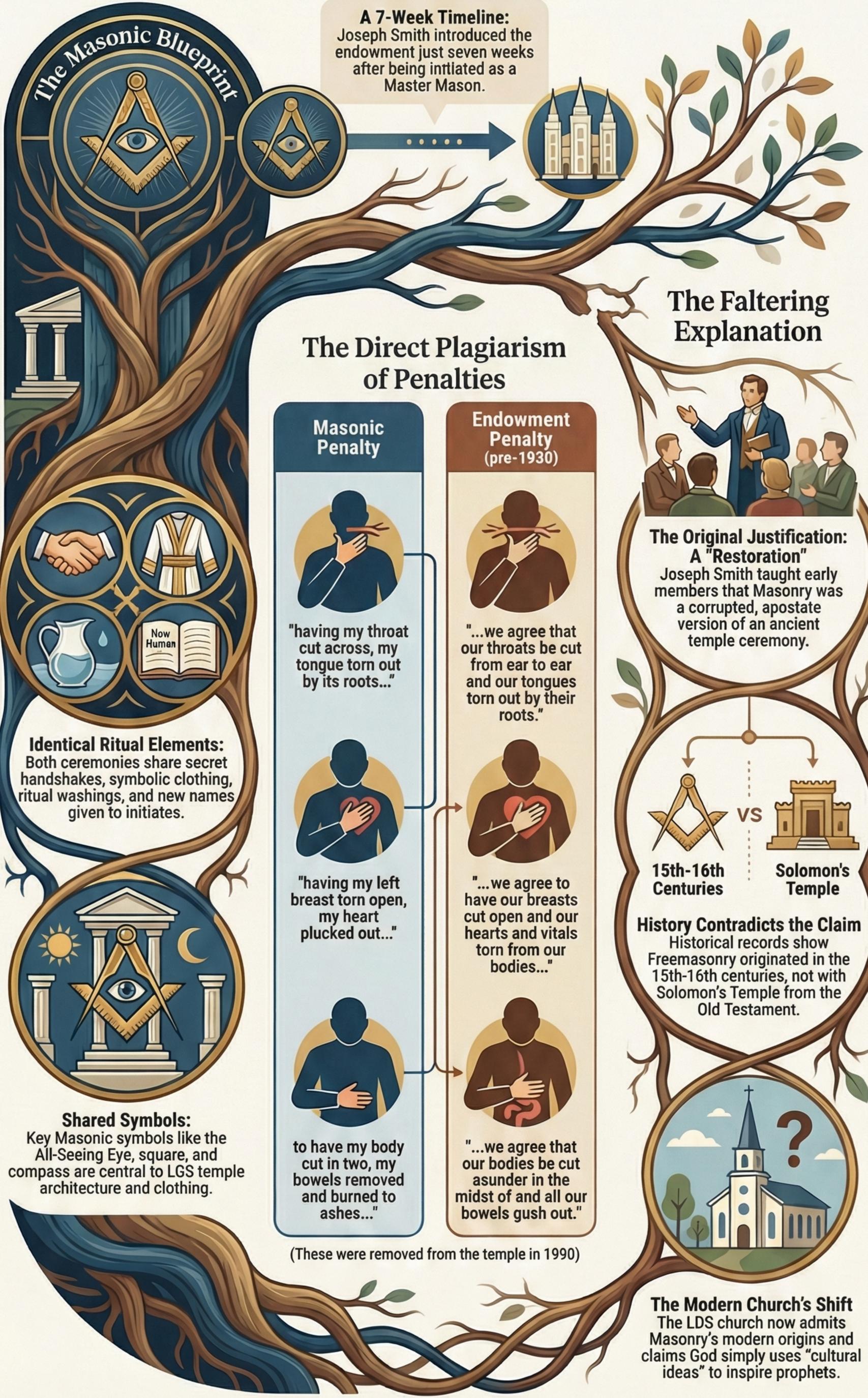


# Borrowed, Not Revealed: The Masonic Roots of the Mormon Temple Ceremony

Analysis reveals the LDS Temple endowment, introduced by Joseph Smith just seven weeks after his Masonic initiation, is a direct adaptation of 19th-century Masonic rituals, challenging claims of divine revelation.

**A 7-Week Timeline:**  
Joseph Smith introduced the endowment just seven weeks after being initiated as a Master Mason.



**The Masonic Blueprint**

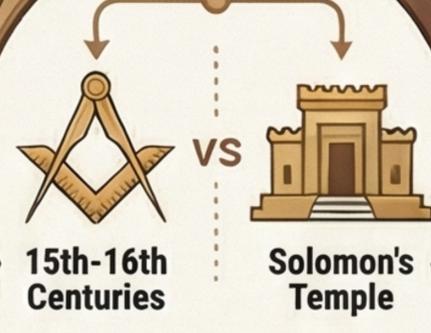


## The Faltering Explanation

## The Direct Plagiarism of Penalties



**The Original Justification: A "Restoration"**  
Joseph Smith taught early members that Masonry was a corrupted, apostate version of an ancient temple ceremony.



**History Contradicts the Claim**  
Historical records show Freemasonry originated in the 15th-16th centuries, not with Solomon's Temple from the Old Testament.



**The Modern Church's Shift**  
The LDS church now admits Masonry's modern origins and claims God simply uses "cultural ideas" to inspire prophets.

Masonic Penalty	Endowment Penalty (pre-1930)
<p>"having my throat cut across, my tongue torn out by its roots..."</p>	<p>"...we agree that our throats be cut from ear to ear and our tongues torn out by their roots."</p>
<p>"having my left breast torn open, my heart plucked out..."</p>	<p>"...we agree to have our breasts cut open and our hearts and vitals torn from our bodies..."</p>
<p>to have my body cut in two, my bowels removed and burned to ashes..."</p>	<p>"...we agree that our bodies be cut asunder in the midst of and all our bowels gush out."</p>

(These were removed from the temple in 1990)

**Identical Ritual Elements:**  
Both ceremonies share secret handshakes, symbolic clothing, ritual washings, and new names given to initiates.

**Shared Symbols:**  
Key Masonic symbols like the All-Seeing Eye, square, and compass are central to LGS temple architecture and clothing.