

MONTANA SUPPLEMENT



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I did not receive a message from our busy REGC or our Grand Prelate in time for this holiday season edition, so once again I am recycling a posting from 2016. This is the one that I was honored to have republished in the main body of your Knights Templar magazine. I was humbled to have received feedback on it from fellow Sir Knights from all over the world for it and showed me that I do in fact get it right on occasion.

As you all know, I get most of my “inspiration” from my daughters and my Masonic family however as of late, with Covid restrictions and being gone for work, my “inspiration” has been lacking so me writing any new pieces for you has been lacking as well. Hopefully we can find the factory reset button for 2021 and I can find something inspirational to write about for the next submission, but I will also gladly accept submissions from any Sir Knight wishing to be heard.

Footnote while my girls no longer believe in Santa the man, they still believe in the magic of the Christmas season, so with that said, please enjoy, again!

I think it would be fitting this time of year to discuss what it means to believe in something. My daughters believe in Santa Clause however some of their classmates are trying to convince them that he is not real and does not exist. I am not one to try to crush the imagination of my girls so I give them the official definition of what it means to believe which is as follows:
“BELIEVE: Verb, 1. To accept something as true, genuine or real; 2. To have confidence in the truth, the existence, or the reliability of something, although without absolute proof that one is right in doing so”

I always follow this with the usual affirmation of “*if you believe in your heart that he is real, then he is real for you, it does not matter what someone else believes, your beliefs are yours alone.*” My girls talk about how they get a happy, warm and loving feeling when they are around other people during Christmas and they let me know that it is because of the magic of Santa and his magic comes from those who believe in him. Who am I to disagree with that kind of wisdom and logic?

While pondering all of this I started thinking about what I believe in and it was kind of surprising when I realized that absolutely everything I believe in has to do with Masonry in one form or another. I believe that I am a better person, husband, and father because of the lessons of Masonry. I believe that my trust, understanding and love for my Heavenly Father are because of the lessons taught in Masonry. I believe the trust I have for those I surround myself with, is because of the lessons of Masonry. I believe that our communities are in some small way, a better place to live because of what Masonry does. There is several other “I believes” but in short what I have been telling my daughters is true for me and you as well. If you believe in your heart that something is real or true, then it is such and will continue to be as long as you believe. On the same note if we stop believing in something, such as all the good that Masonry does, then there is no truth or realness in it for you and you could lose the willingness to fight for it.

I hope that this Christmas season we can all stop and think about what we believe in and rekindle the fight to keep our beliefs alive.

In closing, I want to share a prayer that was passed on to me and perhaps you can pass it along to your family the next time you gather around the table.

Dear Heavenly Father, for our food in a world where many walk in hunger, for our faith in a world where many walk in fear and for our friends in a world where many walk alone, we give thanks to you our Lord and Savior,
SO MOTE IT BE!

Respectfully submitted: Daniel E Koch, REPGC.