

Sublime Prince – An Exceptional Title



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When a Master Mason endeavors to improve himself in the craft and seek out more light, he oft times pursues knowledge from what has often been referred to as the “College of Freemasonry”, also known as the philosophical degrees that constitute the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. This branch of the Masonic Order probes deeper into the tenets upon which we are based and compels us to think about how we plan and live our lives, interacting with our fellow man and improving ourselves to reach our highest potential.

We are taught that the Scottish Rite categorizes itself into three divisions: the Ineffable degrees of the Lodge of Perfection which constitute the 4th thru the 14th Degree; the Historical and Philosophical Degrees of the Chapter of Rose Croix, which make up the 15th thru the 18th Degree and the Traditional and Chivalric Degrees which comprise the 19th thru the 32nd Degree. Having attained that 32nd Degree, a brother is then invested with the title of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret.

Although a member’s aspirations can propel him to the higher rank of Grand Inspector General of Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the 33rd and final Degree of Masonry, for one to be made a Sublime Prince is a tremendous accomplishment. By definition alone, a Sublime Prince evokes thoughts of a regal being who has been elevated in thought to a supremely outstanding level of understanding. It embodies the principles of all of the preceding degrees; fidelity, trustworthiness, zeal, righteousness, faith, unity, dignity, mercy, tolerance, frailty, and goodwill, just to name a few and acknowledges that one has been endowed with a knowledge that will only enhance one’s character and intellect in a most resplendent plane.

So, while many fraters reach out toward that lofty 33rd Degree, don't look past the realization of your achievement of majestic autonomy. Carry yourself proudly, Sublime Prince—you've earned that right within this Rite!