

A dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow. The sky is filled with dark, blue, and grey clouds, some of which are illuminated from below by the sun. A thin, vertical red line runs down the center of the image, passing through the sun. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

# On The Threshold

# The Nature of Freemasonry

- ◆ Compassionate and Educational
- ◆ Brotherly Love, Relief, Truth
- ◆ Belief in Deity is required
- ◆ Upholds law and constitutional government
- ◆ A private fraternity
- ◆ Means of recognition are a privilege

# A Brief History of Freemasonry

- ◆ “Operative” Masons
- ◆ “Speculative” Masons
- ◆ First Grand Lodge in 1717
- ◆ First American Grand Lodge in 1733
- ◆ 51 Grand Lodges in America
- ◆ First Ohio Lodge – American Union #1
- ◆ Ohio Grand Lodge formed in 1808

# Subordinate Lodge Structure

- ◆ Actions of a Lodge
- ◆ Twelve Lodge Officers
- ◆ “Worshipful” stems from Old English
- ◆ Master’s powers and responsibilities

# Three Degrees of Freemasonry


- ◆ Conferred in a serious and professional manner and contain many symbolic meanings
- ◆ Always treated with dignity and respect

# The First Degree

- ◆ Mental preparation
- ◆ Physical preparation according to ancient tradition
- ◆ Listen carefully

A photograph of a sunset or sunrise over a horizon. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow. The sky is filled with dark blue and grey clouds, some of which are illuminated by the sun's light. A vertical red line runs down the center of the image, passing through the sun.

**Membership  
is a lifetime  
commitment  
with a lifetime  
of rewards.**

A dramatic sky scene at sunset or sunrise. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that illuminates the clouds. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a lighter blue near the horizon. A vertical red laser line is visible, extending from the top to the bottom of the frame, passing through the sun. The text "The First Degree: Entered Apprentice" is overlaid on the right side of the image in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

**The First Degree:  
Entered  
Apprentice**



A dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise, featuring a bright sun low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the clouds. The sky transitions from deep blue at the top to bright yellow and orange near the horizon. The word "Welcome" is overlaid in a white, sans-serif font with a black outline, positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image. A thin vertical red line is visible on the left side of the image.

Welcome