

ALABAMA SUPPLEMENT



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FROM THE APARTMENT OF THE GRAND PRELATE

Now that the CDC has released us from the obligation, many have shed the three-ply masks that have separated us from one another for so long. Many, on the other hand, gladly continue wearing them, and that is alright. By our very human nature we all tend to wear another three-ply mask that separates us from one another – the mask of greed, selfishness and dishonesty. Jesus Christ taught us to shed that mask, but many gladly continue to wear it, and that is not alright. By virtue of our obligation as Knights Templar we are morally bound to do everything in our power to shed that mask and drive it out of our lives. Because we are human it is not easy to do so, but little that is worthwhile is easy. Our obligation extends beyond that, however. We have chosen to accept the role of leadership, and as such we are bound by more than just the responsibility for our own moral rectitude. It is our duty to help (not force!) others rise to a higher level. This we can do in many ways, but by far the most effective is by setting a shining example. People will pay far more attention to what they see us do than to what they hear us say. If we shed our separating masks of human frailty and show the world the face of generosity, selflessness and truth, then we will truly have made the world a better place. That is what it should mean to be a Knight Templar.

Sir Knight Richard R. Losch, KCT
Grand Prelate

A GOOD THING

May today there be peace within
May you trust your highest power that you are exactly where you are meant to be
May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith
May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.
May you be content knowing you are a child of God.
Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, and to bask in the sun.
It is there for each and every one of us.

-- Author Unknown
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GRAND CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

I will walk about in freedom; for I have sought out your precepts.
(Psalm 119:45, NIV)

Companions, this month we celebrate our nation's independence from Great Britain. In July 1776, the colonies, later to become the United States of America, declared themselves to be independent and free, a sovereign nation among nations.

And as children of God Almighty, we are also free in our minds and in our lives. We are made in the image and likeness of God. When challenges or difficulties beset our path, we find that positive thinking and prayer open to us a greater wisdom and a multitude of possibilities. Led by the Spirit of God within us, and the study of his Holy Word, we can learn to respond to life's circumstances in new, more productive ways. Where indecision or hesitation once were found, we find that we are no longer bound by these snares, but with empowering grace and thoughts of confidence.

So while we enjoy the festivities of this holiday, giving thanks to God for the manifold blessings and freedoms that we enjoy as Americans, let us also praise Him for the liberation of mind and spirit His precepts have afforded us as contained in the Great Light of Freemasonry which lays upon every Masonic altar in our beloved country.

George Marshall, Jr., PGHP
Grand Chaplain, Grand Chapter RAM of Alabama

PERSPECTIVES!

One day, a financially comfortable father decided to take his son to the country, with the purpose of showing him how poor people live, and that the son could understand the value of things, and realize how fortunate they were. They stayed overnight at a very humble family's farm for 1 day and 1 night. As the trip ended, and during their return home, the father asks his son:

So what did you think of the trip?

It was great, dad!

Did you see how poor and needy some people have to live?

Yes!

And what did you learn?

I saw that we have one dog in the house, but they have four. We have a huge swimming pool, but they have a river that never ever ends. We have imported lamps in the patio, they have the stars. Our backyard ends at the fence, but theirs goes on and on into the horizon. Especially though, dad, I saw that they have time to talk to each other and live as a family. You and Mom have to work all day, and I hardly see you both!

As the conversation ended, the father remained silent, and his son added: Thanks Dad, for showing me how rich we could be!!

-- Author Unknown#EMailMinistry: <https://www.emailministry.org>