

GRAND COMMANDERY OF ALABAMA

State News for March 2022

Website: <https://alyorkrite.org/grand-commandery/>
Grand Commander (2021-2022): Winston L. Each REGC
Editor: Thomas F. Craig, PGC, tfcraig@aol.com

REPORT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR SUPPLEMENT EDITOR

To the Right Eminent Grand Commander, Grand Officers, and Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Alabama:

The past few years have seen articles submitted by Grand Commandery officers and committee chairs as well as our Grand Commanders which have provided our members with insight that is especially valuable for those Sir Knights unable because of distance or health to attend regular meetings of their Commanderies (although I suspect members who can attend also find these articles enlightening). Sir Knight and Companion Marshall has submitted several articles as well as messages as Grand Chaplain in the Grand Chapter. Although articles dealing with Templar matters will always have priority, I encourage our Sir Knights to offer news of our other York Rite Bodies that they deem appropriate for publication. I truly appreciate the efforts of those officers and members who take the time to prepare messages of information or inspiration to our members.

Please consider preparing an article on any special events your Commandery may be having. It could inspire a similar event in one of the other Commanderies in our state. Articles will always be welcomed and appreciated – there is seldom lack of space for any contribution (the last time was two or three years ago and it was the first instance in quite some time). The same invitation applies to events at your Chapter, Council and Lodge as space is available.

HUNTSVILLE SUPER EXCELLENT DEGREE

On Saturday, February 12, 2022, Eureka Council No. 5, Royal & Select Masters, exemplified the Degree of Super Excellent Master for a class of 17 candidates from across the state. Playing the major parts were: Illustrious Master and Nebuzaradan: Lee Gibson, Illustrious Grand Capt. of the Guard of the Grand Council; Ezekiel: Jared Webster; King Zedekiah: George Marshall, Jr., PMIGM; Jeremiah: Smokey Ferguson, PMIGM; King Nebuchadnezzar: R. Kim Harrison, MEGHP. Other Grand Council officers assisting with the work were: Tom Bassett, Right Illustrious Deputy Grand Master; W. Scott Wadsworth, Right Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work; and Thomas Nesbit, PMIGM and Right Illustrious Grand Treasurer. The picture below shows the cast and class members.



SEARCHING FOR A VESSEL

The Master was searching for a vessel to use;
On the shelf there were many - which one would He choose?
Take me, cried the gold one, I'm shiny and bright,
I'm of great value and I do things just right.
My beauty and luster will outshine the rest
And for someone like You, Master, gold would be the best!

The Master passed on with no word at all;
He looked at a silver urn, narrow and tall;
I'll serve You, dear Master, I'll pour out Your wine
And I'll be at Your table whenever You dine,
My lines are so graceful, my carvings so true,
And my silver will always compliment You.

Unheeding the Master passed on to the brass,
It was wide-mouthed and shallow, and polished like glass.
Here! Here! cried the vessel, I know I will do,
Place me on Your table for all men to view.

Look at me, called the goblet of crystal so clear,
My transparency shows my contents so dear,
Though fragile am I, I will serve You with pride,
And I'm sure I'll be happy in Your house to abide.
The Master came next to a vessel of wood,
Polished and carved, it solidly stood.
You may use me, dear Master, the wooden bowl said,
But I'd rather You used me for fruit, not for bread!

Then the Master looked down and saw a vessel of clay.
Empty and broken it helplessly lay.
No hope had the vessel that the Master might choose,
To cleanse and make whole, to fill and to use.

Ah! This is the vessel I've been hoping to find,
I will mend and use it and make it all Mine.
I need not the vessel with pride of its self;
Nor the one who is narrow to sit on the shelf;
Nor the one who is bigmouthed and shallow and loud;
Nor one who displays his contents so proud;
Not the one who thinks he can do all things just right;
But this plain earthy vessel filled with My power and might.

Then gently He lifted the vessel of clay.
Mended and cleansed it and filled it that day.
Spoke to it kindly. There's work you must do,
Just pour out to others as I pour into you.

-- Author Unknown

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