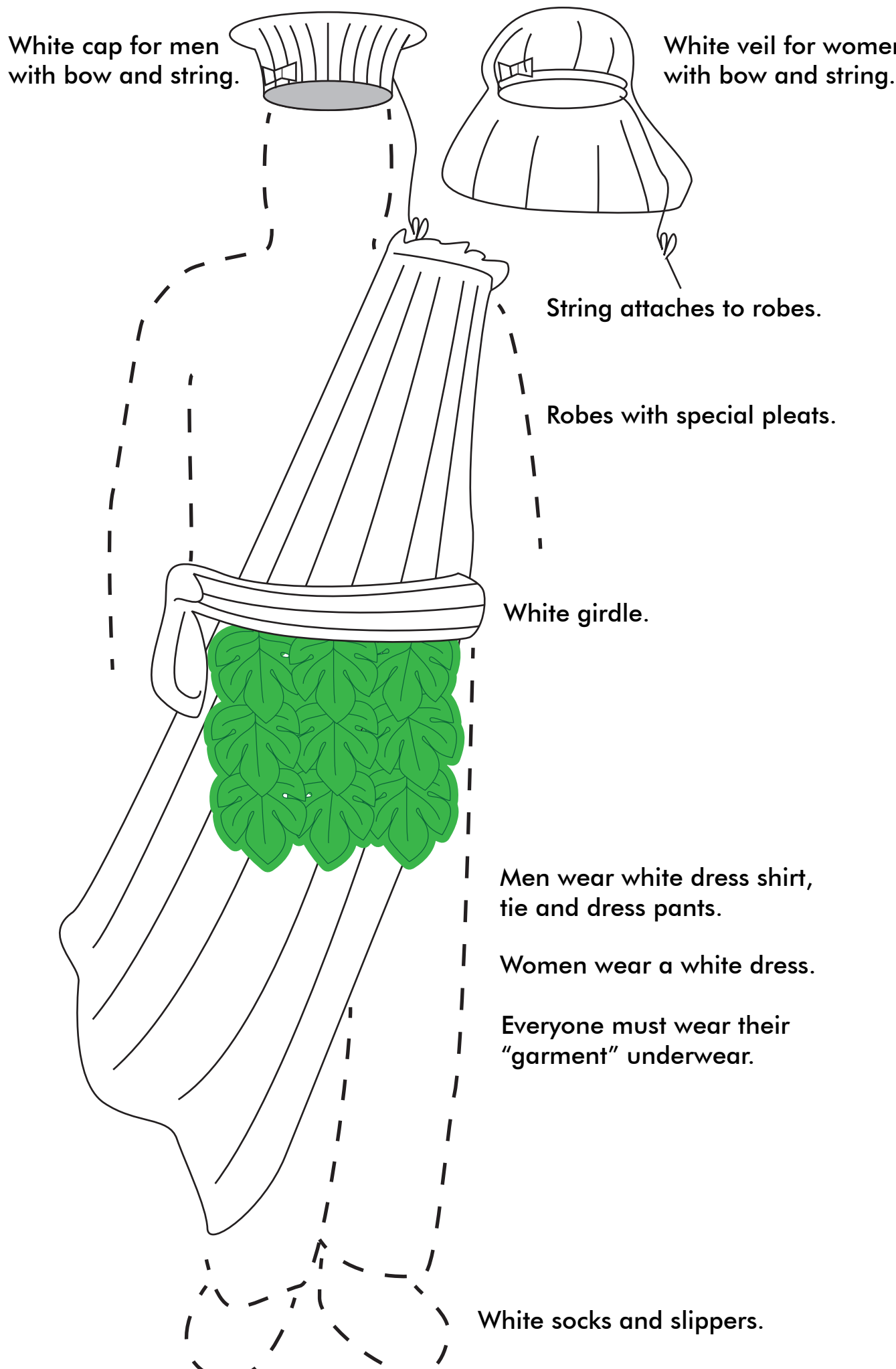
Both have thumbs over first knuckle.

## ENTER THE TELESTIAL KINGDOM

Video continues with Adam and Eve trying to find God on this Earth. Lucifer says he is god of this Earth but is intercepted by the Apostles Peter James and John who give Adam and Eve the Law of the Gospel.

A couple from the audience cosplays as Adam and Eve at an altar in the room.

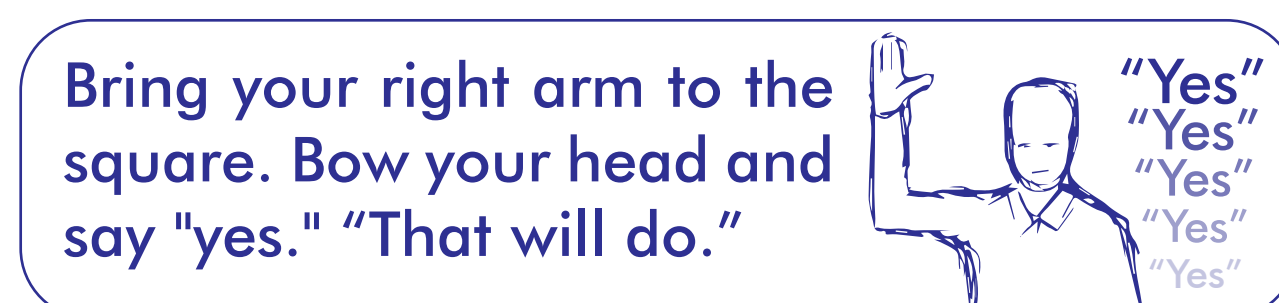
"The Robes of the Holy Priesthood" are to be put on the left shoulder.



The video ends. The rest is done by audio.

### GIVEN THE LAW OF THE GOSPEL

Covenant to void all light mindedness, loud laughter, evil speaking of the Lord's anointed, the taking of the name of God in vain, and every other unholy and impure practice.



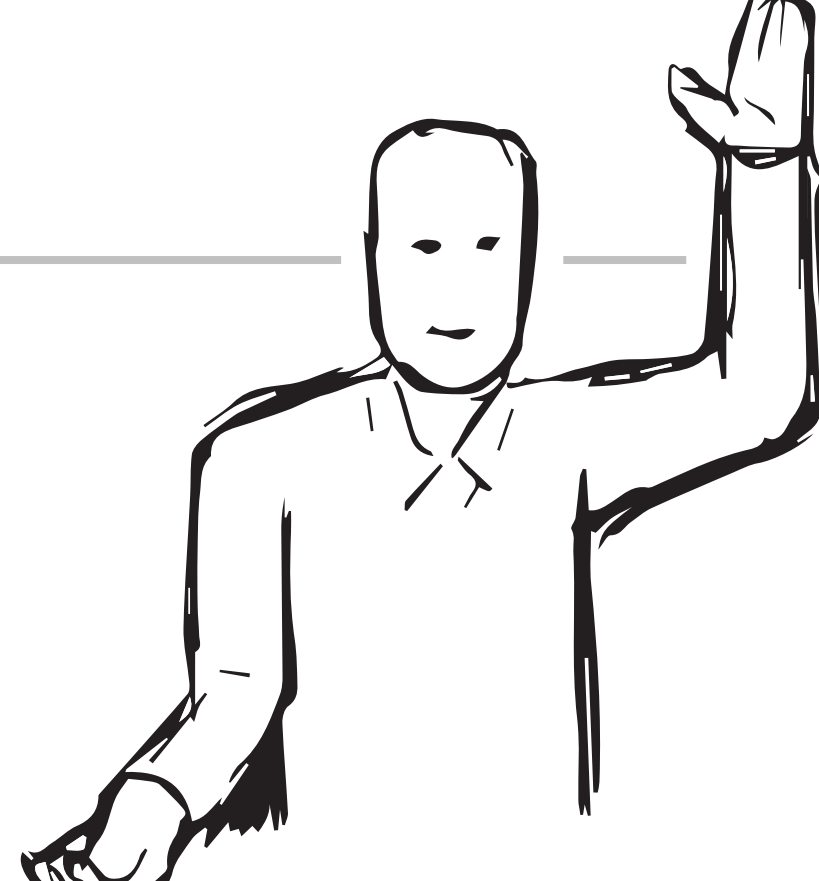
### 2 SECOND TOKEN of the AARONIC PRIESTHOOD



Both have thumb between 1st and 2nd knuckles.

### GIVEN NAME

Your birth name.



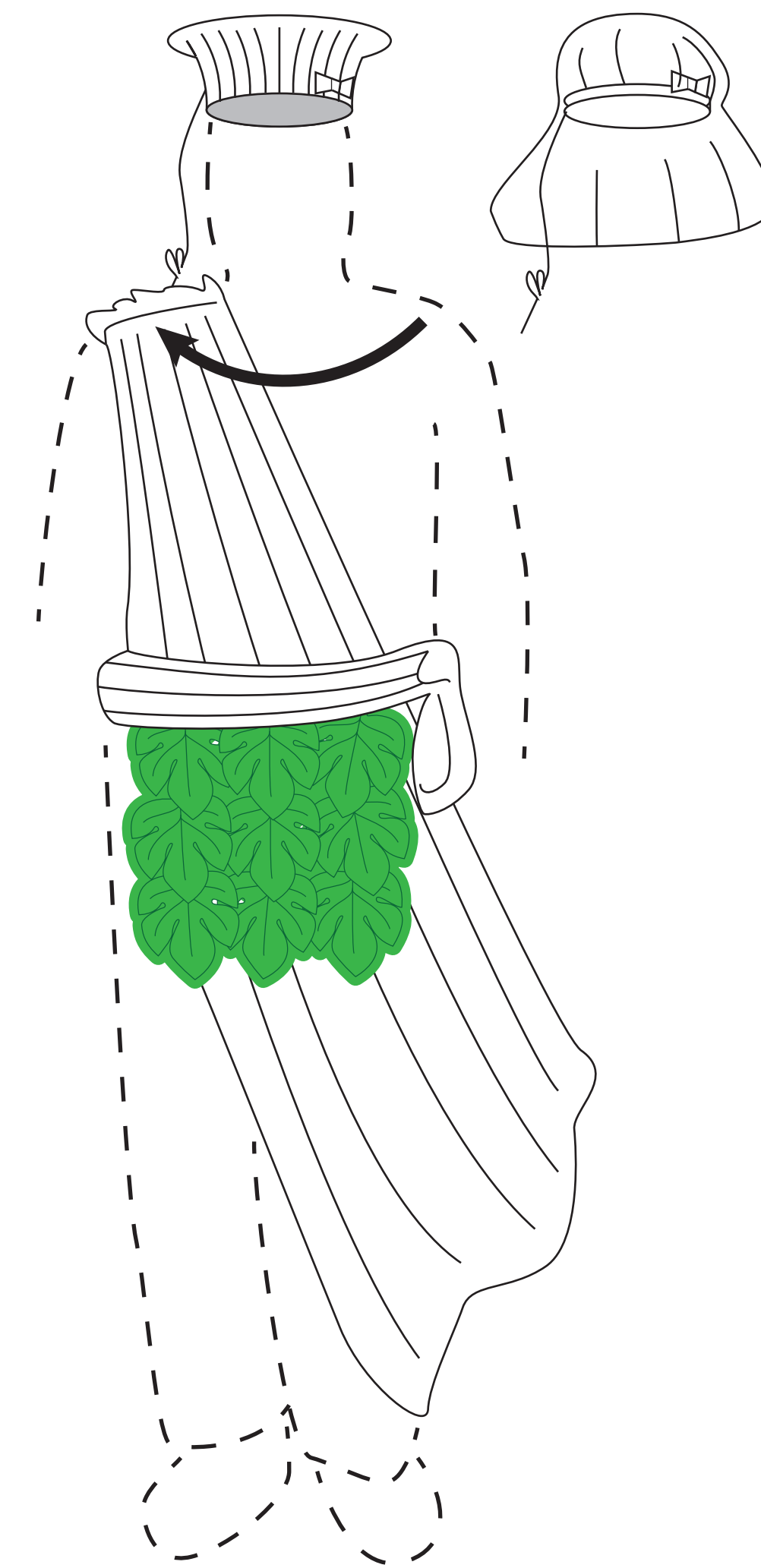
Right hand in front in cupping shape, left arm to the square.



Place the right hand on the left breast and draw quickly across the body.

"My breasts be torn open, my hearts and vitals torn out and given to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field."

Participants now switch their robes to the right shoulder to prepare for officiating the ordinances of the Melchizedek Priesthood.



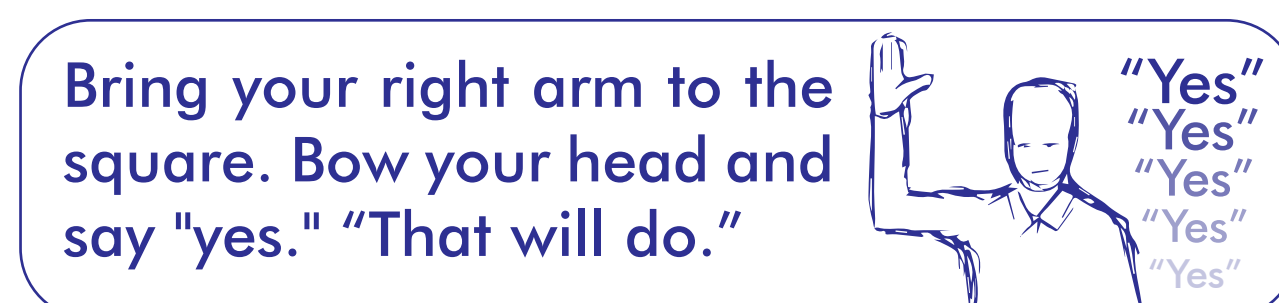
## ENTER THE TERRESTRIAL KINGDOM

Depending on the temple, participants move to a new brighter room or additional lights are turned on in the same room.

Historically, live actors presented the ceremony, but in the 1950s videos took over all but the SLC and Manti temples, which is ending in the 2020s.

### GIVEN THE LAW OF CHASTITY

Covenant to **only have sexual relations** with who you are legally **wedded according to His law**.



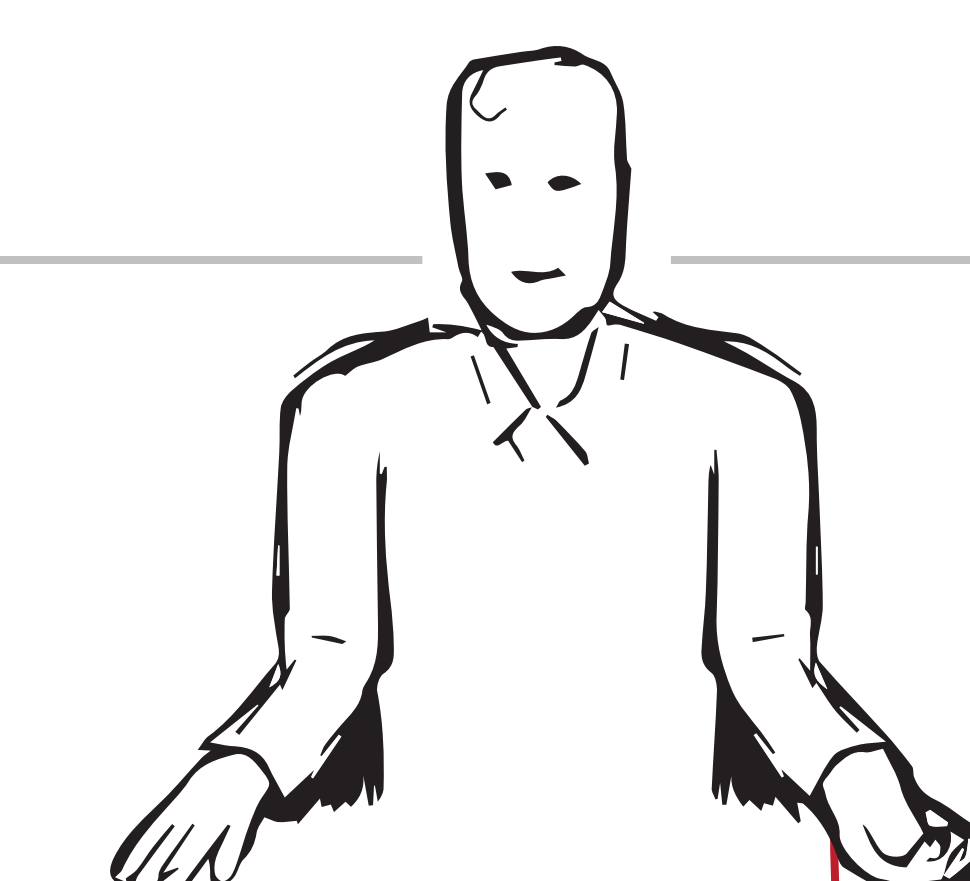
### 1 FIRST TOKEN of the MELCHIZEDEK PRIESTHOOD

Sign of the Nail

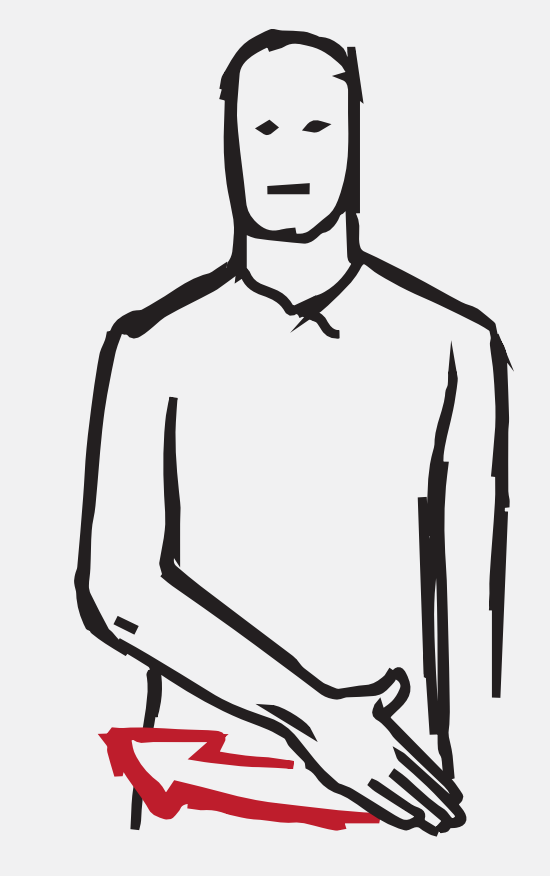


Officiator pinches palm of participant.

### "THE SON"



Left hand in front in cupping shape, right hand brought forward.



Place the right hand on the left hip and draw quickly across the body.

"My body be cut asunder and all my bowels gush out."

## THE PRAYER CIRCLE AND THE TRUE ORDER OF PRAYER

"Oh God, Hear the words of my mouth!"  
"Oh God, Hear the words of my mouth!"  
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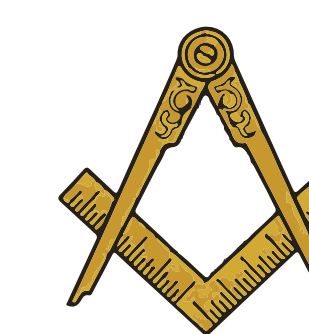
- Some couples from the audience create a circle around the altar.
- They repeat all the tokens, names and signs.
- The women veil their faces.
- Each couple makes the Patriarchal Grip.
- Each person brings their left arm to the square, and rests it upon the shoulder or arm of the person at their left.
- The officiator kneels at the altar, and makes the sign of the Second Token of the Aaronic Priesthood.
- A box of names written by participants of people who they think need special attention from God is set on the altar.
- The officiator starts saying a prayer one sentence at a time.
- The circle repeats what he said in unison creating a chant like echo.

This is by far the most shocking part of the whole experience. Most believing members themselves would admit the first time they saw this it was creepy, uncomfortable and cult-like. Most people justify this because their family is there and a **high amount of social pressure to accept** what is happening.

## THE VEIL OF THE TEMPLE

Each participant is now required to go up to the Veil: a series of curtains with large **Masonic** slots that represent passing to Heaven. These are the same markings on the underwear.

- Square: "Exactness and honor in keeping the covenants."
- Compass: "Desires, appetites and passions are to be kept within the bounds of the Lord."
- Naval: "Constant nourishment to the body and spirit."
- Knee: "Every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess that Jesus is the Christ."



The officiator taps with a mallet on the door frame 3 times.

The participant puts their hand through the naval slot. A temple worker who you cannot see takes your hand on the other side. With them, you are quizzed on all of the tokens and names given. The officiator helps you if you forget.

The Name of the Second Token of the Melchizedek Priesthood is given to you through the veil while holding shoulders through the square and compass.

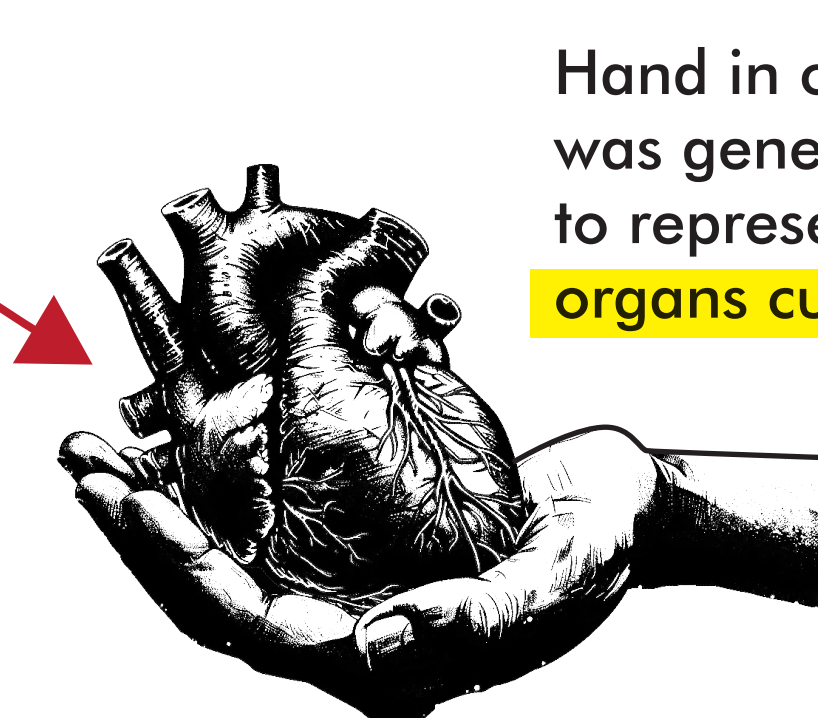
Once the quiz is completed, the Veil is parted and the temple worker pulls the participant through the Veil into the Celestial Room.

## ENTER THE CELESTIAL KINGDOM

This is a luxurious large room with couches, mirrors and chandeliers. Most people sit here and whisper or pray for 5-10 minutes before leaving. It is supposed to represent the highest level of heaven. The first time you go through the temple, your family is typically waiting to greet you inside. It is supposed to represent eternal families (of only those worthy to get here.)



Everyone raises both hands high above the head, and while lowering them **chants:**  
"Oh God, Hear the words of my mouth!"  
"Oh God, Hear the words of my mouth!"  
Repeat three times.



Hand in cupping shape was generally understood to represent **holding organs cut out**.

The thumb extended was generally understood to represent a **knife**.

## SECOND ANOINTING

\* There is an **EXTREMELY secret** additional ceremony called the Second Anointing apparently reserved only for the ultra elite leaders. Only a handful of people have ever shared their experience. It is also known as having your "calling and election made sure."

The ceremony consists of a married couple getting their feet washed by an apostle like Jesus did to the apostles. Then the wife symbolically prepares her husband for death and resurrection and she lays her hand on his head and gives him a blessing (this is extremely unusual for a woman to do this).

Completing this ritual apparently gives you some level of infallibility and you are absolutely guaranteed Celestial glory. You ARE a king/queen and a priest/priestess now, compared to the first anointing is only promising you will be in the next life.

LAW

TOKEN

NAME

SIGN

PENALTY

For revealing the secrets of the temple. 1842 - 1990