



SOUTH CAROLINA SUPPLEMENT
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Greetings Sir Knights,

I again am in hope that all you have remained healthy during these unsettling times. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your families.

I have found many are becoming overwhelmed by the stresses of current events while not always admitting it, the stress is in the background. This is when we need to stay encouraged. The peace that passes all understanding is one of the most precious forms of encouragement that God has ever given us.

Choose joy in times of anxiety, in Acts 16:22 Paul and Silas were arrested, stripped of their clothes, and brutally beaten. Their reaction? About midnight they were praying and singing hymns to God while other prisoners listened. (acts 16:25) When anxiety rules your day, turn the tables on the stress. Sing a praise song as if it is the best day of your life. Tell god how much you love Him. Choosing joy, in the midst of anxiety, is faith lived out.

Choose an intentional path of purity. A sure way for a Christian to lose his peace is for him to intentionally choose a path of immorality.

Giving in to temptation leaves two options – sin that violates God’s Word – or the peace of God that follows an obedient lifestyle. In Philippians 4:8-9 there are intentional instructions – Whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely and commendable – if there is any moral excellence and any praise – dwell on these things. When we focus on things of God, it only makes sense the peace of God will follow.

Learn contentment. So many seemed to be convinced that the next thing we buy, the next job, or the next hobby will bring happiness. Sometimes we need to stop and busy ourselves with things of truly great value – Our families and friends, happiness may sneak you on you and land on your shoulder. “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you: not as the world giveth...” John 14:27

The greatest need for encouragement? Choose joy. Choose purity. Choose trust. Reject anxiety. Soak in scripture and find the confidence that comes with knowing Jesus.

I encourage all to look at the references to get the full message of the Lords word.

Fraternally
SK Michael W Kirk
Grand Commander