

NEW JERSY SUPPLEMENT Newlin R. Williams Commander

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Fraters,

As I sit here, we have started a new year, I pray it will be better for us than last year; and I feel that the best way for us to enter into this venture is a prayer.

"Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad to do your will.

Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way.

Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought here out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom, those to whom in your name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to your law, we may show forth your praise among the nations of the earth. In time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in you fail;

all which we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen"

Episcopal Book of Common Prayer, 820.

Having retired from the Army, my favorite Bible verse is

Ephesians Chapter 6 verse 11:

"Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."

In Paul's letter to the Ephesians, he describes all of the things that are available to us as Christians to fight in the support of our faith. It is my hope for us to take inventory of our armor and how; we may deploy it in our daily lives.

"Stand therefore, having loins girt about with truth".

The belt of the day was the support for all things carried into battle; as it should be for us in this day and age. Truth is the basis of our fraternity; it should be the foundation of our religion and guide our every action in our daily lives.

Time was, when a man's word was his bond, not so much in the world we live in today. That does not mean we should forgo the Truth because times are different. What it should mean is we should strive even harder to be the Knight we profess to be. I urge you my Fraters to be that Knight, to the beacon in the dark that others may look to.

I will leave you to think about this. As soon as we are allowed to do Official Visits, I will post the schedule, till such time we must continue meet via Zoom.

Godspeed my Brothers in Arms.

Your Servant in Christ, Newlin R. Williams

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