

# Pre-Chamber & Chapaeu Lecture



LECTURE IN ORDER OF TEMPLE TO BE GIVEN  
PRIOR TO CHAMBER OF REFLECTION

J.W. Knight, having been created a Companion of the Red Cross and admitted as a Knight of Malta, you are now about to receive the highest Order of Knighthood and be made a Knight of the Temple or Knights Templar.

Both history and tradition inform us that to" our ancient brethren, THIS was an honor not" lightly bestowed, but called for diligent preparation and unwearied zeal of both mind and body, to prepare a candidate for his reception into the Order. In fact some men spent their entire lives in this preparation yet never reached their goal and never received this coveted honor.

However, when a candidate DID have the necessary qualifications and was elected into the Order, he still must pass through a severe initiation to prove himself worthy to wear the Passion Cross of the Templars.

One of the trials in this initiation called for the candidate on the night before his investiture to be stripped of his armor, which was placed before the Altar in an EMPTY Asylum, then clad in only his under garments and invested with his sword, he was caused to kneel with naked knees before the Altar and with his sword held high above his head, was ordered to spend the entire night in silence and solitude—in prayer and meditation.

We as speculative Knights Templar do not require so rigorous an initiation BUT we do wish to impress upon your mind the solemnity of this Christian Order and remind you of the ordeals undergone by our ancient brethren.

The first section of this Order is not given in an open Asylum but each candidate must receive it in silence and solitude and alone with his God.

Therefore, unless after your knighting you are elected as an Officer of your Commandery, an honor I sincerely hope you will be called upon to accept, you will probably NEVER again witness this part of the work. I henceforth, take heed to the lecture and ponder it deeply for it is one of the ties that bind us to our ancient brethren and it should teach you a lesson in PIETY and HUMILITY.

*THIS MAY BE USED IF YOU DESIRE*  
**CHAPEAU PRESENTATION**  
by Raymond A. Zornow, P.C.  
Forest City Commandery No .40, K.T.

I now present this Chapeau, it is the Honored Covering of a Knight Templar.  
Its colors are that of our Order, Black and White.

Let the beautiful White Plume be an ever present reminder of the purity of life,  
that purity, You as a Knight Templar are to strive to achieve.

The Metallic Slashings on the Chapeau denote the Strength of our Order, which  
binds us to the Christian Principles of Knights Templar, symbolized by the Cross  
on the side of the Chapeau. Within that Cross is a Red Cross, emblematic of the  
Blood which was shed by our Savior for the remission of our Sins.

I now have the pleasure of covering you as a Knight Templar.

May you wear it with pleasure to yourself and honor to the Christian Order of  
Knighthood.

*(AT THIS TIME IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO EXPLAIN THE PROPER WAY TO UNCOVER AND  
RECOVER. THE PROPER WAY TO DEPOSIT THE CHAPEAU, USING THE TACTICS FOR  
INFORMATION.)*